

Brother and Sister

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This piece was created with the intention that it would be looked back on, almost like a memory. Admiration for this style of work spiraled from the research of multiple artists and their backstories through their paintings. This was my inspiration for applying memories to the final piece I would create.

Research on multiple artists like Ellie Kammer and Jasmine Crisp deepened my understanding of painting with meaning without having to be obvious about the backstory. I selected a few paintings from each artist to annotate, pull apart what they meant and how each was painted with what techniques. Although both artists are realistic painters and create deeply detailed pieces, both have a technique that finished their paintings to look like paintings, so it didn't have to look too clean and precise to create a realistic piece.

Prior research was vital as it deepened my knowledge of where to start practicing techniques and details. I practice simple shading and sketches of my brother and I to increase my ability to create correct and realistic tones throughout the paintings. Using a graphite pencil, I was able to extend a simple outline/sketch of my brother and I into something that had dimension, light direction, and highlights. This knowledge was then applied to my prior painting skills and abilities where I painted smaller parts of the faces as a practice to correct the final.

Therefore, when deciding on a final photo of my brother and I, I had chosen a handful of pictures and then decided which had shown my brother and I the most and what had memories connected to it. Since I wanted to focus on maintaining a memory of the painting, I thought that it was perfect. The picture captured my brother's happiness and the connection of the love we held for each other. I had wanted a painting where you could see the relationship between the two of us as we are together as one. Within the background, wanted it to look like we were angelic and for the main subject to be my brother and I. The colour orange was always Peter's favourite colour as well as mine is pink, this shows that although we were so close and seen as one, the colours separate us and individualise us.

When concluding all the learning obtained, I was ready to start the final piece by sketching and layering multiple undertone shades over the faces, creating a start I had then started with flat base shades over the hair, adding lighter hues where the light hit differently, I had learned that layering different hues over each other, allowing them to dry then adding light brush strokes over creates depth and dimension to the painting. This painting contained many errors and many layers to ensure that each facial feature was incredibly detailed and sharp.

Overall, I wanted this painting to symbolise my brother and I and the relationship that we hold closely. Although my brother and I are so young in the photo, as he and I grow older we still maintain the same connection and strengthen it.