



## Curatorial Rationale

This portfolio is based around the central theme of narrative, combining traditional storytelling with personal experiences and emotional growth. These pieces explore narrative through fiction, in the cases of pieces like my Tolkien inspired *The Two Trees* or my visual storytelling in *The Survivor*. They also explore narrative through personal experiences, with my personal stories being told through *Pocket Journal* and *Self Portrait* as well as my inner feelings and fears such as in *Butterflies* or *The Spotlight*.

The displayed works most prominently fall under the category of digital media, with most pertaining to my focus of digital illustration, through tools like Adobe's Photoshop, Fresco, and Illustrator, as well as Procreate for the iPad. These are complemented by other mediums including block printing, which shares in its aspect of reproducibility. The 3D axiomatic object *Pocket Journal* is a unique step away from the usual format of the other pieces in this collection, but shares in their deep connection to narrative, including personal elements.

When displaying these pieces I needed to consider several factors including, size, theme and medium. Most of these pieces had initially been in exhibition in three smaller display

cases along with some large acrylic paintings. In these cases, the pieces benefited from an aesthetic of numerous pieces, organized, yet displayed tightly alongside one another. In my gallery exhibition, I was able to work with more space and was showcasing fewer works. For this reason I was able to increase the scale of some of my smaller works, including my initially palm sized *Tarot Cards I*. This choice further allowed for closer inspection of these works, giving them more of a presence next to the rest of the portfolio. All of the pieces are also showcased more sparsely than in the display cases they originated from. This allows for each piece to be studied individually without the overwhelming factor of having nearly a dozen pieces directly in front of the viewer's gaze. I also grouped many pieces of similar size and format together, allowing for a more unified and cohesive feel to the overall exhibition

The displayed pieces were curated based on their connection to the overall theme and their demonstration of both my technical and conceptual skills as an artist. This collection is the culmination of my most successful works from my time as an IB visual arts student, including the pieces I take the most pride in conceptually as well as the pieces I see as the most technically advanced. Other works I chose to not include in this exhibition were several acrylic paintings, an animation, illustrations, and an example of industrial/architectural design which did not fit the focused theme of narrative nor represented me in the most accurate way of a primarily digital artist with a focus on narrative and storytelling. I believe these elements are the most important factors in presenting myself as an artist and my work along with me.

When a viewer witnesses my work, I want them to examine the elements of the art to decipher the story it is trying to convey before they learn more through any exhibition text. I want them to further develop the vaguely defined characters and their stories through their own imaginations and experiences, while possibly relating to the personal factors that inspired me to create these pieces and tell these stories.