

2009/10 Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships Kraus Family Foundation Award



CHRISTIAN HINCAPIE

Fine art
Freshman
Cooper Union

In the past, I believed that art was something that follows the artist along his or her life. Almost like a trait or attribute. It seemed superficial and artificial. Most recently, I have come to realize that art is what best describes those who make art. Throughout history, artists of different trades and backgrounds have described themselves and their surroundings through their work. Their art is purely autobiographical. It is a counterbalance between the influence of art on man and vice versa. The power of art in their lives is evident and concrete.

I make art, because it is important, essential and crucial to culture and life. I am very serious about anything I engage in. I am thoughtful and pensive. In my opinion, where would the fervor and passion for knowledge and truth go if I cannot criticize something or analyze it? Every piece I make is a manifestation of these questions



Worldstudio
FOUNDATION



the professional association for design

CHRISTIAN HINCAPIE

Fine Art



and through the process of making, I am hoping to receive an answer. As a human being, I strive to be passionate and driven about anything I engage in. Art is my passion, art is what drives and motivates me. If I can't have it that way, if I cannot be ambitious and motivated, then there is no point in doing anything at all.

The inspiration for my pieces derives predominantly from the psychological aspect of human beings. For the most part, I concentrate on drawing, though experimenting with other media is essential to an artist's learning experience. However, the process and preparation my work goes through are very important to what I make. My goal as an artist is to explore a wide range of emotions and conditions using the human figure as the central subject. In my work, I use representational devices such as facial expressions and the duality of light and dark to portray sentiments and psychological effects on the subjects and their states of being. The use of line, visual displacement and the juxtaposition of imagery are used to demonstrate how the subjects emotionally react to their immediate circumstances and surroundings.

I find that my self-portraits are my most intimate and telling work. Through my self-portraits I impart personal sentiments on my position as a man in society. This allows me to better understand myself and my surroundings. I have seen myself progress through my self-portraits. Lately, I have explored the psychological state of anxiety. Prior to the commencement of these pieces, I became interested in the psychology behind the state of anxiety through Edvard Munch's "The Scream." This iconic painting is generally regarded as the symbol of universal anxiety in modern society. Working off of that notion, I sculpted a bust of a screaming head that represented this universal anxiety. The screaming bust has become the representational device used to symbolize anxiety in the self. This series of self-portraits has heightened my realization of myself as part of the society we live in.

Ultimately, I will be an inquisitive artist whose work has a social significance. I want to push art through time by nurturing the next generation of art makers and extend my knowledge to those who have the potential to make an impact in our lives through art. I would like to pass down the knowledge that I was given by my family, my teachers and the artistic community. Art is crucial to every aspect of culture, and I want to be part of helping art grow for its own sake and our own sake as human beings.