

2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Astrid Chevallier

Cupertino Resident

Astrid Chevallier  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

September 30, 2023

Arts and Culture Commission  
10300 Torre Avenue, City Hall  
Cupertino, CA 95014

### **Artist Personal Statement**

Dear Arts and Culture Commission,

As a current resident in Cupertino, I am honored to submit my work in Visual Arts for your consideration for the Distinguished Artist Award.

Over the last 30 years, I have created a substantial body of work that displays merit and excellence, and I have contributed to my artistic fields and the community, in France and in the United States.

Born and raised in France, I have been formally trained in Fine Arts schools in Paris, where I studied traditional drawing, painting, color, photography, calligraphy, typography, illustration and graphic design.

I started my career as an art director in advertising companies and as an instructor on digital art softwares. As an independent artist, I was also working for my community by creating Posters and collateral material for Cities and Theaters. I developed a personal style by mixing painting, photography, montages and typography, which brought me national press coverage and recognition in France.

An opportunity to design movie posters for Hollywood led me to relocate to California with an Artist of Extraordinary Ability visa (O-1). Through my agent, I free-lanced as an art director for many well established entertainment advertising agencies in Los Angeles. I contributed to creating Key Art for world-class projects such as "War of the Worlds", "The Aviator", and "No Country for Old Men", among many others.

At the same time, I opened my own boutique design studio, Purple Red, where I could provide art and design for independent film companies. I created movie posters for some historical and community oriented feature documentaries such as "The Chinese Exclusion Act" which has been broadcast on PBS, or "To Catch a Dollar" about Nobel Peace Prize Muhammad Yunus's loan system to help women in Queens NY. I provided art work for many smaller productions as well.



I also have operated as a still photographer on various movie sets, from short projects to feature films. My credits include "Strike One", a story about a young boy living in a gang-controlled place; "South of Pico", which won Best Picture at the American Black Film Festival; and "James Ellroy: American Dog", a documentary about (and with) the writer.

But I found my true voice as a photographer by working on personal photo projects, mostly focusing on portraits and equestrian photography. Some of my pictures have been published in equestrian magazines in the US and all the way to Australia.

Over the years, I've also been experimenting with music, video, ceramics, and sculpture.

But the medium I always go back to is painting. From my early years as a young art student in Paris, up to last week, painting wins my heart over and over again. My style evolved over time and went from figurative to abstract, and now back to figurative with a lot of abstract textures and layers in it. My most recent painting will include an installation on its side and augmented reality content, as a way to explore a deeper way to tell a story, and to connect timeless medium with modern technologies.

I'm currently working on a series of paintings about horses, which have been used - and too often abused - by humans for centuries. They are incredibly beautiful and sensitive creatures who suffer in silence. Through this work, one can perceive a story that can be related to other minorities who never had a voice. I am subtly exploring the ideas of freedom, freewill, connection with nature, and partnership. I aim to offer a beautiful and powerful visual, rich in textures and layers, as I choose to inspire and heal rather than denounce.

When I relocated to Cupertino about four years ago, I enrolled in Foothill/De Anza college. Last June I graduated with an Associate in Art degree in Studio Arts with a 4.0 GPA, which earned me the Foothill President's medal.

I am currently enrolled for the Fall quarter at UCSC as a transfer student. My goal is to major in Art, and to embrace opportunities to try new ideas, especially in the field of painting, photography, and environmental art.

I also hope to gain more visibility as an artist, so that I can reach more people and share that we, humans, have the amazing gift to be able to create art. Through art, we can tell underlying stories that help rewrite what history often tries to hide. And through art education, we can remind ourselves to embrace beauty and perceive the world as a work of art as well.

Art is enjoyable, inspiring, and a way to connect to the essence of mankind.

In this digital time and age, I find a lot of joy working with techniques that have been around for centuries. Those include the charcoal, that little piece of burned wood our ancestors used to draw with in the caves! It's absolutely magical, and so versatile...and leaving a mark on a wall is as a way to honor our presence on this planet. I'd love to do public demonstrations and help promote the arts in the community.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and for your dedication to the arts and to the community.

Kind regards,

Astrid Chevallier

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Astrid Chevallier". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

September 6, 2023

Arts and Culture Commission  
10300 Torre Avenue, City Hall  
Cupertino, CA 95014

**Letter of recommendation**

Dear Arts and Culture Commission,

It is my pleasure to warmly recommend Astrid Chevallier for your consideration for the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award.

My name is Char Marshall, and I have been a resident of Cupertino since 1990 where my husband and I own a home, raised our children and participated in a variety of community programs, including volunteering for West Valley Community Services. I had the pleasure of meeting Astrid four years ago, when she relocated to Cupertino and moved her horse to the barn where I keep mine.

We frequently come across each other at the barn, riding together and discussing many topics involving horses, culture, travel and technology, to name a few. As our friendship has developed, I have discovered that Astrid has been involved with horses and art for a very long time.

I noted that your Distinguished Artist Award is for an “established artist with a substantial body of work that displays merit and excellence, and a history of contribution to the artistic field and the community”. Astrid’s portfolio of visual art works exemplifies that definition. It includes paintings, portrait drawings, photography and graphic arts. It has earned international recognition. Her designs have delivered value to numerous communities, and she experienced a long-term successful career designing movie posters and promotional material in Hollywood.

I personally had the chance to experience working with Astrid about a year ago, when we planned a photoshoot of my horse and myself riding in the hills next to the barn. Astrid's professionalism and experience showed up from the very beginning, in a very kind and organic way. She guided me through wardrobe decisions, coached me on how to interact and feel comfortable with the camera, and directed my horse and me throughout the photoshoot. The resulting pictures were absolutely stunning! Astrid was able to capture our essence and relationship in a striking manner. Her attention to composition, light, and details resulted in some gorgeous shots.

I also would like to mention that upon moving to Cupertino, Astrid enrolled at Foothill / De Anza college and graduated last June with the highest honors in Studio Arts. The Art department has recognized Astrid's talent and dedication to artistic endeavors with awards for her outstanding work in the field.

I am confident without reservation that Astrid's work will speak to you and to the citizens of Cupertino, and I fully support her application to the Artist Award Program.

Feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] if you have any questions or would like me to further elaborate on Astrid's talent and achievements.

Sincerely,

Char Marshall

## Posters for Cities

### Announcement of a conference about "Man and Nature"



jeudi 21 octobre  
à 19 h 30  
Hôtel de ville  
salle des mariages  
88/118, rue du 8 Mai 1945  
renseignements :  
01 47 29 48 72

**rencontre-débat**  
avec Cilles Clément,  
paysagiste, ingénieur horticole,  
Jardinier et enseignant

du "jardin en mouvement"  
au "jardin planétaire"  
**réconcilier l'homme et la nature**

 MAIRIE DE NANTERRE



## Posters for Theaters

## "The Tempest" by William Shakespeare



## Movie poster

### "Tarkovsky: Time Within Time"

A POETIC DOCUMENTARY INTO THE LIFE, LOVE, AND WORK  
OF RUSSIAN DIRECTOR **ANDREI TARKOVSKY**



NEWCASTLE PRODUCTIONS IN ASSOCIATION WITH FILMS BY JOVE PRESENT THE DOCUMENTARY "TARKOVSKY: TIME WITHIN TIME"  
BY **OLEG VOODOV** AS THE VOICE OF TARKOVSKY AND **ANDREI KONCHALOVSKY** TONINO GUERRA **MARINA TARKOVSKY**  
**MATILYA BONDARCHUK** **ERICA ANTONIONI** **KATINKA FARAGO** **PIETER BALSITO** **AND** **OLEG VOODOV** **PRODUCED BY** **PIETER BALSITO** **AND** **OLEG VOODOV** **WWW.NEWCASTLEPRODUCTIONS.COM**



# Photography (Stories)

## "The Journalist"



Astrid Chevallier  
PHOTOGRAPHY



## Fine Art

### "Dennis & Lury"

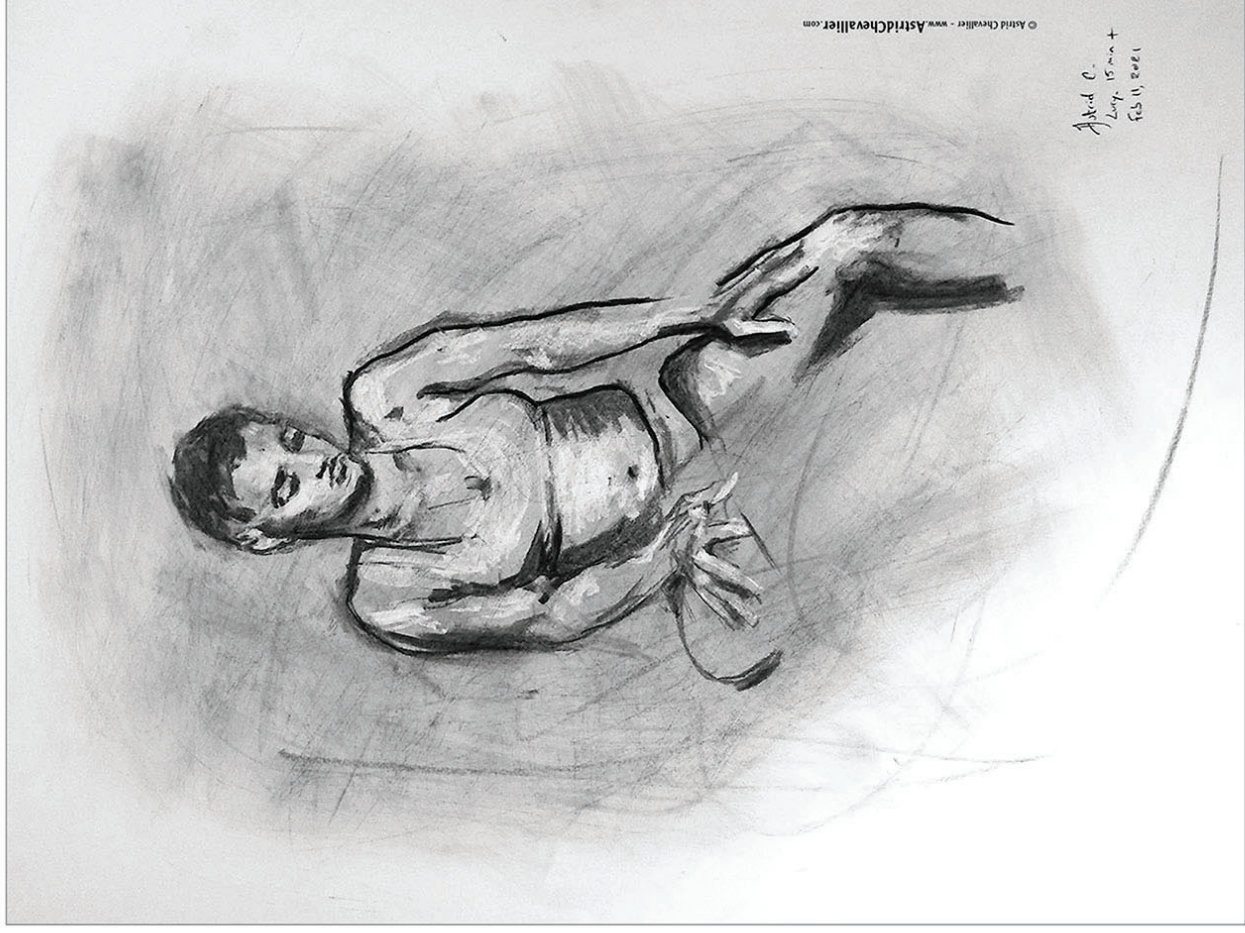
Charcoal on paper

Diptych: 18 x 24 inches each



© Astrid Chevallier - www.AstridChevallier.com

Astrid C.  
Dennis, 20mm  
Feb 11, 2021



© Astrid Chevallier - www.AstridChevallier.com

Astrid C.  
Lury, 15mm +  
Feb 11, 2021

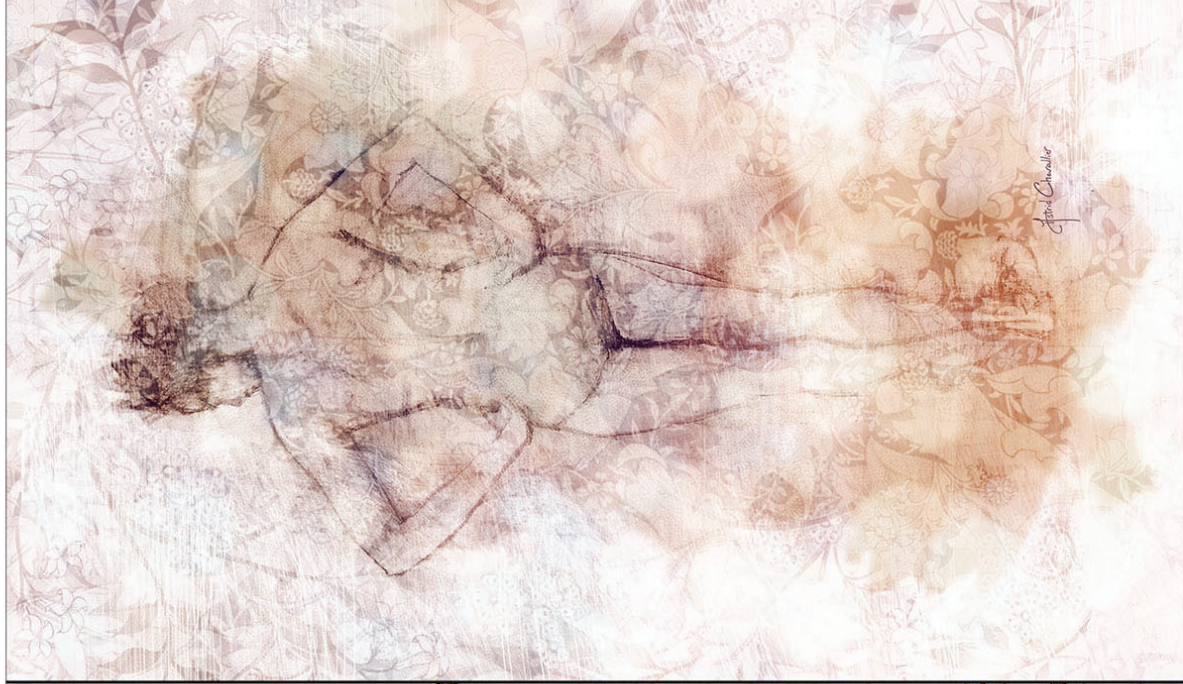


# Fine Art

## "He/her/theirs"

Ink, Graphite, and Digital painting

Triptych: 1920 x 1097 pixels





## Fine Art

### "Citruses in Terracotta Plate"

Watercolor on paper

10 x 9 inches





## Fine Art

### "Purple Oignon"

Oil on canvas  
10 x 10 inches

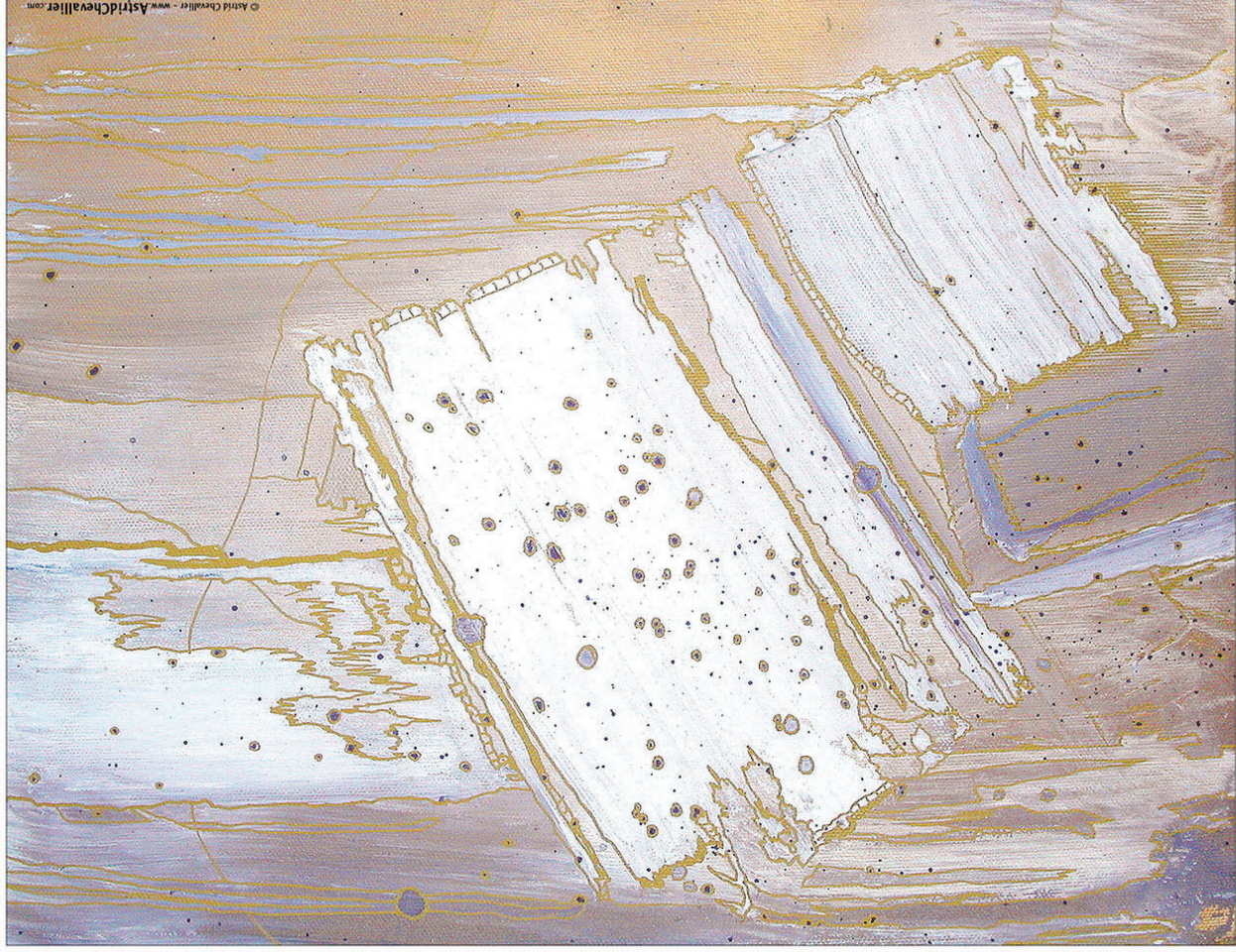




## Fine Art

### "Goldissime White 3"

Acrylic on canvas  
11 x 14 inches



© Astrid Chevallier - www.AstridChevallier.com



## Fine Art

### "Summer late afternoon in the Preserve"

Acrylic on canvas

48 x 30 inches







Astrid Chevallier

Specific portfolio  
and references  
available upon request

#### CLIENTS INCLUDE:

Walt Disney Studios  
Universal Studios  
Sony Pictures  
Paramount  
GK films  
GK-TV  
The Solution  
Myriad Pictures  
Warner Bros.  
HBO Films  
Lionsgate  
Mojo  
Initial Entertainment  
Katapult films  
Ocule Films  
Altadena Films  
ABC Family  
CBS Television  
FOX Television  
NBC Television  
Lifetime Networks  
Direct TV  
TNT  
CNN  
AFI  
Playstation  
Aubervilliers  
Nanterre  
Saint-Denis  
Lancôme  
Rémy Cointreau  
Peders  
Compagnie Le Studio  
Compagnie Casalibus  
Théâtre Le Ranelagh

ASTRID CHEVALLIER

## Sr. ART DIRECTOR & GRAPHIC ARTIST

### PROFILE

See work and philosophy: [www.purplered.com](http://www.purplered.com) and [www.astridchevallier.com](http://www.astridchevallier.com)

Art professional with more than 25 years of experience in the US and in Europe.

Elegant and versatile approach of design, efficient organization skills, conceptual force, and an ability to envision and deliver visual solutions to any given situation. Good listener and communicator, team player, self-starter, creative and fast learner, analytic and open minded, empowering management skills, and ability to manage multiple projects and tight deadlines.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### PURPLE RED - LOS ANGELES, USA - MAR 2002-PRESENT

- **Senior art director, creative director, designer, illustrator, photographer.**  
Design of key art and movie posters, home entertainment packaging, logos and websites for the entertainment industry (major Hollywood studios and independent film productions), TV productions, video games, music and fashion industry.
- **Founder of Easy Movie Poster ([www.easymovieposter.com](http://www.easymovieposter.com)).**  
Conception, business plan and launch of an online proprietary software offering pre-designed movie posters templates. Duties include: project management, design and development, user interface, illustration, typography, marketing and customer relationship.
- **Consultant through agents : free-lance design assignments in advertising agencies**  
(Crew Creative, Seiniger Advertising, Trailer Park, Creative Domain, Johnson & Murphy, Graphic Orb, Intralink, Creative Asylum, Planet 3), Major movie Studios (Universal) and TV networks (Lifetime).
- **Art Director of Mosaïque, the magazine of the Alliance Française (Los Angeles, San Diego)**  
Design of the magazine (art direction, design, execution, photo finish), supervision of the production, management of the production team.

#### ESTABLISHED GRAPHIC ARTIST - PARIS, FRANCE - FEB 1993-PRESENT

- **Creative director, art director, graphic designer, painter** for cities, theatres and corporate clients: design of posters for shows and events, branding and logotype, annual reports, brochures and magazines, CD-Roms, websites, and video game design.
- **Instructor, author:** creation (writing, scripting) and recording of a self-training CD-Rom for the treatment of digital pictures.

#### CFDAA - PARIS, FRANCE - JAN 1994 - MAI 1995

- **Instructor for adults, graphic design program in an established French Institute:**  
Creation (writing, design) of 3 weeks training programs, training and coaching on Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Quark Xpress, "Production in Graphic Design" and "Typography and Layout".

#### EURO-RSCG - PARIS, FRANCE - JAN-SEPT 1994

- **Art director, designer, assistant of the creative director:**  
Creation of press ads and financial campaigns (calibration, hand sketch), management of suppliers and production supervisor in a fast-paced environment.

#### GRIS MARINE - PARIS, FRANCE - JAN-DEC 1993

- **Graphic designer, assistant photographer:**  
Design of ads for the Cosmetic and Pharmaceutical Industries.





Astrid Chevallier

ASTRID CHEVALLIER

## Sr. ART DIRECTOR & GRAPHIC ARTIST

### EDUCATION

#### AUTOGRAF - PARIS, FRANCE - 2023

- Master (Mastère), Art Direction in Graphic Design.

Based on my professional experience: writing and design of a memoir relating my early career in France  
+ live presentation of my contributions to the movie marketing industry in Hollywood.

#### FOOTHILL COLLEGE - LOS ALTOS HILLS, CALIFORNIA - 2019-2023

- Associate of Arts - AA for Transfer, Studio Arts - with Highest Honors (4.00 cumulative GPA)

Drawing, Figure Drawing, Painting, Color, Ceramics, Sculpture, Art History.

#### EMSAT - PARIS, FRANCE, ADVANCED PARIS SCHOOL OF ARTS AND DESIGN - 1991-1993

- Graphic Design School of the City of Paris.

Typography, Calligraphy, Graphic design, Drawing, Painting, Art History.

#### ENSAAMA - PARIS, FRANCE, NATIONAL SCHOOL OF GRAPHIC DESIGN - 1990-1991

- National French Art School.

Drawing, Painting, Sculpting, Photography, Architecture, Art History.

#### BEAUX-ARTS - VERSAILLES, FRANCE - 1989-1990

- Fine-Art School of Versailles.

Drawing, Color, Composition, Still Life, Preparation and Techniques, Art History.

### OUT IN THE WORLD

#### EXHIBITIONS - POSTERS AND PAINTINGS - SINCE 1992

International solo and collective exhibitions in the USA, France, the Netherlands, Slovakia.

#### LECTURES - ASTRID CHEVALLIER: POSTER DESIGN

New York Institute of Art and Design, NY, USA (2007) - University of Caen, France (2004).

#### PRESS REVIEWS AND INTERVIEWS - ABOUT GRAPHIC DESIGN - SINCE 1998

Portrait and retrospectives: TV5 Monde (2012), Artifacts (2004),

Magazines (Diva Magazine 2009, Mac World 2002, Création Numérique 1999, SVM Mac 1998).

#### AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

Foothill College, Annette Pearlstein Award, Fine Arts (2023)

Foothill College, Art History Award (2023)

Foothill College, Excellence in Studio Art Award (2022)

London International Creative Competition, Honorable Mention (2019)

SIA Consumer Service Website Innovator Award (2016)

SIA International Creative Award (Business-to-Consumer Interactive Media 2015, Silver winner)

Design Firms Graphic Designer Award Winner (2009-10)

Key Art Awards judge, Hollywood (2010, 2009)

Artist of Extraordinary Ability, USA (2015, 2012, 2009, 2006 and 2003)

Official French status as an Artist, France (1994 - present).

#### COMPUTER SKILLS - VISUAL, MULTIMEDIA, MUSIC, OFFICE SOFTWARES, MAC OS

Photoshop, Illustrator, Quark, InDesign, Dreamweaver, CSS, HTML, Wordpress, Keynote and many more.

#### ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Fluent in French (native language), basic Spanish.

Painter and sculptor.

Horse trainer (Retired Racehorse Project member) and rider (dressage, eventing, trails).

Musician (composer, performer, multi-instrumentalist), one album released "So Far, My Love" (2006).

Designed and co-produced the award-winning short film "Cuco Gomez-Gomez is Dead!" (2004).

Crossed the Amazon rainforest on a bicycle (1999) with a design studio (photo, text, sketches).

Certified green gardener, scuba diver, sailor, equine barefoot trimmer. Yoga. Organic farm-to-table Chef.

Astrid Chevallier  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

September 30, 2023

Arts and Culture Commission  
10300 Torre Avenue, City Hall  
Cupertino, CA 95014

### Exhibition records

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#### **Exhibitions and shows**

See also: <https://www.astridchevallier.com/finearts/index.php/exhibitions/>

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2021, April – Goldissime (Private Installation, Cupertino, CA) • Solo Exhibition

2017, June – Gold (Private Installation, Paris, France) • Solo Exhibition

2013, November – Goldissime (Art and Music Private event, Los Angeles, California) •  
Collective Exhibition

2013, October – Goldissime and Live Painting (Beverly Hills Art Show, Beverly Hills, California) •  
Collective Exhibition

2011, November – 2012, Janvier – Goldissime (HGCL, Los Angeles, California) • Solo Exhibition

2011, March-May – Affiches (HGCL, Los Angeles, California) • Solo Exhibition

2011, December – Venus (CeleBREASTion, Los Angeles, California) • Collective Exhibition

2011, July – Man and Nature in Los Angeles (Music Center, Los Angeles, California) • Collective  
Exhibition

2010, October – Goldissime (BAM / Create:Fixate, Santa Monica) • Collective Exhibition

2010, July – Goldissime (Plump presents Monarchy, Los Angeles, California) • Collective  
Exhibition

2008, June – Goldissime (Maude Carrin, Los Angeles, California) • Solo Exhibition



2005, May – Live Painting Performance (Create:Fixate, Los Angeles, California) • Collective Exhibition

2005, April – Goldissime (FAB, Los Angeles, California) • Collective Exhibition

2005, March – Goldissime (FAB, Los Angeles, California) • Collective Exhibition

2005, January-May – Goldissime (Gallery Tommy Q, Los Angeles, California) • Permanent Collective Exhibition

2004, December – Live Painting Performance (Create:Fixate, Los Angeles, California) • Collective Exhibition

2004, June-December – Goldissime (Gallery Tommy Q, Los Angeles, California) • Permanent Collective Exhibition

2004, May – Goldissime (Create:Fixate, Los Angeles, California) • Collective Exhibition

2004, March-April – Poster Retrospective, (University of Caen, France) • Solo Exhibition

2004, January – Goldissime (Private event, Los Angeles, California) • Solo Exhibition

2003, September-November – poster “Man and Nature” at the “Trnava Poster Triennial 2003”, (Slovakia) • Collective Exhibition

2002, July-August – Gold, (Go-Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands) • Collective Exhibition

2002, July – Gold, (Gallery Plomb’Art, Saint-Nom-La Bretèche, France) • Solo Exhibition

2002, June – Gold, (Gallery Plomb’Art, Saint-Nom-La Bretèche, France) • Collective Exhibition

2002, March – Gold & Toiles Libres, (Grand Café Aroma, Amsterdam, The Netherlands) • Solo Exhibition

2002, January – Gold, (Gallery The Loft, Paris, France) • Solo Exhibition

2001, February – Toiles Libres & Red, (Gallery The Loft, Paris, France) • Solo Exhibition

1999 – poster “Choufleuri” at the “International Exhibition of Cultural Poster and Street Art”, (Boulogne-Billancourt, France) • Collective Exhibition

1998, October – Toiles libres, (Atelier OO2, Aubervilliers, France) • Solo Exhibition

1998, August – Toiles libres, (Atelier OO2, Aubervilliers, France) • Collective Exhibition and Happening

1998, June – Toiles libres & Post-Stones, (Art Market, Versailles, France) • Collective Exhibition

1997, September – Stones, (Atelier OO2, Aubervilliers, France) • Collective Exhibition and Happening

1997, June – Red, (Musée Cognacq Jay, Paris, France) • Collective Exhibition

1997, June – Stones, (Atelier OO2, Aubervilliers, France) • Solo Exhibition

1997, February – Red, (Atelier OO2, Aubervilliers, France) • Solo Exhibition

1996, June – Pre-Red, (Private Atelier, Paris, France) • Solo Exhibition

1995 – The Ladies, (Private Atelier, Pantin, France) • Solo Exhibition

1995 – Moon, (Gallery Commun, Dampierre, France) • Collective Exhibition

1994 – A, (Gallery Commun, Dampierre, France) • Collective Exhibition

1993 – First paintings, (MJC, Le Mesnil-Saint-Denis, France) • Collective Exhibition

1992 – First paintings, (MJC, Le Mesnil-Saint-Denis, France) • Collective Exhibition

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## **Awards**

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Annette Pearlstein Award (2023)

Foothill College – Promise in Fine Arts

Fine Arts & Communication Award – Art History (2023)

Foothill College – Art History research

Fine Arts & Communication Award – Studio Art (2022)

Foothill College – Excellence in Studio Arts

Consumer Service Website Innovator Award (2016)

Summit International Awards (SIA) – Easy Movie Poster

Business-to-Consumer Interactive Media Award (2015)

Summit International Awards (SIA) – Silver Winner – Easy Movie Poster

Graphic Design Award Winner (2009-10)

DesignFirms – Movie Poster “I’m not There”

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## **Press**

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See: <https://www.astridchevallier.com/finearts/index.php/press/>

2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Eva Olsen

Cupertino Resident

## Personal Statement - Eva Olsen

My name is Eva Olsen, artist and educator based in Cupertino, California. I earned my BFA in Art and Design from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, with a concentration in studio art.

I have worked in Cupertino for four years at Hongyun Art, the last two as studio manager, focusing on managing operations and communication, and helping students develop their AP Art and college portfolios. I feel immensely privileged and inspired to be able to work with students in Cupertino who are creative, driven individuals. My goals as studio manager at Hongyun Art are to first, cultivate an artistic space for our students to be able to authentically express themselves, and for them to connect with each other and our community. I am very proud of our students' achievements, and they've been recognized in various local and national art exhibitions and awards, such as New Museum of Los Gatos ArtNOW Exhibition, Scholastic Art and Writing, the Cupertino Emerging Arts and Young Art Competition, and San Jose Museum of Art's Dr. Jerry Hiura Next Gen Visual artist award. As an educator and artist, I encourage my students to build self-confidence and share their work. The process of sharing and submitting is a big milestone for the students, and I am glad that I get to be a mentor for their experiences.

In my personal art practice, I engage in a dialogue with my past work, primarily exploring the aftermath of disaster, as well as themes of cellular and organic growth in diverse settings. My drawings and paintings often reference the human body, the natural world, and remnants of digital culture, employing bright, saturated colors and visible markmaking as prominent technical features. I have been exploring utilizing more recognizable symbols as a way to connect and communicate my themes to audiences without as much art background.

My goals as an artist are to keep sharing visual art and working on helping others develop their art within our community - both for my peers, students at Hongyun Art and within the greater Cupertino area.

Thank you for reading my application and reviewing my portfolio. More information about my portfolio can be found here: <https://evaolsenart.com/>



11/14/2022

Letter of Recommendation for Eva Olsen

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in support of one of my employees, Eva Olsen, also known as “Ms. Eva” by our students. She’s worked with Hongyun Art for over three years now in various capacities – growing her skills as a teacher and a leader from an assistant teacher, all the way into one of our studio managers and AP Studio Art/Portfolio program coordinator. She works with a whole variety of media, ranging from teaching traditional to experimental methods in order to expose students to a wider variety of creative thinking. In addition to in-person teaching and managing the studio, during 2020-2022, she managed over 10+ online classes per week, and she was able to provide students a welcoming, supportive creative environments for the students.

During my time managing Eva as our employee, I’ve seen that she’s a very reliable individual who deeply cares about furthering not only her own art, but for the benefit of the entire student body. She enjoys working with students of all ages, from very young students to those preparing for their future experiences at college. She draws from her own experiences from her study of studio art at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and as a working art professional at Hongyun Art in order to offer feedback and guidance towards Cupertino and the surrounding Bay Area youth.

One of the notable aspects of how Eva is as a teacher and individual is her support for others’ creative practices, such as our other teachers and the students she directly works with. In addition, she supports students by helping encourage them to participate in community art events, such as competitions, volunteer-led classes, and more. In addition to her students actively participating in Cupertino’s Art community through Hongyun Art, she organized students who led and hosted the Cupertino Library’s Comic Making Class in May 2022 for the Free Comic Book Day, which focused on creating an accessible, fun experience for everyone.

In addition to her as a teacher, she’s active as a local, Cupertino-based artist, and is dedicated to maintaining a studio practice, helping collaborate with other musicians and artists, and working on personal creative endeavors.

Based on Eva’s care for her students, the quality of her personal artwork, and her commitment to the students of Cupertino’s growth and the creation of the local art community, I highly recommend her for the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award Competition. Please let me know if there’s further information that I can provide which would help her application.

Thank you,

Tommy and Hongyun Suriwong – Founders, Hongyun Art School



Hongyun Art  
20600 Stevens Creek Blvd. Cupertino, CA 95014  
408 - 673 - 0568

HongyunArt.com



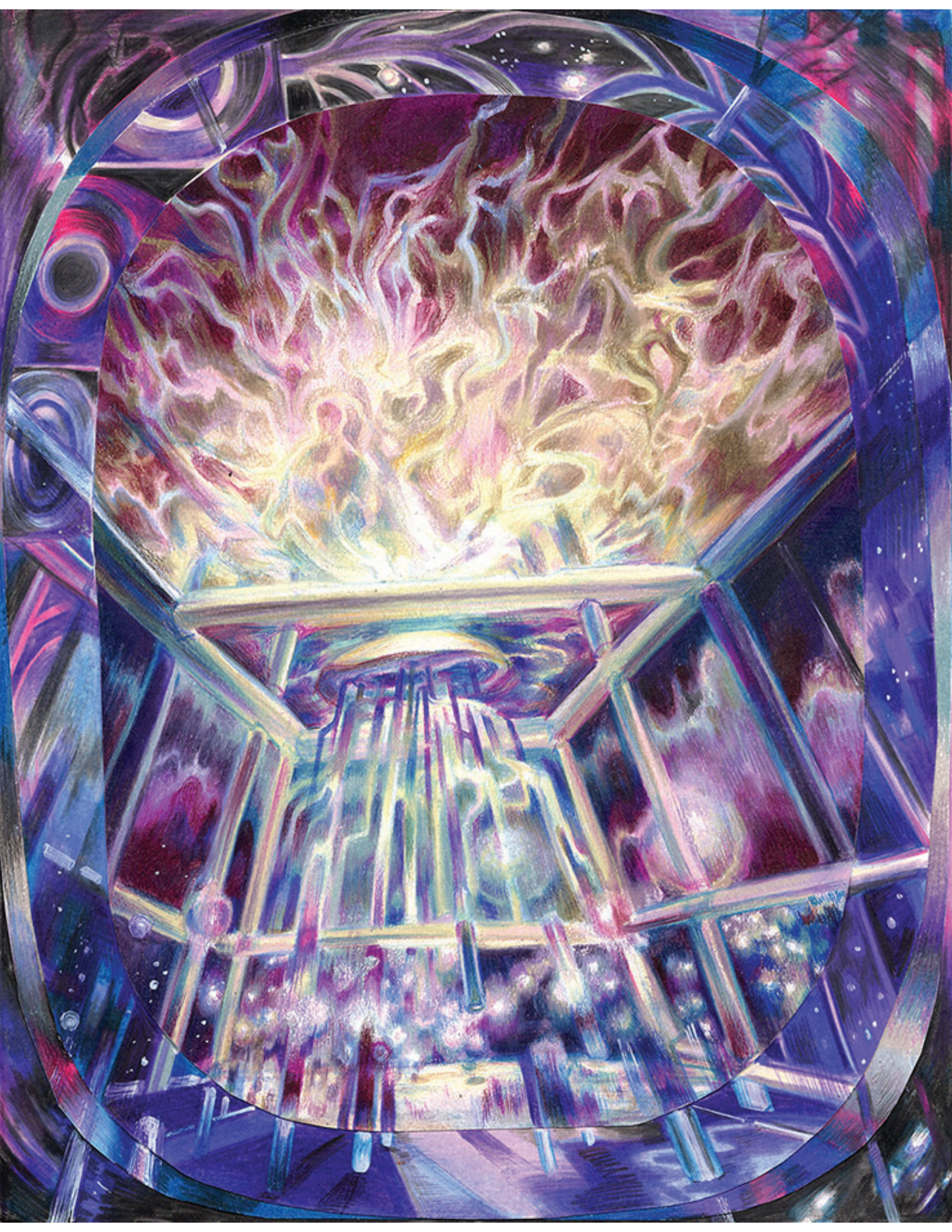




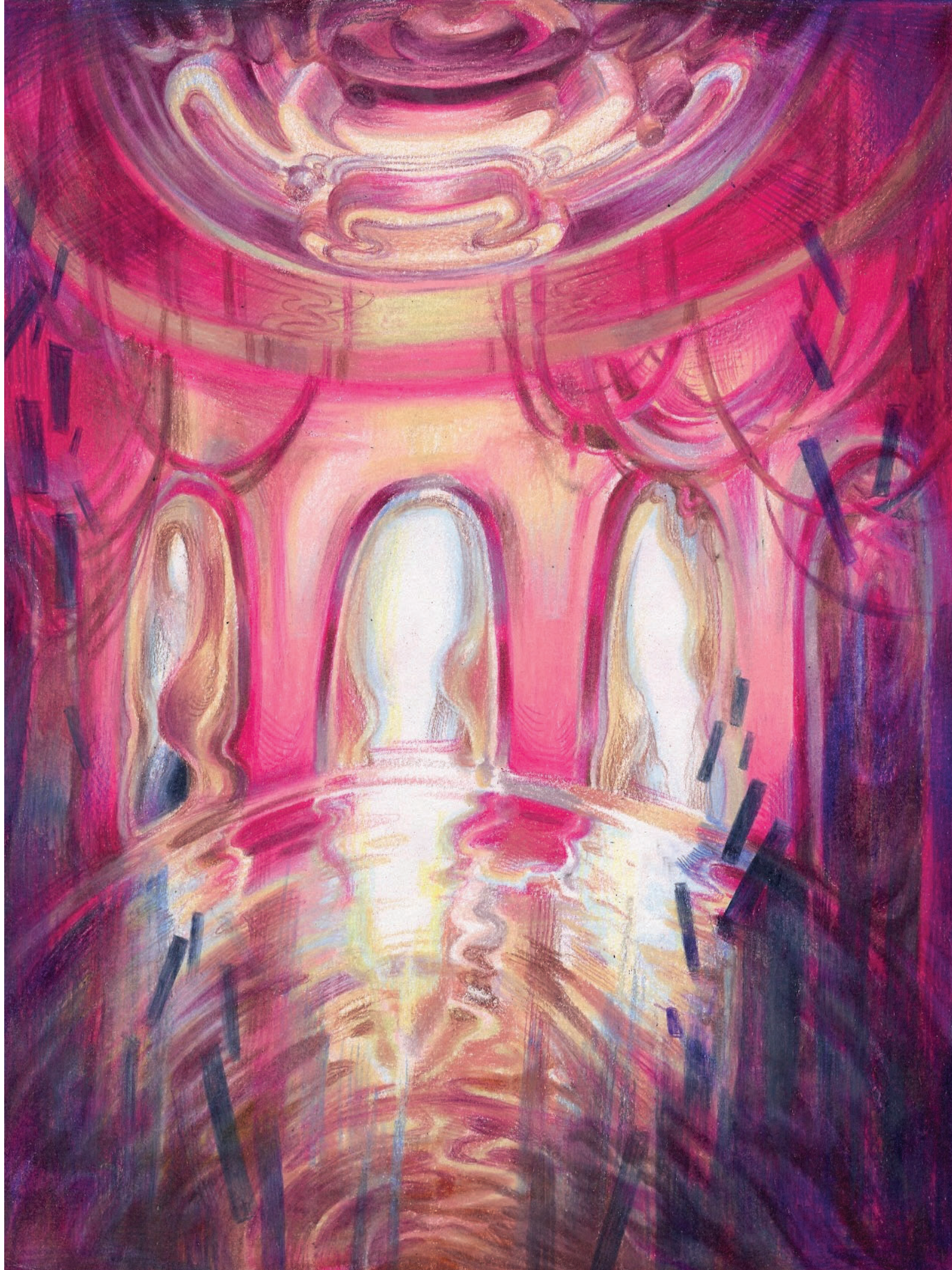


























**Eva Olsen**



<https://evaolsenart.com/>

## EXPERIENCE

**Studio Manager** — Hongyun Art, Cupertino, CA

October 2019 - present

Overseeing operations of 8 teachers and 500+ students. Main point of contact for communication, payments and scheduling between students, parents, and the teaching team.

Focusing on helping students develop AP Art and College portfolios.

**Sales Assistant** — MemoryTen, Santa Clara, CA

August 2015 - August 2017

Created assets for promotion, trade shows, and website redevelopment.

Organized inventory, edited product photos, and wrote product descriptions for presentation.

## EDUCATION

**BFA - Art and Design 2021** — California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

## AWARDS/CERTIFICATES

DeAnza College - Certificate of Achievement, Advanced 2023 — Mandarin Language and Culture

Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award 2022 — Silver

Scholastic Art and Writing - Educator Award 2022

Walt Disney Imagineering WDI Imaginations Competition — 2017 Semifinalist

CGSpectrum College of Digital Art and Animation — 2017 Scholarship Recipient

## PROJECTS/SHOWS

Free Comic Day Workshop Host, Cupertino Library, Cupertino, CA — 2022

### Solo Exhibition

Birds, Red Radish, San Luis Obispo, CA — 2014

### Group Exhibitions

Let's Get Goated, Irreverent Art Gallery, Daly City, CA --- 2023

Cupertino Distinguished Art Award Exhibition, Cupertino Library, Cupertino CA --- 2023

What The Wall Said, University Art Gallery, San Luis Obispo, CA — 2019

AIGA x Pushpin Student Exhibition, Building 34, San Luis Obispo, CA — 2019

Concept Creation, Art Central, San Luis Obispo, CA — 2017



2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Hsiao-Chieh Huang

Employed in Cupertino

## **Personal statement**

As an art teacher deeply committed to both my craft and the enrichment of my community, I'm honored to apply for the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award. My artistic path has been a journey of exploration, growth, and a passion for fostering creativity in individuals of all ages.

My artistic promise lies in my unwavering commitment to pushing the boundaries of creativity and my dedication to making art accessible to everyone. Starting from my first observational artwork completed at the age of one, I've never stopped on this path of art. During high school, I made a firm decision to pursue further education in a pure fine arts school, embarking on a different path from others. I've been deeply drawn to the power of art to evoke emotions and convey information. It has evolved into a lifelong passion, driving me to explore new artistic horizons.

### **Artistic Goals :**

My artistic journey has led me to a profound realization: art has the potential to inspire change and bridge cultural divides. My primary goal is to create art that not only captivates viewers but also prompts them to reflect on important societal issues. I aspire to continue honing my craft, telling meaningful stories through my work, and contributing positively to the art community. Additionally, I'm committed to continuing my work with young artists, helping them discover their own creative potential and fostering a love for art within our community.

### **Artistic Accomplishments :**

Throughout my artistic journey, alongside the consistent acknowledgment and awards, I've also been actively engaged in workshops and art lectures. I had the fortunate opportunity last year to be invited to exhibit my work at the prestigious "Ars Electronica" new media art exhibition in Austria. These experiences have not only honed my technical abilities but have also enabled me to establish connections with diverse audiences and receive valuable feedback, driving my artistic growth even further. Moreover, my work with students of all ages at Hongyun Art School has been a particularly rewarding experience, witnessing young artists grow and develop their own artistic voices.

### **Community Involvement :**

Through my dedication as both an artist and an educator, I aim to create a community where art is celebrated and cherished by individuals of all ages. Working at Hongyun Art School, I've had the privilege of guiding budding artists of all ages. It's incredibly fulfilling to witness the transformative power of art in our community. I firmly believe that art has the power to unite, educate, and enrich lives, and I'm committed to fostering a community where everyone can find inspiration, no matter their age.

I'm sincerely grateful for the opportunity to be considered for the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award, and I look forward to the continued exploration of art's potential to inspire and connect, regardless of age.

Hsiao Chieh, Huang

September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Letter of Recommendation – Hsiao-Chieh Huang

To the Cupertino Arts and Culture Commission,

My name is Eva Olsen, studio manager at Hongyun Art, and I'm writing this letter to wholeheartedly endorse and support Hsiao-Chieh Huang, who is participating in the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award competition.

Over the past year, while working at Hongyun Art, I've had the privilege of getting to know Hsiao-Chieh. During this time, I've had the opportunity to witness her exceptional talents, unwavering dedication, and outstanding qualities.

Hsiao-Chieh's artistic portfolio is impressively diverse, reflecting an artist who consistently pushes the boundaries of creative exploration. Beyond her mastery of traditional painting techniques and craftsmanship, she seamlessly incorporates technology into her artistry, delving into realms such as 3D art, digital art, and the fusion of technology and art.

Throughout this past year, Hsiao-Chieh has taken on the role of a mentor, working with students of various age groups and tailoring her teaching to meet their individual needs. Her students hold her in high esteem and express their appreciation through vibrant drawings and heartfelt notes. With young children, she fosters a nurturing environment where they feel free to express themselves through art, using storytelling and simple art prompts to spark their imagination and facilitate emotional expression. For older students, she focuses on honing their technical skills, cultivating conceptual thinking, and encouraging them to develop their own unique artistic styles.

I'm confident that Hsiao-Chieh Huang's participation in the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award will be of immense value. Her unwavering commitment to excellence and her dedication to promoting art education make her an ideal candidate for this award.

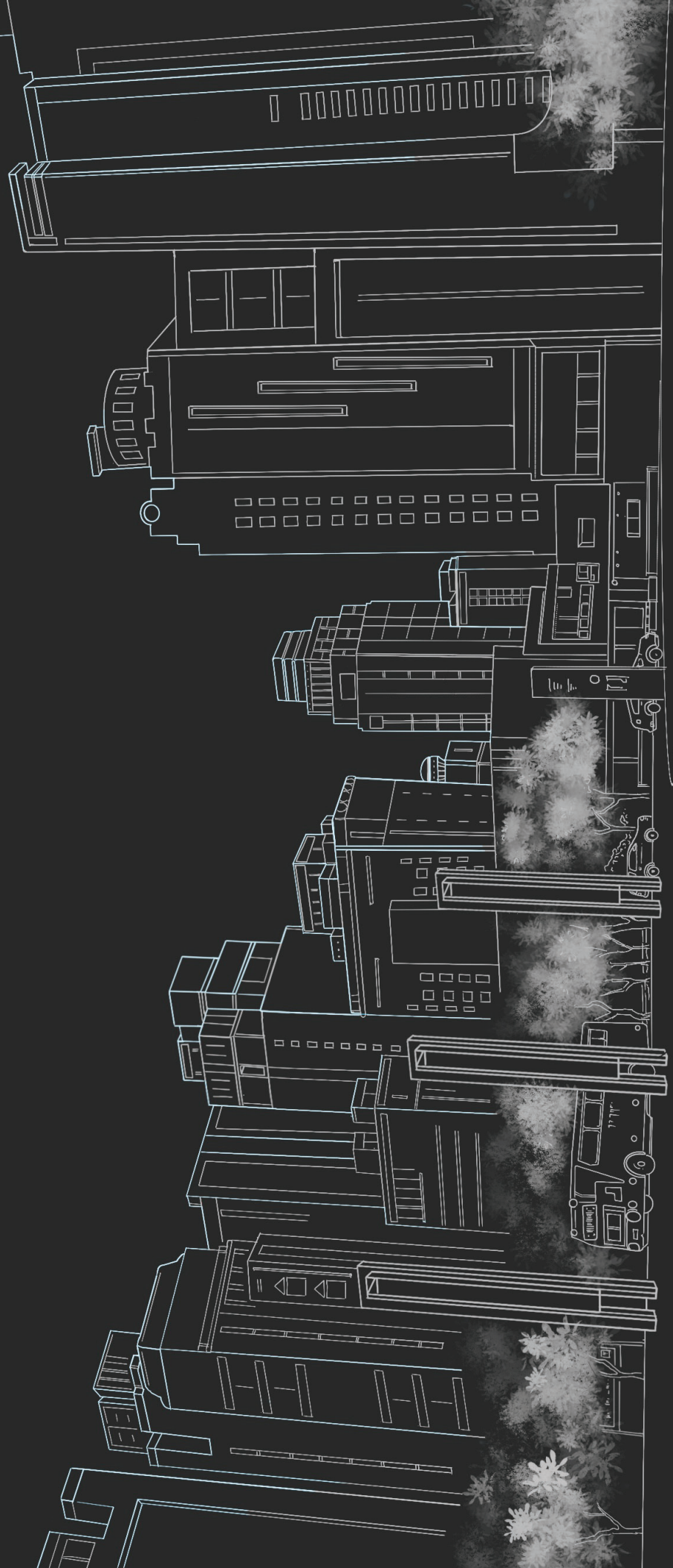
Thank you for considering my enthusiastic endorsement of Hsiao-Chieh Huang, and I eagerly anticipate witnessing the outstanding achievements that lie ahead for her. Please don't hesitate to contact me if there's any further questions at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,  
Eva Olsen  
Studio Manager – Hongyun Art  
[REDACTED]



# PORTFOLIO

HSIAO CHIEH HUANG







OIL PAINTING / 116.5 x 91 cm / 2017

Oil painting competition of "New Year's Day Art Exhibition"  
1st place award





OIL PAINTING / 116.5 x 91 cm / 2018





WATERCOLOR PAINTING / 104 x 76 cm / 2018

Watercolor competition of "NewYear'sDay Art Exhibition"  
Awards for selection

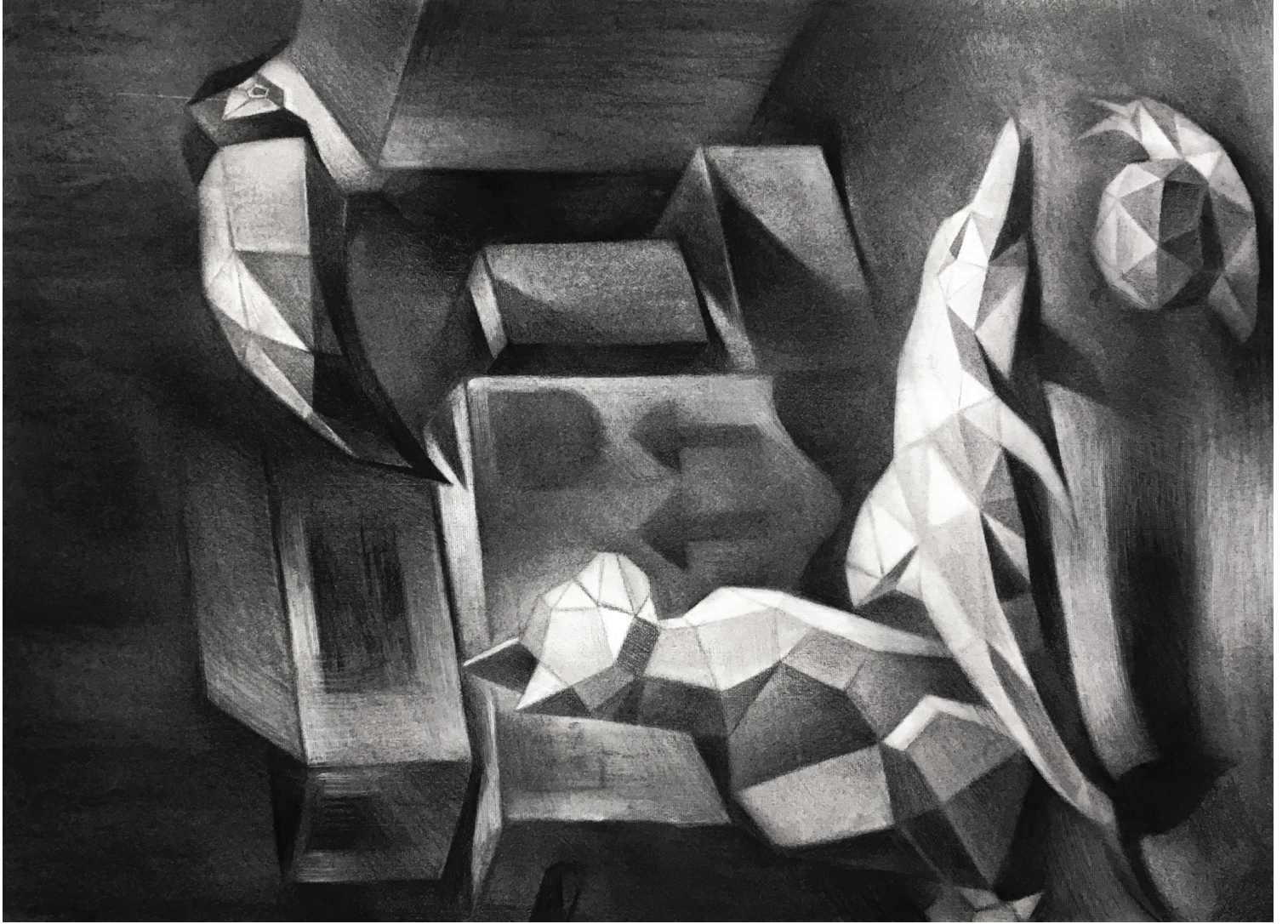




MARKER, COLORED PENCIL PAINTING /  
52 x 38 cm / 2017

Illustration competition of "Teacher-Student Art Exhibition"  
1st place award





CHARCOAL SKETCH / 76 x 52 cm / 2019





BALLPEN SKETCH ON WOOD / 65 x 80 cm / 2016

Sketch competition of "Teacher-Student Art Exhibition"  
Judges' award





CHINESE INK PAINTING / 36 x 28 cm / 2018

**METAL CRAFTS/ Necklace**  
**Material :** Enamel, Copper, Brass  
**Technique :** Wax carving, Casting, Welding, Black oxide  
2021



**METAL CRAFTS / Cutlery Set**  
**Material/Technique :** Enamel, Copper, Brass  
**Technique :** Sawing, Welding, Black oxide  
2021



**METAL CRAFTS / Brooch**  
**Material/Technique :** Enamel, Copper, Brass  
**Technique :** Sawing, Welding, Black oxide  
2021



IDEA

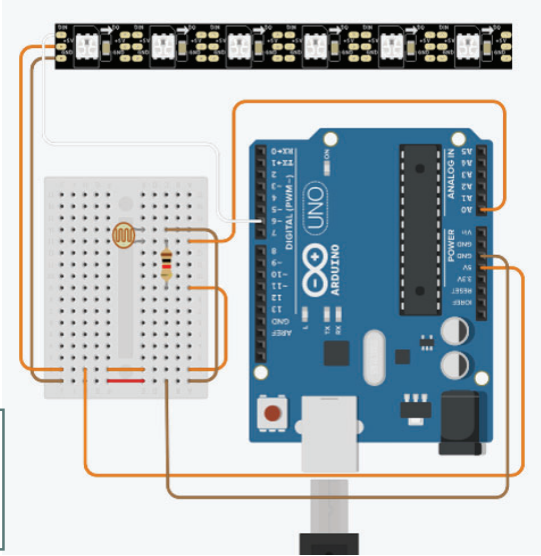
The design concept comes from discovering the inconvenience of daily life. Hope to bring service design thinking through intimate electromechanical interactive devices and the discussion of people's psychological fear of the dark night.

With the progress of the times, lights can always be seen in civilized cities. The function of lights has gradually become a source of security from lighting and warming. The mouse is the guardian of the night. When people go to sleep, They light up the city at night!

I believe everyone has an experience that the light switch is far away from the bed, It make us feel anxiety that we need looking for the bed in the dark after turning off the lights; Or the fear of getting up in the middle of the night to go to the toilet but not being able to find the switch.

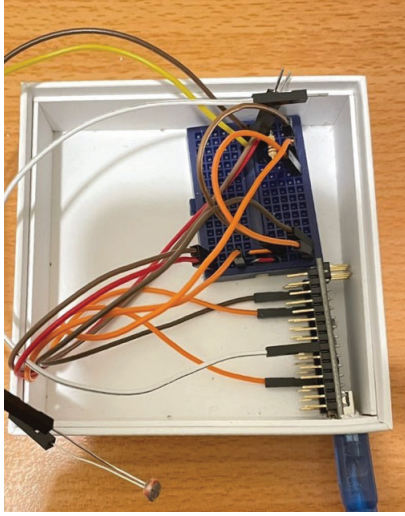
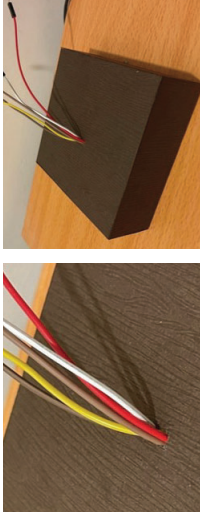
So I used Arduino photoresistor, LED strips and glass-blowing mouse made a thoughtful lighting design.

ARDUINO

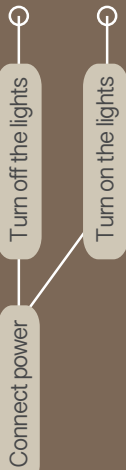


- Nano board · LED Strips · Photoresistor · Resistance
- Jumper wire · Breadboard · Battery

STRUCTURE



INSTRUCTIONS

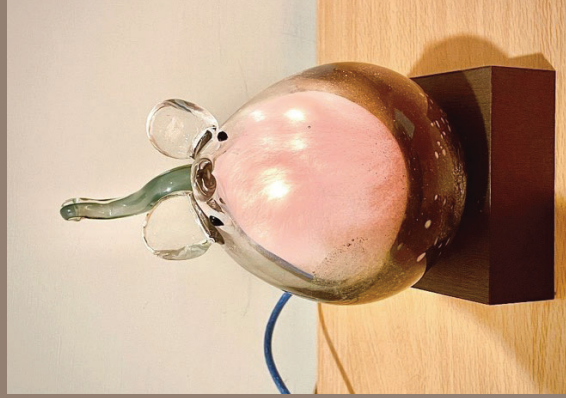
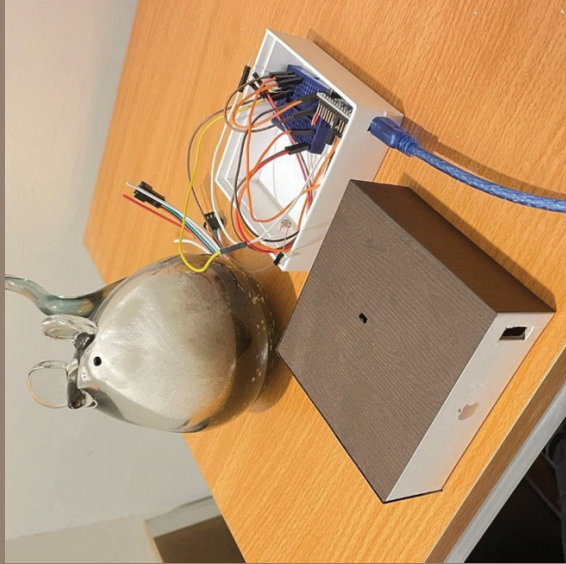


Sensor - Photoresistor

Output - LED light strip

Numerical value  $<150$  ||  $>930$  — Bright

Numerical value  $150 - 930$  — Dark





# FUTURE VISION

BUILD THE WORLD THROUGH YOUR SIGHT

Exhibited at ARS Electronica Festival in Austria

Shortlisted for the Golden Pin Design Award

DESIGN / Fashion AR Smart Glasses

Material/Technique : Brass, 3Dprinting, Arduino Switch Module, LED Strip

Technique : Metalcrafting, 3Dmodeling, Digital designing, Coding...

09. 2022







## EDUCATION

09/2018 - 06/2022

National Tsing Hua University, Tsinchu/Taiwan  
Dept. of art and design - GPA 3.9

09/2015 - 06/2018

Fu-Hsin trade & arts school, New Taipei City/Taiwan  
Dept. of arts and crafts

09/2010 - 06/2015

Tian-Mu elementary school, Taipei/Taiwan  
Tian-Mu junior high school, Taipei/Taiwan

09/2006 - 06/2010

Fudan-Vanke experimental private school, Shanghai/China

2002

## EXPERIENCE

2022- Art teacher, "Hongyun Art School"

2022- Project Lead Designer, "Jorin Techno Games Inc."

2022- Participant, "ARSE Electronica Festiva 2022" (Austria)

2022- Shortlisted for the Golden Pencil Design Award

Participant, Austria, a master meta-work art set - Robert Baines workshop

Technician Certificate of Visual Communication Design (Taiwan)

2021- ZE exhibition / 点石成金 M das touch

## SKILLS

- BILINGUAL ABILITY:** Chinese (Traditional), Simplified English
- PAINTING:** Sketch, Portrait, Sketch, Watercolor, Oil painting, Chinese ink painting, Illustration...
- CRAFTS:** Metal crafts, Carpentry, Glass art, Pottery art...
- DIGITAL:** Illustrator, Photoshop, Procreate, 3D Rhino, Arduino, CSS/HTML...

## AWARDS

### National Tsing Hua University, Tsinchu/Taiwan

- 2021 - Academic Excellence Award (for top 5 percent student)
- 2021 - Interdisciplinary Royan-Kohout / Judges' award
- 2021 - 1st SEM "Outstanding Achievement Award" of subject Exam national
- 2021 - 2nd SEM "Outstanding Achievement Award" of subject Exam national
- 2020 - "Excellent Student Work Award" of general education courses
- 2020 - 1st SEM "Outstanding Achievement Award" of subject Exam national
- 2020 - 2nd SEM "Outstanding Achievement Award" of subject Exam national
- 2019 - 1st SEM "Outstanding Achievement Award" of subject Exam national
- 2018 - 1st SEM "Outstanding Achievement Award" of subject Exam national

### Fu-Hsin trade & arts school, New Taipei City/Taiwan

- 2018 - Outstanding painting of "New Year's Day Art Exhibition" / 1st place award
- 2018 - Engraving art competition of "New Year's Day Art Exhibition" / Honorabement
- 2018 - Chinese painting competition of "New Year's Day Art Exhibition" / Judges' award
- 2018 - Chinese painting competition of "National Lumina Art Market" / Honorabement
- 2018 - "National painting competition" / Honorabement
- 2017 - "The 18th Watercolor Sketch Competition" / Judges' award
- 2017 - Chinese painting of "New Taipei City Student Art Exhibition" / 1st place award
- 2016 - Illustration competition of "Teacher-Student Art Exhibition" / Judges' award
- 2016 - Watercolor competition of "Teacher-Student Art Exhibition" / Judges' award
- 2016 - Ink and wash competition of "Teacher-Student Art Exhibition" / Judges' award
- 2016 - Portrait sketch competition of "Teacher-Student Art Exhibition" / Judges' award
- 2016 - Sketch competition of "Teacher-Student Art Exhibition" / Judges' award
- 2016 - Creative thinking competition / Honorabement
- 2016 - Portrait sketching professional certificate / Intermediate certificate
- 2016 - "Little Picasso Drawing Contest" of Shanghai Bank Foundation / Judges' award
- 2015 - Portrait sketching professional certificate / Preliminary certificate
- 2015 - Shuanghe District Purple Ribbon / Certificate of Excellence

### Tian-Mu elementary school / junior high school, Taipei/Taiwan

- 2013 - Cao Shan ecological literature and history / 2nd place award
- 2013 - Western painting competition / Merit award
- 2012 - Western painting competition / Merit award
- 2012 - Ink and wash competition / Honorabement
- 2012 - Science and innovation competition / 6th place award
- 2012 - Text and writing arts workshop / Study certificate
- 2010 - TMES tobacco control book mark design competition / Honorabement

### Fudan-Vanke experimental private school, Shanghai/China

- 2009 - The 12th art festival photography competition / 2nd place award, 3rd place award
- 2008 - China Academy of Art Social Proficiency Examination / Certificate



## Portrait Sketch



During high school, as the vice captain of the school's portrait sketching team, I led the team in participating in sketching events, using art to make a positive impact on society.



Certificate of Completion for International Art Guide Class



Klimt Exhibition with representatives of Austrian Taipei Office



TSMC's Dream-Building Project Final Review Announced



Australian Metalworking Master Workshop



Drawing a portrait of the Secretary of Education



ARS Electronica Festival in Austria



2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Janki Chokshi

Cupertino Resident



## **Janki J Chokshi**

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### **Personal Statement:**

Inspired by my father's passion for drawing and painting and my mother's love for music, I have been close to both painting and music since childhood. Under my father's guidance I learnt the free hand as well as various drawing techniques. Several years ago, I was introduced to paintings in which sand was used as a medium. Having worked with sand, I have discovered a new creative side of me and have developed a lot of patience and discipline.

### **Exhibitions**

#### **Solo Exhibitions**

2012- 2019 Diwali mela – Cupertino, California, USA  
2007 Art and Wine Festival – Mountain View, California, USA  
2006 Art and Wine Festival – Mountain View, California, USA  
2005 Art and Wine Festival – Mountain View, California, USA  
2005 Art and Wine Festival – Los Altos, California, USA

#### **Group Exhibitions**

2009-2023 Fall Festival, Cupertino, California, USA  
2017-2019 From the Heart, Mountain View, California, USA  
2009-2016 From the Heart, Los Altos Café, California, USA  
2008 Earth Expressions, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2008 From the Heart, Los Altos Café, California, USA  
2007 Los Altos Art Fair , Los Altos , California, USA  
2006 Jubilee Show, Cupertino, California, USA  
2005 Triton Museum, Santa Clara, California, USA

#### **Awards and Honors**

2023- Mayor's Pick award Fall festival, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2022- Best of creativity and Mayor's pick award, Fall Festival. Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2020- Best of show , Expressions, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2018 - 2nd Place, Rotary President's award, Honorable Mention , Fall Fest Show, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2017 - Best Realism , Fall Fest Show, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2016 - Best Of Show Fall Fest Show, Fine Arts League Of Cupertino, California, USA  
2015 - 3rd Prize Silicon Valley Food and Art Show Cupertino, California, USA  
2013 - Best Realism , Fall Fest Show, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2010 - 2nd Prize Artist of the Month, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA



2009 - Feb. 2nd Prize, Artist of the Month, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2008 - Nov. 2nd Prize, Artist of the Month, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2008 – Honorable Mention, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2008 – 2nd Prize, From The Heart, Los Altos Café, California, USA  
2008 - 2nd Prize, Artist of the Month, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2007 – 1st Prize – Mixed Media Category , Jubilee Show , Cupertino , USA  
2007 – Certificate of Merit, Triton Museum, Santa Clara, California, USA  
2006 - 2nd Prize Artist of the Month, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA  
2005 - 1st Prize Artist of the Month, Fine Art League of Cupertino, California, USA



# ART TIME STUDIOS

1233 B South Mary Avenue  
Sunnyvale, California 94087

www.arttimestudios.com

September 9, 2023

## STUDIO PROFILE:

*"Besides art, Teacher Sid takes the time and energy to teach students about the value of patience, accountability, and leadership in class."*

-Parent Support

*"Sid's presence and confidence are off the charts! He commands a great deal of diligence and leadership."*

-Parent Support

*"Students don't really understand how lucky they have Sid as their teacher. His impact goes beyond the studio and classroom."*

-Parent Support

To Whom It May Concern:

It has been an incredible journey beyond many years to see Janki Chokshi develop into an outstanding and extraordinary local artist. As her fellow artist in the community, I have been impressed by the growth and diligence of her work ethic and commitment. The transformation I have seen in Janki's artwork since day one is a memory linked to confidence and perseverance. I believe in Janki's character and support her artistic talents in our artist community. It is my immense pleasure to recommend Janki Chokshi into your distinguished artist pool.

If you need further information regarding Janki Chokshi's work and experience, please contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Sid Veloria,  
Art Time Studios,  
Credentialed Educator and SBO





# JANKI CHOKSHI

Artist, Art Educator and  
Entrepreneur



Paint Your Dreams



# Portfolio

Columna Amoris



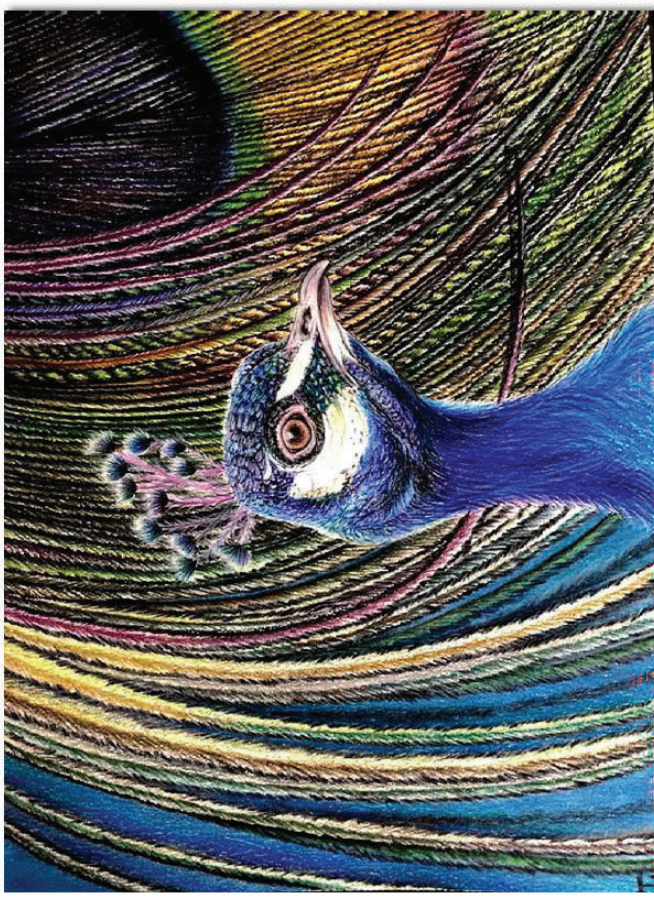
Colorpencil





# Portfolio

Attitude Matters



Colorpencil



# Portfolio

Mi Amour



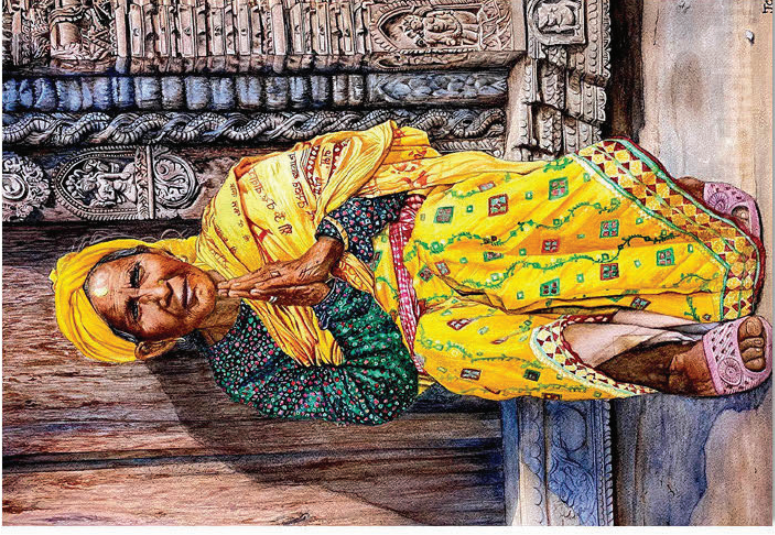
Colorpencil





# Portfolio

Gratitude



Watercolor



# Portfolio

Red Pearls



Watercolor



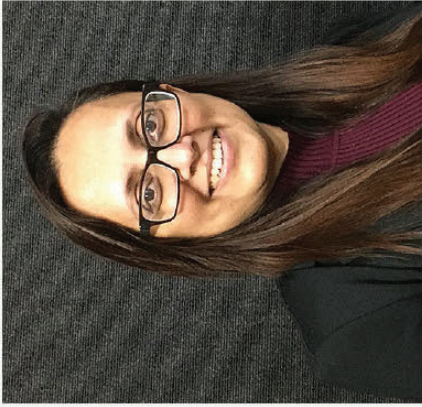


# Portfolio

Douché D'amour



Watercolor



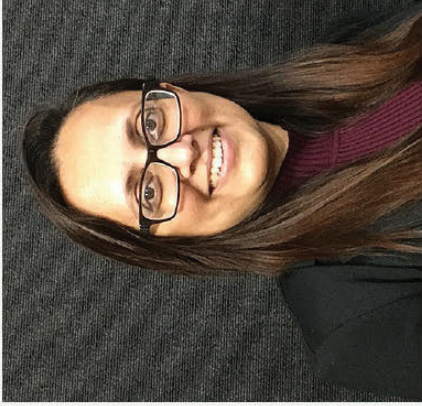
# Portfolio

Santa Baby, Hurry Down the Chimney tonight!!



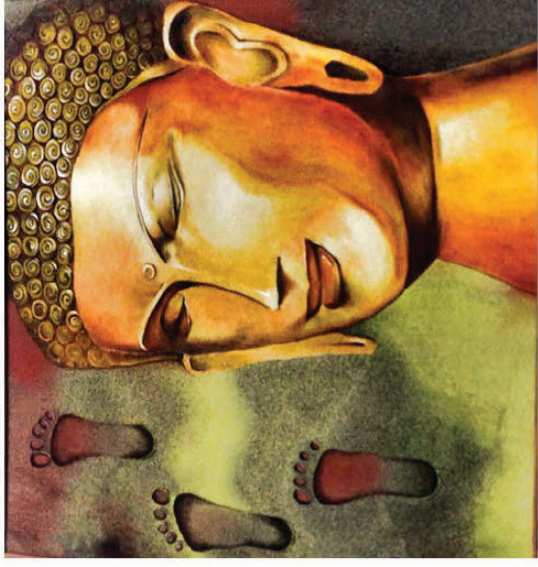
Watercolor





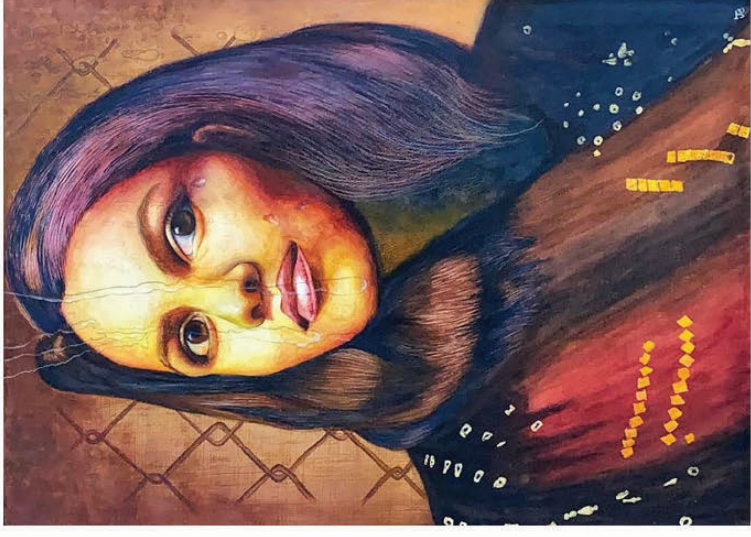
# Portfolio

Nirvana



Sand and Acrylic on board

Triumph



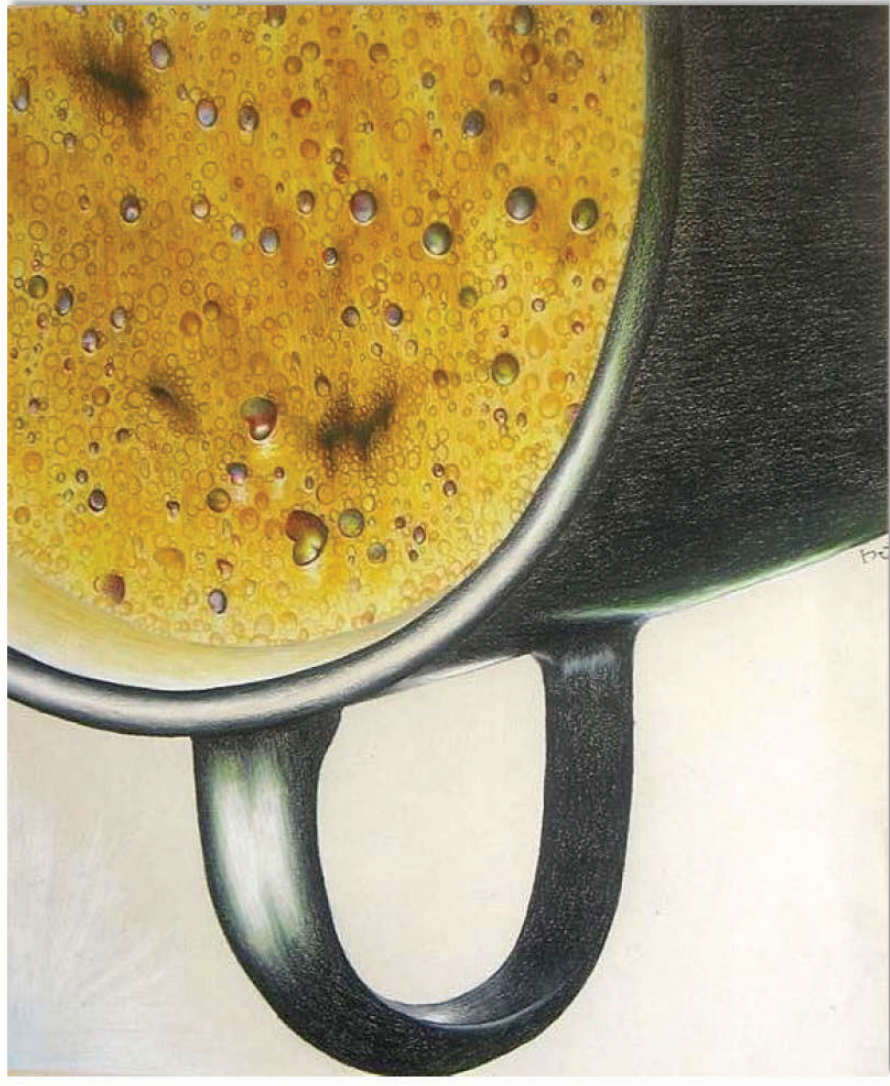
Watercolor



Portfolio



Café Coffee



Color Pencil



Portfolio



## Portfolio

Giving Back to the Community and Promoting art in the community are few of the goals of my Art journey.

Teaching Art to Kids and Adults including special Aid Kids from past 16-17 years. Running affinity group Knots and needles through Rotary Club of Cupertino in which we teach and make Fidget pillows for Alzheimer Patients, knitted caps for Cancer patients and Small knitted caps for Nicu babies, Chemo pillows for cancer patients.

Through Fine Arts League Of Cupertino, we make art and donate it to Old age home Patients in Christmas.

Recently worked on Rabbit Project with Rotary Club Of Cupertino. Painted two Rabbits for Toyokawa Sister City and Bhubaneswar Sister City.



# Janki J Chokshi

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## Expertise

Full time professional Artist and owner of art studio Little Artist's Studio. Studied and worked in areas of Office Administration, Finance and Accounting. Also experienced in computer software packages and knowledgeable in Microsoft Office, Visual Basic, Oracle and FoxPro. Knowledgeable in typing and secretarial practice. Have a strong attitude for quick learning and teamwork. Member of Color Pencil Society of America local and international chapters. Member of East Valley art association. Member of National watercolor society.

## Experience

### 2023 – Library commissioner for the City of Cupertino

- Serving as one of the five Library commissioners.

### 2022 –Fine Arts Commissioner for the City of Cupertino

- Served as one of the five fine arts commissioners for 8 years.

### 2015 – Cupertino Chamber of Commerce, Cupertino, California.

- Office Assistant to CEO of Cupertino Chamber of Commerce.

### 2006 – 2023 - Present Fine Arts League of Cupertino Cupertino California.

- President and Webmaster for the Fine Arts League of Cupertino Website
- Manage the day-to-day operations of the website.
- Conducts shows and manages the organization operations.

### 1996 – 1997 Unit Trust of India Bank

Bombay, India

#### Administrative Officer

- Handled reconciliation of various branch bank accounts.
- Prepared end of month reports using packages like MS Word and MS Excel and custom software packages

### 1994–1996

Sales Media

Surat, India

#### Account Specialist

- Handled Agency Accounts for various companies.
- Supervised Sales and Inventory for various consumer products.
- Worked on software packages like FoxPro and MS Word.

### 1992–1994

M/S Paresh Mehta and Co.

Surat, India

#### Account Officer

- Handled office accounts and correspondence.
- Programmed software packages in FoxPro and Lotus.

**Education****2002-2003****DeAnza College****Cupertino, CA**

- Successful completed courses in Business Communication, Accounting, Economics and Financial Planning

**2000****Northeastern University****Boston, MA**

- Programming in Visual Basic

**1988–1991****Mumbai University****Bombay, India**

- B.Com., Bachelor of Commerce

US Citizen.



2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Jason Rose

Employed in Cupertino

My name is Jason Rose and this is my artist statement.

Ever since I can remember I've loved drawing, writing stories and just creating in general. I was the type of child to fall in love or hate with my favorite cartoon characters as if they were alive. Fictional characters have always fascinated me in this way. While on the one hand, people like Robocop, The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Travis Bickle, and Spartacus don't actually exist; at the same time, they do inhabit the collective unconscious of humanity in a big way. As a child it was my dream to create a character like that. One that grows so big it takes on a life of its own in the minds of my fellow humans; to create a character that falls in amongst the ranks of Scooby Doo, Superman, or Calvin and Hobbs. During elementary and high school I spent all my time working towards this goal.

However, as I entered into my adult years, life had other plans for me. My time and energy was all overshadowed with being a working class adult with not much in the way of higher learning. I've done almost any job one could think of without experience or education. Working 90+ hour weeks in construction and food service leaves little time or energy for creative endeavors. Still, during my twenties and early thirties I garnered valuable life experience. In those years I lived, loved, raised my daughter and overcame pitfalls and dark periods I'd never dreamed of. Then, several years ago as I approached thirty five years of age, I made a decision to go back to my original pursuit: becoming an artist. Enrolling at the University of Silicon Valley I was able to get my bachelor's degree in Digital Arts and Animation with a concentration in Concept Design. Since my tenure there, I started my career as a professional artist. I am currently employed at Hongyun Art; an art school here in Cupertino. I have been employed there for almost three years and am so grateful to be making my living using my passion.

In addition to working at the art school, I have been using my time since USV to fulfill my dream of creating a cartoon. I have networked with some local Cupertino and San Jose artists to further this cause. Together we have formed an artist's collective and are working on an animated pilot at this very time.

All this to simply say: I wish to be considered for your artist award. Being somewhat new to the world of professional artists. I confess I have never written an "artist statement" before but I hope the above ramblings suffices to explain who I am; as well as who I hope to be as an artist moving forward.

-Jason Rose





September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Letter of Recommendation – Jason Rose

To the Cupertino Arts and Culture Commission,

My name is Eva Olsen and I am the manager at Hongyun Art in Cupertino. This letter is intended to recommend one of the employees at Hongyun Art, Jason Rose for the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award. Jason has been teaching art classes here for three years and helping with various volunteer art events around the area.

His art style is incredible and has lots of energy and emotion put into it, he's always drawing inspiration from various cartoons and nostalgic elements of his childhood. He excels at working with digital media and color pencil, adding lots of vibrant elements into them.

In addition to teaching classes, he's a well-rounded individual and has held multiple jobs since his time from Deanza College to University of Silicon Valley, ranging from a martial arts instructor to a construction worker.

At Hongyun Art as a teacher, he's a very reliable member of our community and our students love his classes, looking forward to his expertise and advice every week. As a teacher, he inspires and encourages his art students and is mentoring the next generation of artists to be confident and curious individuals. In addition, he's working to help our volunteers be a part of the Cupertino community, hosting events such as Cupertino Library's Guided Anime Exploration Class.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any other questions. Based on my experience working with Jason Rose, I would highly recommend him for the Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award.

Sincerely,

Eva Olsen

Studio Manager – Hongyun Art











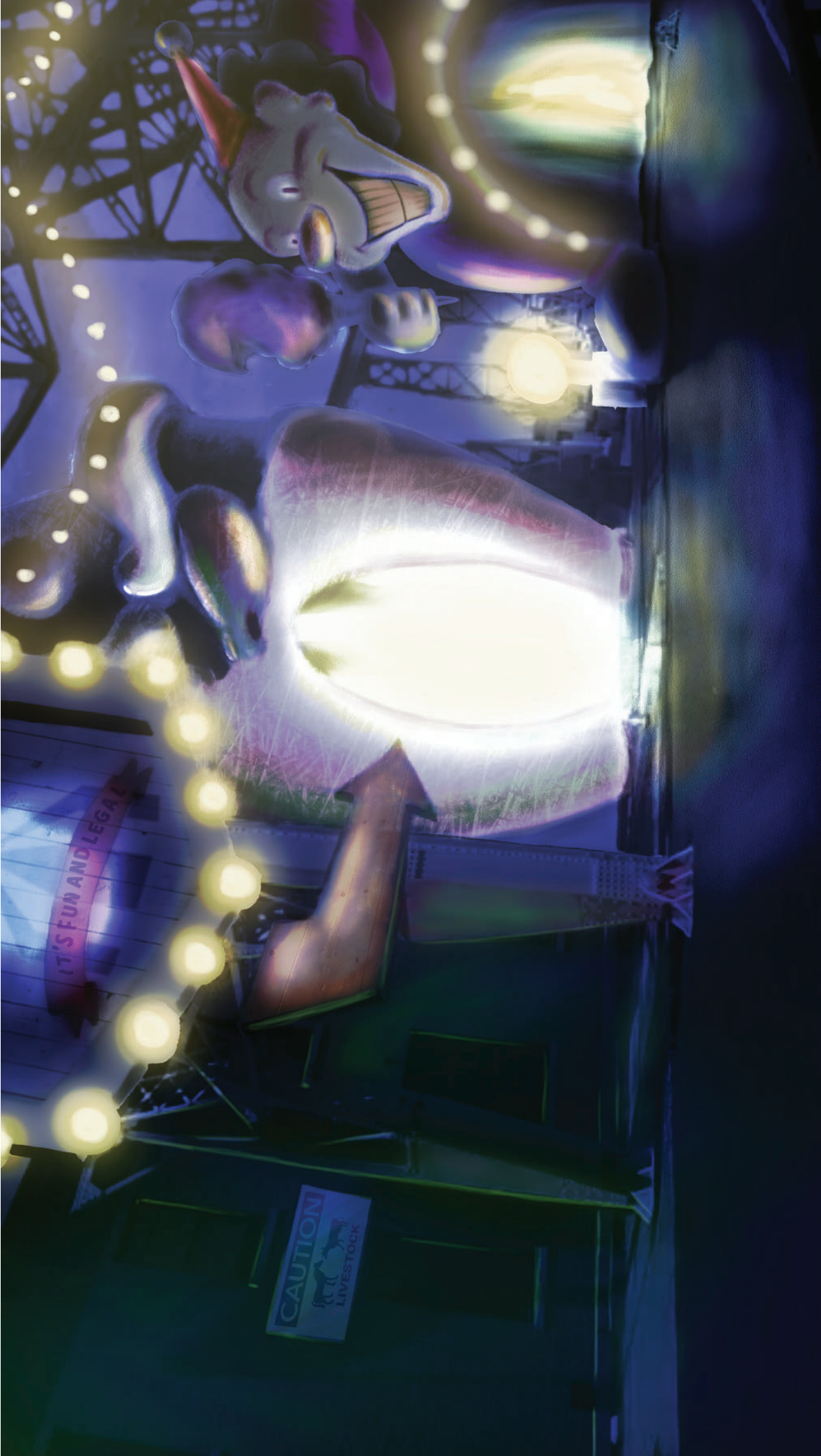
JROSE





JROSE







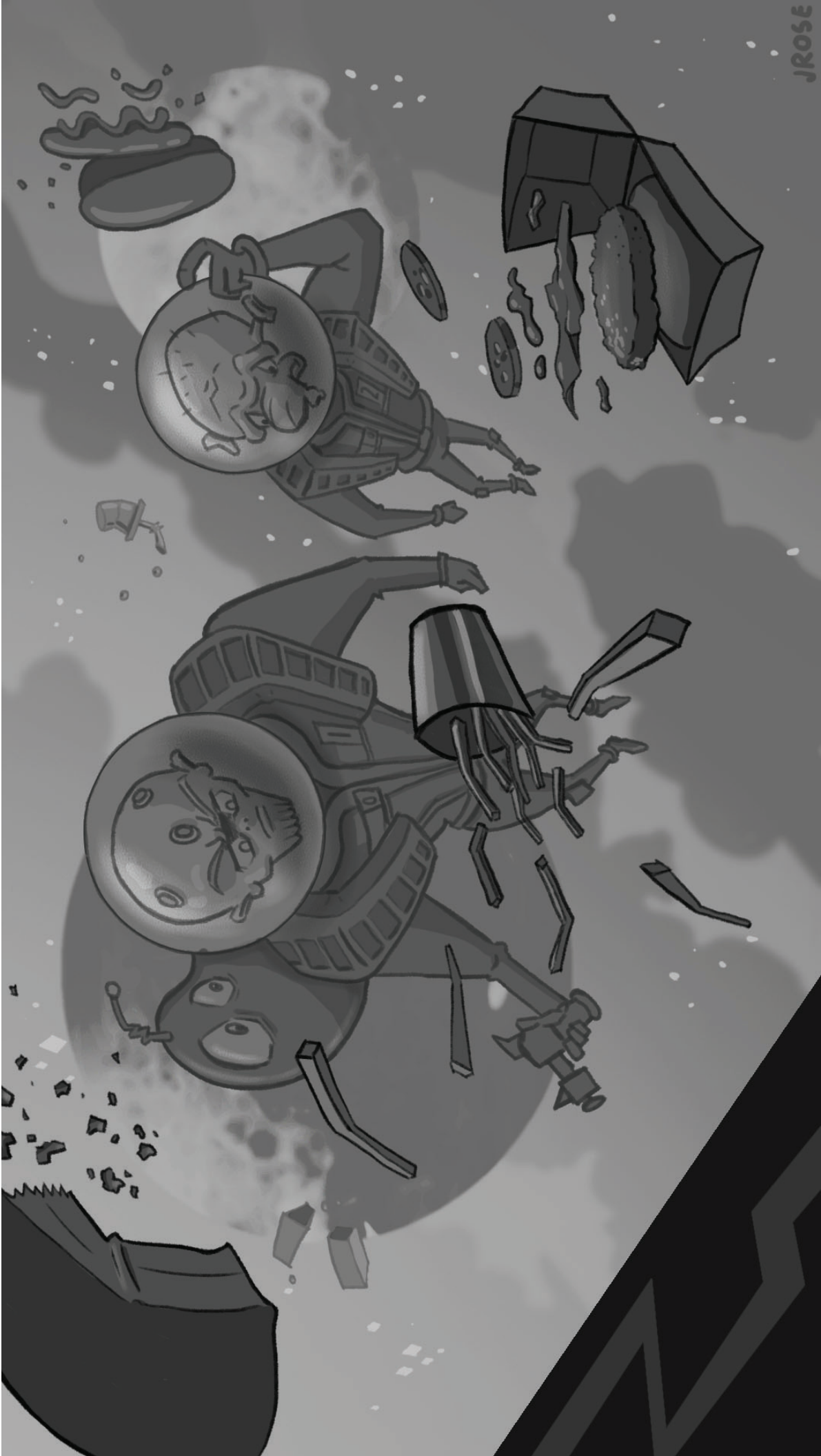






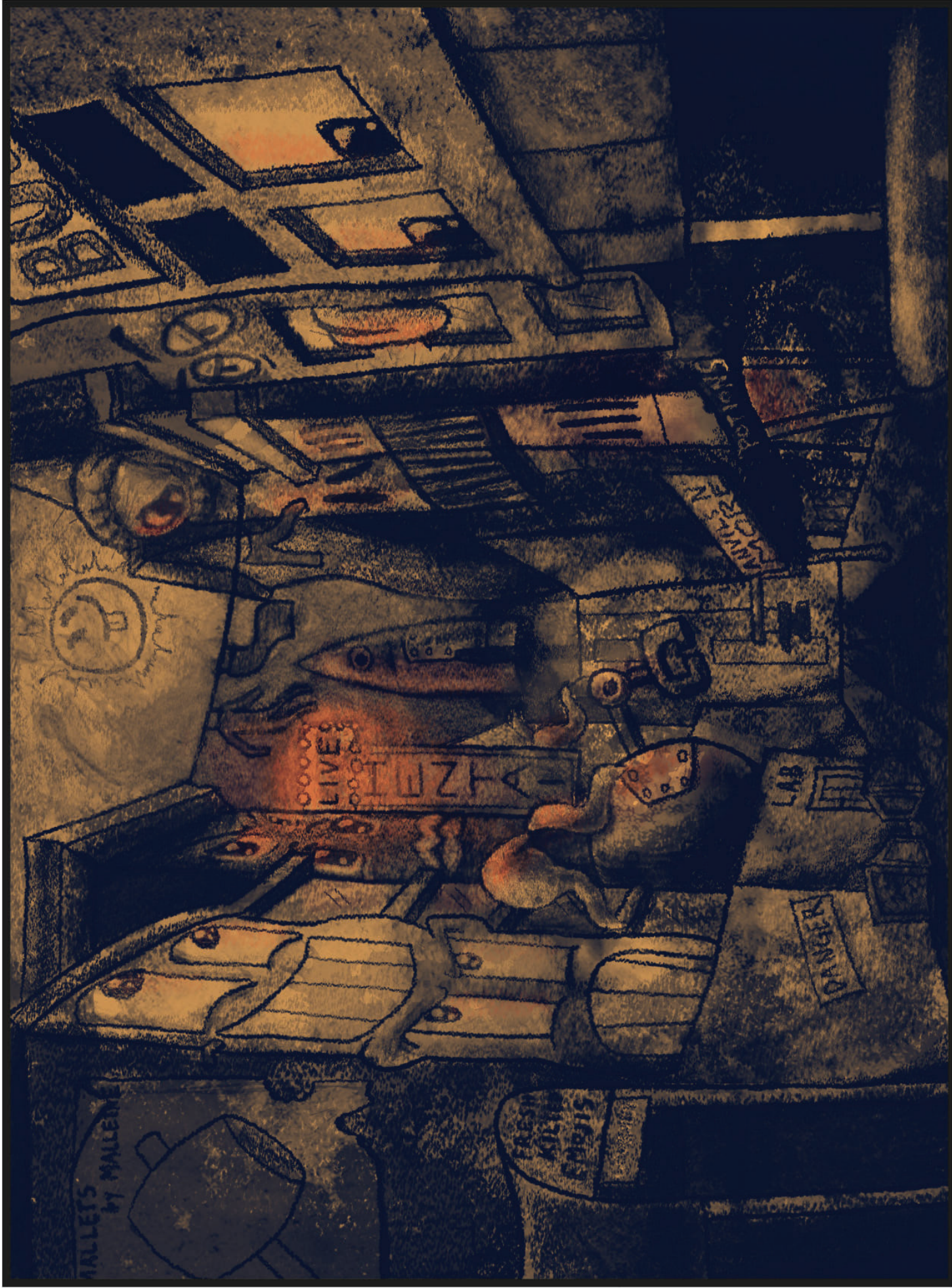












2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Kathy Zhang

Employed in Cupertino



Personal Statement for Kathy Zhang

Attn: Arts & Culture Commission

Date: 9/7/23

Hello!

I would like to introduce myself and share my art journey with you.

I am a 40 year resident of the Sunnyvale/Cupertino Area. I attended Lynbrook High School and De Anza College as a teen and earned an AA degree. I later returned in the early 2000's for a Child Development Certificate.

I have been employed in the education field by Cupertino Union School District for nearly 20 years and also part-time continuous employment at the De Anza College Child Development Center for 10 years.

Drawing and painting have been my passion for the past 25 years. I am self-taught without any formal training in art. I have worked in many mediums including graphite and colored pencil, oil pastel, and acrylic paints. In addition to canvas, I enjoy painting pottery, rocks, and garden creatures. My preferred subject matter are landscapes, animal portraits, and floral still life.

What is art without sharing it? I started putting my designs on literally everything from furniture to birthday cards to school assignments. My friends and colleagues always seem to be amazed, however, I was just "doing my thing" and more than happy to teach, share, and include them in whatever way they wished.

I have taught art to every age, from 2 years to 82 years old. I taught art at the Daybreak Program in Sunnyvale, a day program for Alzheimer's patients. If art is involved, I'm there. I love to see people discover their talents, so I pride myself on presenting easy to follow projects that build on skills that bring about confidence in new artists who are just starting their own journeys in art.

I have included photos of my paintings, landscapes, floral, dog pop art, as well as designs created for a particular school mascot that I taught as a class lesson (Stockmeir Pandas, Sedgewick Dolphins)

**From:** [Kathleen Zhang](#)  
**To:** [Arts and Culture](#)  
**Subject:** Kathy Zhang Letter of Support  
**Date:** Thursday, September 7, 2023 12:34:42 PM

---

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello

I just submitted an application today  
for the distinguished artistic award.  
Please add the recommendation below from one of my current art students.

I can resubmit the application if you prefer.

Thank you!

Kathy Zhang

**From:** Anjali Mallya [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 7, 2023 at 12:13:51 PM PDT  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Letter of Support

Re: Letter of support for Kathleen Zhang

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Anjali Prabhu. I am a Cupertino resident. I am writing this note in support of Kathleen Zhang, who is my Art teacher and is a great artist and a wonderful human being.

I first came across Kathy's paintings in her post in Nextdoor app in 2022. I instantly liked her art style and when she created a Summer Friendship Paint group, I promptly joined it. Little did I know that it would open a whole new world of opportunities for me to explore my own inner artistic talent. In the nextdoor group, Kathy started offering Painting classes to ladies over the summer of 2022. I was lucky to join the classes and find a safe friendly environment to relax and paint. From July 2022 to now Sep 2023, I have grown from just doing basic adult coloring books to painting rocks, acrylic painting, perspective drawing to landscape painting. This would not be possible if not for Kathy's teachings, guidance, and selflessly investing her Saturday morning time for our painting group.

Kathy started with the 2022 summer classes, but seeing our interest and keenness to learn more, she now has been teaching us regularly for over a year, and still



going strong. She introduced us to acrylic painting with simple smaller canvas paintings, oval rounds, painted rocks. And advanced us into painting on slightly bigger canvases during Fall 2022. She taught us Perspective drawing and sketching & shading in Winter classes in early 2023. And in the Spring session introduced us to One stroke painting with Flowers and birds series. Currently we have started Landscape painting series and Kathy has planned for us to complete 5 landscapes by December. All these painting series and classes was pre-decided by Kathy in early 2023 itself and which kept our painting group engaged and wanting for more. As Kathy's art knowledge and expertise is so vast and we have so much to learn from her.

What I like about Kathy is that she is extremely patient, friendly and motivating teacher. She brings great energy to our group with her positive and encouraging attitude. She makes sure everyone learns the fundamentals of the painting before we actually start to paint. Kathy has groomed our painting group so well over the year that each one of us are more confident artists today. And we can only credit this to Kathy's relentless efforts and selfless devotion to teaching art.

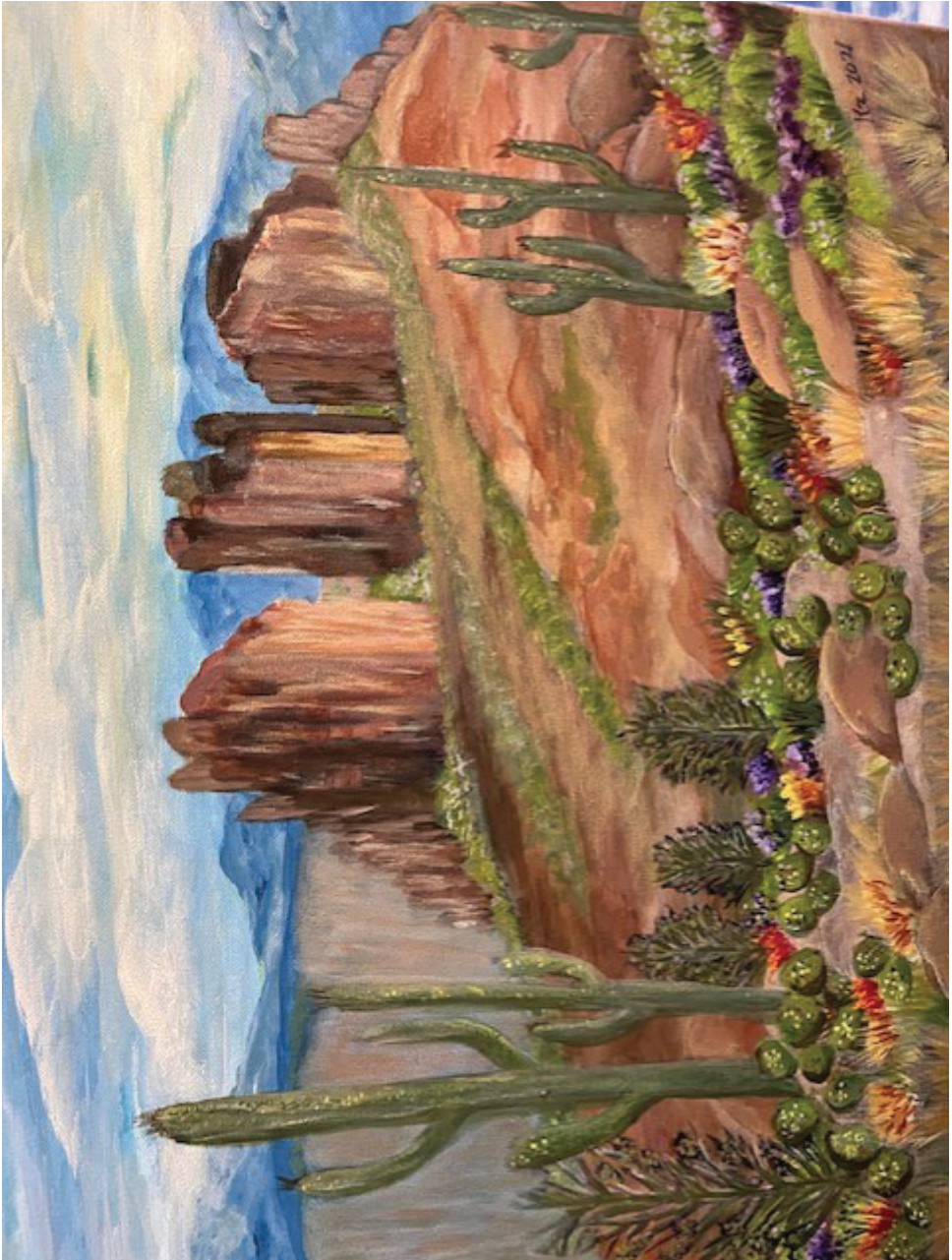
I would highly recommend and support Kathy Zhang for the Distinguished Artist Award.

Thank you,  
Sincerely,  
Anjali Prabhu











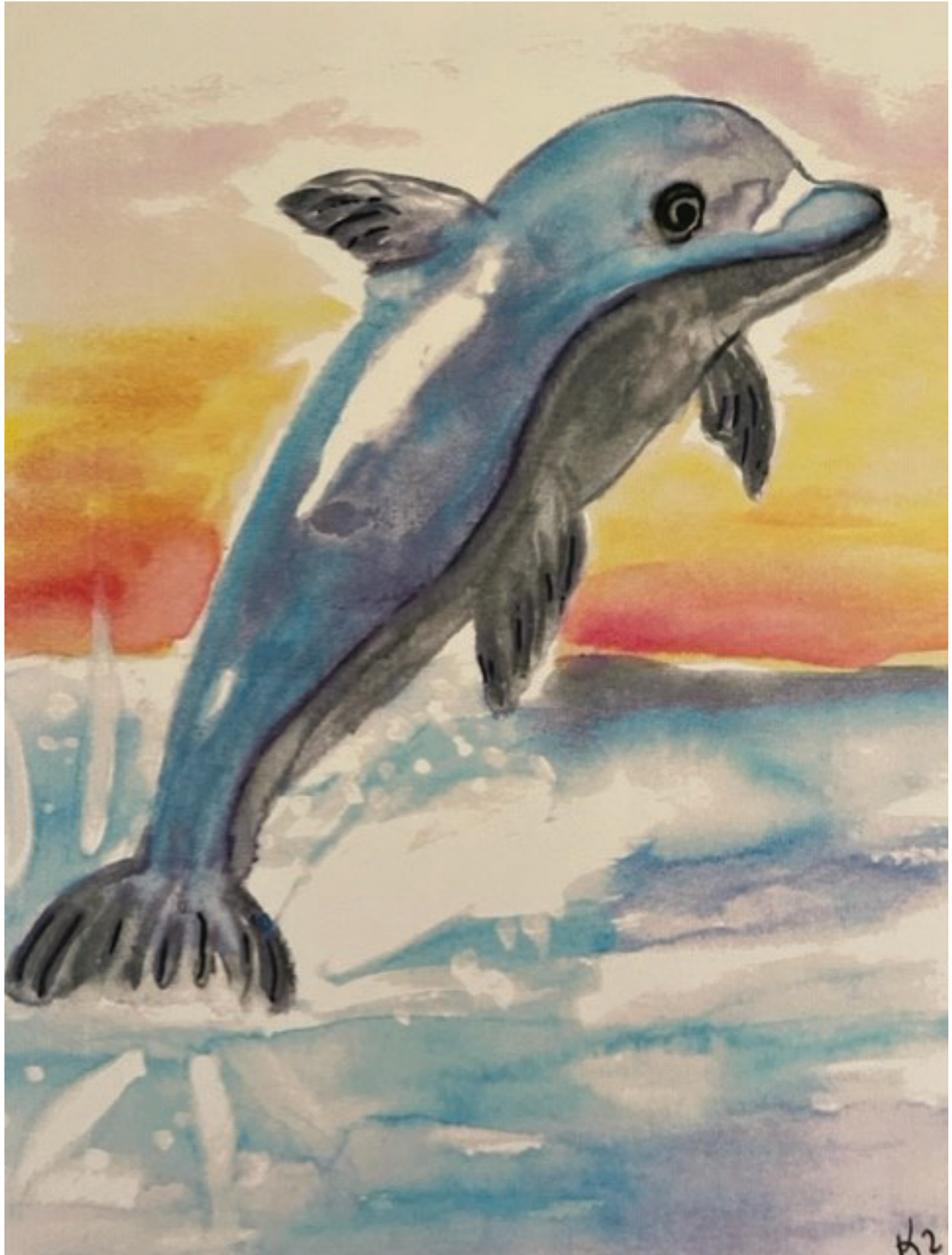
























## Resume and Exhibitions/ Kathy Zhang

As a substitute teacher in the Cupertino School District since 2004, I began by sharing my artwork with classes just as an ice-breaker and to find common interest. I soon found myself creating age appropriate art to bring to elementary age students as part of the substitute day. Their enthusiasm for art sparked a desire to bring well planned, easy-to succeed, art projects to hundreds of children over my 15 years of classroom teaching in several of the CUSD elementary schools. In addition, I have participated in the art docent program as well as the annual Reflections Art Program as a judge in the visual arts category.

I was awarded the CA State PTA Honorary service award in 2004 for my years of supporting CUSD school, Stockmeir Elementary. I volunteered as a Great Books discussion leader, Art Docent, and manager of the Scrip Fundraiser program. In addition, provided classroom support as room parent when my kids attended the school. I participated in set design and musical accompaniment for various plays and productions in the district.

I currently hold an ECE Site Supervisor permit and work at De Anza College CDC as an administrator/ teacher for young children, ages 2-5 yrs. The CDC follows the pedagogy of child directed learning to encourage creativity and higher level thinking in young children.

I have an online art group through the NextDoor App entitled "Summer Friendship Paint Group" where like-minded neighbors can share their art and I provide tips and advice, as well as my own art. From that group, sprung an in-person class with adults learning in depth painting techniques in weekly painting sessions in my garage. The class is free, based on forming friendships with the common interest in painting and art. Here is the URL: <https://nextdoor.com/g/87qm8uyyc/>

Last year, I ran a booth at the annual Craft Fair fundraiser at Fremont High School. At my booth, "Rock Creations", I displayed and sold my designs of painted rocks and pottery. I displayed many designs including bunnies, owls, fish, M&ms, Minions, Grinches, and many more (see photo)



2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Meghna Sharma

Cupertino Resident

## PERSONAL STATEMENT

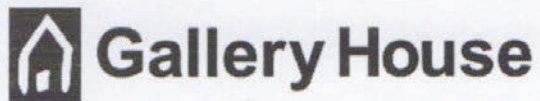
I am an artist based in Cupertino, California. Though I work with several mediums I now specialize in oil painting with a penchant for portraits. The human form and face interests me immensely and I love to observe people in natural settings. Through my paintings I like to look at people in different walks of life.

My paintings are on display at the Cupertino Library. I am also a member of a gallery The Gallery House, Palo Alto and display my paintings there. I have previously exhibited my art at several solo and group exhibitions in India. My painting titled 'The Wait' is on permanent display at The Indian Railway Institute of Financial Management (IRIFM) Secunderabad, India.

My painting titled "Lazy Afternoons" which depicts two children reading on a summer afternoon has been selected for display the DeYoung Open 2023 at San Francisco (Sept 30th to & Jan 7th).

I also occasionally conduct art workshops for children and adults at the small studio at my home.





THE HOME OF CONTEMPORARY FINE ART IN THE BAY AREA SINCE 1958

Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

To: The Cupertino Arts and Culture Commission 2023

Re: The Distinguished Artist Award Application for Meghna Sharma

Hello, I am writing on behalf of Meghna Sharma, a member of Gallery House, Palo Alto, since February 2023. Meghna's work has always been outstanding, and she has certainly attracted a following while being at Gallery House.

Meghna's painting 'Lazy Afternoons' was also recently selected for the De Young Open 2023.

I wholeheartedly recommend Meghna to be considered for this award.

Sincerely,

Karen Cox.  
Chair, Gallery House

**Gallery House**  
320 California Ave, Palo Alto CA 94306  
650-326-1668













































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**de Young \**  
**\ Legion of Honor**

fine arts museums  
of san francisco

Dear Meghna,

Congratulations! Your work as noted below has been selected by the jury to be featured in **The de Young Open 2023!**

---

## Confirm Your Submission Details

**Artist Name:** Meghna Sharma

**Public Contact:**

[REDACTED]

*This is how members of the public will contact you regarding the sale of your artwork. You provided this information when you submitted your application to ArtCall.*

**Submission ID #:** 1,470

**Artwork Title:** "Lazy afternoons"

**Outermost Dimensions (Height x Length x Depth):** 24 x 30 x 1.5 inches

**Medium:** Two-Dimensional Wall Art > Paintings  
> Oil

If any of the above information is incorrect,



2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Mukund Marathe  
Cupertino Resident

## Mukund Marathe\_Personal Statement

My name is Mukund Marathe and I have been a resident of Cupertino since 1992. I am President of California Arts Association - CalAA ([www.calaa.org](http://www.calaa.org)) since 2002 and associated with Naatak, America's Biggest Indian Theater, ([www.naatak.org](http://www.naatak.org)) since 2012.

I have been involved in Performing Arts since my school and college years in India. After migrating to the United States in 1985, I continued my passion for theater by acting, directing and writing/translating plays from English into Indian languages such as Hindi and Marathi.

California Arts Association, under my leadership, was awarded Santa Clara County's Asian-American Hero Award in 2011. Naatak has been declared Best Live Theater in Silicon Valley by the San Jose Mercury News for seven years in a row. I am proud to say that my contributions to both these organizations have been instrumental to some extent in getting these recognitions. Both CalAA and Naatak are 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

My contributions to Performing Arts for CalAA include:

**Actor:** Shaantataa Court Chaaloo Aahe (2003), Balee (2008), Popatpanchee (2010), Aadhe Adhure (2013), Pizza (2014), Pulotsav (2019), Raatra Solaa Janewaareechee (2022), Funny Money (2023)

**Director:** Badakaanche Gupit (2002), Dhol Taashe (2002), Udaaharnaarth Ek (2002), Saangaatee (2003), Kamalaa (2005), Pu. La. - Ek Aanandyaatraa (2007), Paanee (2010), Jaaswantee (2011), Chaahool (2012), Teen Paishaachaa Tamaashaa (2015), Jhultaa Pool (2016), Holee (2017), Supaaree (2018), Never Mind (2018), Pulotsav (2019), Left Right Left (2020), Ek Adheek Une (2021), Portrait (2021), Doshee (2021)

**Playwright/Adaptation:** Naatak Kase Basawtaat (2011), Funny Money (2023)

My contributions to Performing Arts for Naatak include:

**Actor:** Death in San Francisco (2012), Night of January 16th (2013), Vande Mataram (2013), Disconnect (2014), Mr. India (2016), Airport Insecurity (2017), Rashomon (2018), Proof (2019), Everyone Loves a Good Tsunami (2021), Khaamosh Adaalat Jaaree Hai (2021), We Are Open (2022), The Pillowman (2023), The Mousetrap (2023)

**Director:** God of Carnage (2013), Andhera Hone Tak (2014), August: Osage County (2016), The Odd Couple (2019), Saangaatee (2021), Kitchen Sink Drama (2022), Funny Money (2023)

**Playwright/Adaptation:** Party (2014), Andhera Hone Tak (2014), The Odd Couple (2019), Funny Money (2023)



I have also acted in short films Ho Ho Ho (2020), Eternity (2022) and a feature film For Here or To Go (2018).

I have produced 36 TV Episodes of "Mood India" at KMVT-15 Community Access Television in Mountain View to showcase Indian Classical Vocal and Instrumental Music, Indian Classical Dance and Indian Theater. I have also volunteered for the productions of Swar Lahari at KMVT-15 as a Camera Operator, Sound Recordist and Video Director.

I have conducted a workshop for young actors to impart the knowledge I have gained from working in Theater for over 40 years.

CalAA-California Arts Association is a non-profit organization founded in 2002 by San Francisco Bay Area drama enthusiasts with a mission to produce, present and preserve creative performing arts. It aims at promoting experimentation while maintaining high quality in presenting intelligent entertainment.

Inspired by the idea of providing platform for 'Surya Pahilelaa Maanoos' (A Man Who Saw the Sun), a teleplay produced in 2002 by Abhay Patil (a CalAA founder member), CalAA was formed to produce, present and preserve such creative, innovative activities and programs. The teleplay was well received raising hopes about archival of quality productions like 'Surya' in the years to come. CalAA followed this with archival of another landmark play 'Anand Owaree' in 2004, a documentary on world-renowned playwright Vijay Tendulkar titled 'Tendulkar and Violence – Then and Now' in 2005 and providing partial funding for documentary projects on playwrights Mahesh Elkunchwar and Satish Alekar and Dnyaanapeeth Award Winner author Bhalachandra Nemade.

CalAA is a 'not-for-profit' organization, which financially supports itself through net proceeds from its events. The actors and actresses, directors, producers, and all other talent come from the local volunteers who donate their time for CalAA. CalAA has major events planned around the year covering Dramas, One-Act Plays, Intimate Theater productions under "Sameep", Audiobooks under "CalAAudioscope", Workshops, Seminars and experimental programs under "CalAAanand" and invited plays and music programs from professional and parallel theater groups and music troupes from India. In the past, CalAA has also presented Music and Dance programs, Video Screening of unique Movies and Teleplays, Short Film Festival and Competition, West Coast One-Act Play Competition and a Weekly TV Show "Mood India".

CalAA has received accolades from discerning audiences and awards from Bruhan Maharashtra Mandal (BMM), Vishwasetu Sammelan and Santa Clara County for highly creative and top quality programs and has established itself as the most popular destination for intelligent entertainment in the culturally active San Francisco Bay Area.



2110 Walsh Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050

October 1, 2023

Dear Sirs:

It gives me great pleasure to write a recommendation for my friend and theater colleague Mukund Marathe.

I have known Mukund since 1996, the year we founded Naatak. Over this period, he has directed 7 Naatak productions and performed in another 11. In addition to that, I have watched him serve for over 20 years as President and Artistic Director of CalAA, a non-profit theater organization dedicated to the preservation and nurture of theater in Marathi, a regional language of India.

Mukund is first and foremost a very capable director. He is very versatile across genres. He has directed farces like The Odd Couple, witty comedies like The Odd Couple, edgy satires like God of Carnage, thrillers like Wait Until Dark and intense dramas like August Osage County. As one of his actors in three of those five productions, I have been able to observe Mukund from close quarters. He has a great knack of bringing the best out of established actors while also mentoring newer actors to become equally adept thereby raising the bar on the overall production. He has a great ability to perceive where the weak link is in a given production, and his director peers at Naatak respect the insightful feedback that he is happy to provide to everyone.

Mukund is also an exceptional actor and performer in his own right. I have directed him twice - in Anupama Chandrasekhar's Disconnect and in Michael McDonagh's The Pillowman, and have watched him in rehearsals with other directors at Naatak as well. He exemplifies what it takes to be a great team player, always willing to do what it takes to represent the director's vision on stage. He helps set an example for newer members of the team by being one of the first actors to go off-script, showing up to rehearsals on time and treating every role with the respect it deserves, whether it is a lead role or a bit part.

As a Distinguished Artist Award winner from Cupertino myself from years past, I would be proud to see Mukund receiving the same recognition. He is truly deserving of the award.

Harish Agastya

Head of Operations at Naatak and Cupertino Distinguished Artist Award Winner, 2017



Mukund Marathe  
Performing Artist  
Submission

YouTube Link:

<https://youtu.be/6aBh68NMjuo>

*Please copy and paste URL into web browser.*

WAIT UNTIL DARK

# ANDHERA HONE TAK

A GRIPPING THRILLER

Directed by: Mukund Marathe

Produced by: Surender Singh





Kicks off 2023 with Ray Cooney's madcap comedy

# FUNNY MONEY

Directed by Mukund Marathe

Jan 28 - Feb 11 | Cubberley Theater, Palo Alto | [naatak.org](http://naatak.org)





नाटक  
naatak

# GOD OF CARNAGE

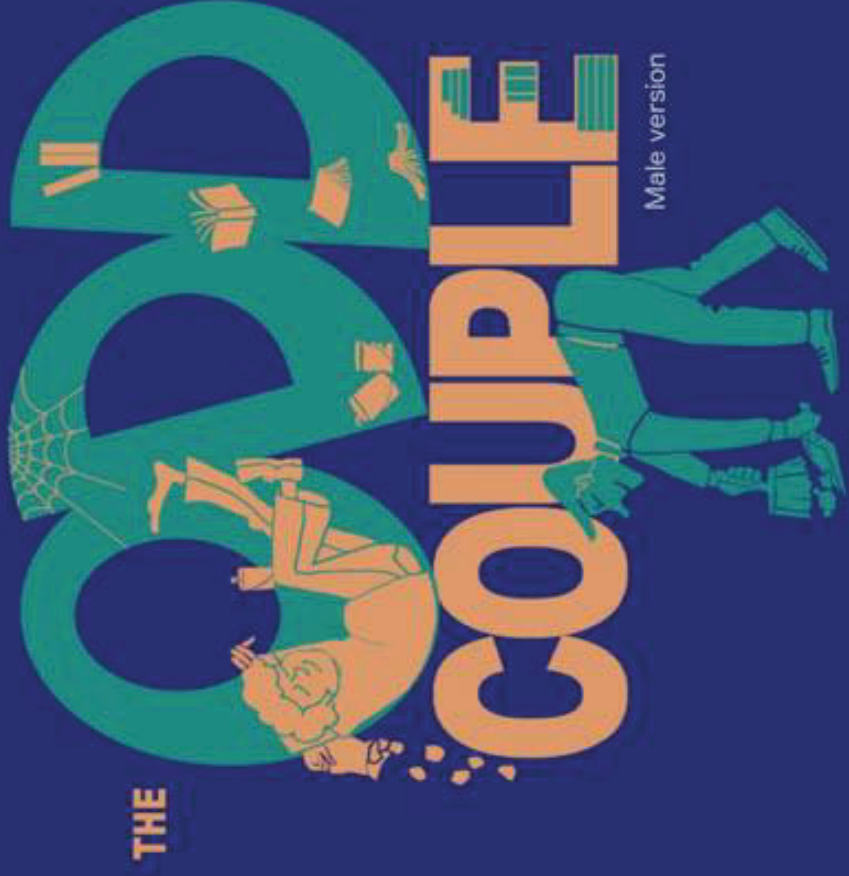
*Comedy of manners, without the manners*



Naatak presents Neil Simon's



Directed by Monica Mehta Chitkara



Directed by Mukund Marathe



## Resume

Mukund Marathe  
President, California Arts Association



**Summary:** President and Artistic Director for California Arts Association – CalAA ([www.calaaonline.com](http://www.calaaonline.com)) since 2002 focusing on producing, presenting and preserving the rich cultural heritage of Performing Arts from India. Director of 20 full length Plays and numerous one-act plays, Actor in 22 full length Plays and numerous one-act plays, Playwright for 7 translated full length plays, Producer/Director for 36 TV shows and Stand Up Comedy Performer.

**Director:** In India

- Ashee Paakhare Yetee (Language-Marathi)
- Ashwamedh (Language-Marathi)

In the U.S.A.

- Door Deshichaa Vag (Language-Marathi)
- Jhopee Gelela Jaagaa Jhaalaa (Language-Marathi)
- Ashee Pakhare Yetee (Language-Marathi)
- Kaka Kishaachaa (Language-Marathi)
- Vaaryaavarchee Varaat (Language-Marathi)
- Shantaa! Court Chaaloo Aahe (Language-Marathi)
- Kamalaa (Language-Marathi and Hindi)
- Jaaswandee (Language-Marathi)
- Chaahool (Language-Marathi)
- Teen Paishaachaa Tamaashaa (Language-Marathi)
- Never Mind (Language-Marathi)
- Pulotsav (Language-Marathi)
- Doshee (Language-Marathi and Hindi)
- God of Carnage (Language-English)
- Andheraa Hone Tak (Wait Until Dark) (Language-Hindi)
- August: Osage County (Language-English)
- The Odd Couple (Language-Hindi)
- Funny Money (Language-Hindi)

**Actor:** In India

- Ashee Paakhare Yetee (Language-Marathi)
- Ashwamedh (Language-Marathi)

In the U.S.A.

- Ghetala Shingaawar (Language-Marathi)
- Sooryaachee Pille (Language-Marathi)
- Jaawai Maajhaa Bhalaa (Language-Marathi)
- Door Deshichaa Vag (Language-Marathi)
- Jhopee Gelela Jaagaa Jhaalaa (Language-Marathi)
- Ashee Pakhare Yetee (Language-Marathi)
- Vaaryaavarchee Varaat (Language-Marathi)
- Shantaa! Court Chaaloo Aahe (Language-Marathi)
- Saawar Re (Language-Marathi)
- Popat Panchee (Language-Marathi)
- Death in San Francisco (Language-English) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- Night of January 16<sup>th</sup> (Language-English) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- Vande Mataram (Language-Hindi) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- Disconnect (Language-English) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- Mr. India (Language-Hindi) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- Airport Insecurity (Language-English) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- Rashomon (Language-Hindi) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- Proof (Language-English) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- The Pillowman (Language-English) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- The Mousetrap (Language-English) (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))

Playwright:

Translated plays

- “Party” - from Marathi into Hindi (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- “Dinner with Friends” – from English into Marathi
- “Dinner Game” – from English into Marathi
- “Funny Money” - from English into Marathi
- “Wait Until Dark” – from English into Hindi (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- “The Odd Couple” - from English into Hindi (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))
- “Funny Money” - from English into Hindi (for Naatak – [www.naatak.com](http://www.naatak.com))

TV Shows:

Produced 36 Episodes of “Mood India” in English for KMVT-15, Public Access Television Station in Mountain View, on Indian Classical Musical Instruments, Classical Vocal Music Traditions and Classical Dance Forms.

Stand Up Comedy:

Performed Stand Up Comedy Shows in Boston, Toronto, Calgary, Dallas, Denver, San Diego, Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, New Jersey and Fort Lauderdale



2023

Distinguished Artist Award

Stephen Jin

Hongyun Art

### Stephen Jin - Personal Statement

In my artistic journey, I've always aimed for precision and paying close attention to details, which I consider very important. I've been working closely with my instructors at Hongyun Art, and their feedback has been really encouraging. They've noticed my strong focus on capturing small details and creating detailed artwork, which has motivated me in my creative endeavors.

Outside of school and art, I volunteer as a Boy Scout, such as in local parks. I also volunteer to help the kids in my church's Awana program, with their games and Bible learning. It's not just about making art; it's also about giving back to my community and making a positive difference. I value both my art and my community work deeply.

What excites me the most is the chance to try out new techniques and explore different ways to express my ideas. I enjoy adding humor to my work, crafting funny stories with my characters. Bright colors and patterns have become my style, and I love creating scenes that grab people's attention and are interesting to look at.



September 23, 2023

Letter of Recommendation – Stephen Jin

To the Cupertino Arts and Culture Commission,

My name is Eva Olsen, and I've known Stephen Jin for 3 years as one of his art instructors at Hongyun Art, focusing on helping Stephen develop their fundamental drawing skills in our core art classes. Based on his passion for making art and his dedication and focus, I am recommending him for consideration to the Cupertino Emerging Artist program.

Stephen is focused on his work every time he comes and has a laser focus for details and rendering. His instructors enjoy working with him and he is very receptive to learning new techniques and expressing his vision. Stephen has a great sense for humor in his work and can create some charming and funny narratives with his characters.


His work tends to incorporate many animals and patterns, and he has a good eye for creating surreal scenes. He has improved quite a bit in his rendering in our classes and our instructors look forward to seeing his continual growth.

In addition to art classes, Stephen also volunteers in local parks as a Boy Scout, and that dedication to his community and positive attitude helps foster a good class environment at Hongyun Art. Based on my experience working with him, I would recommend him for consideration for the Cupertino Emerging Artist Program. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there's further questions.

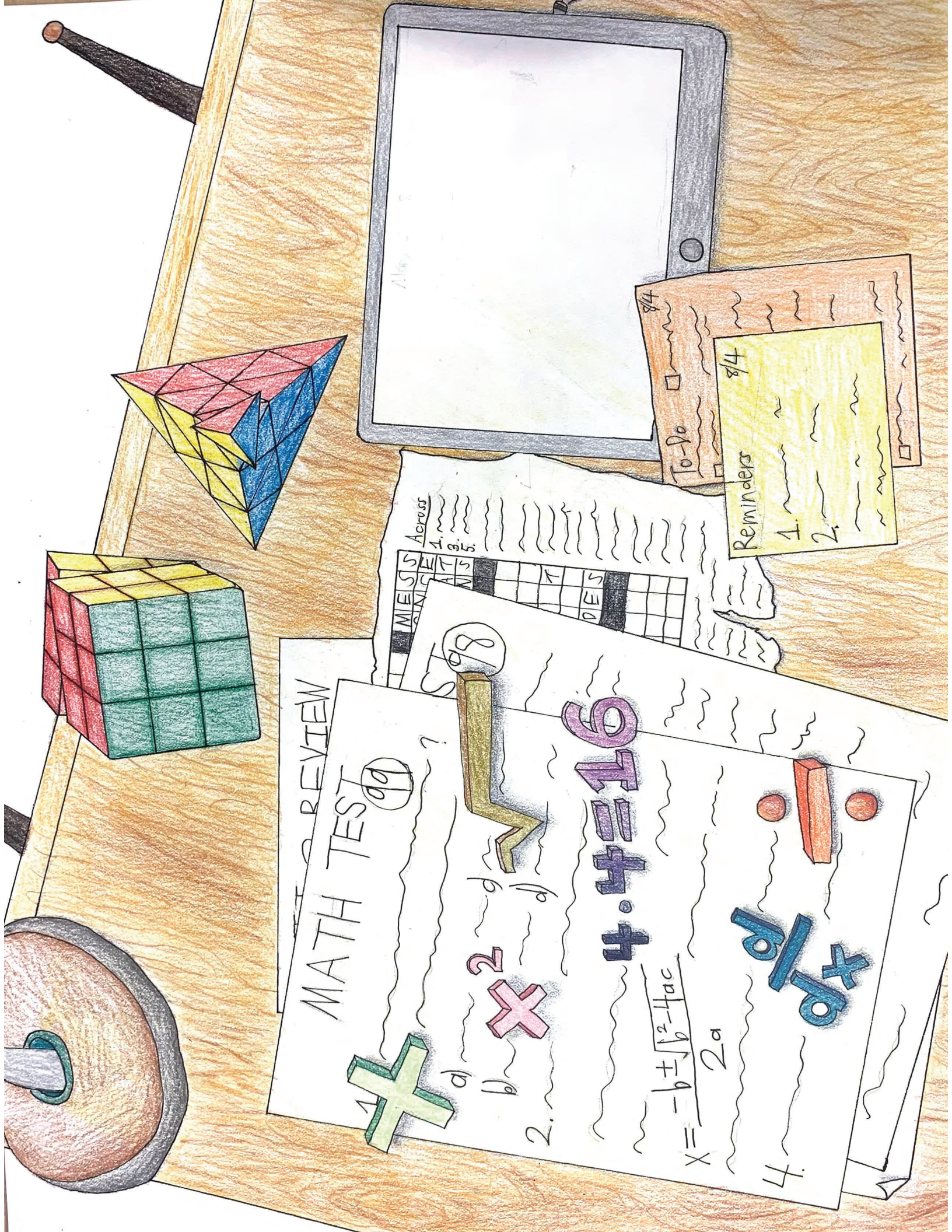
Sincerely,

Eva Olsen

Hongyun Art – Studio Manager







# MATH TEST

1.  $+$

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$$4.4 = 16$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

5.  $+$

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