



Same Difference

A Collaboration by Faith and Hope Watkins

THESIS STATEMENT

Through this body of work, identical twins Faith and Hope Watkins talk about personal identity struggles in a life where many consider them as one. They speak on the texture of their relationship, with recognition and revelation of their similarities and differences, and to show the beauty of togetherness.

THESIS PROPOSAL

- For my thesis project I plan to examine the condition and uniqueness of being an identical twin by working collaboratively with my sister Hope through the media of painting, film, and photography.
- We will create a multimedia exhibition to talk about the texture of our relationship with recognition and revelation of our similarities and differences due to our identical upbringing.
- This project will allow me to examine my personal identity through real time experimentation and processes.



ARTIST BIO

My name is Faith Watkins. I currently work in Clarksville, Tennessee where I am also from. I graduated from Austin Peay State University with a BFA in Studio Art in 2020. I am actively practicing in multiple media, focusing in painting and ceramics.

ARTIST STATEMENT

I have always allowed my continuous thoughts and things around me to influence what I want to create. For this body of work, I am looking at the thing that has been a continuous thought and constant in my life, which is my identity as an identical twin. Although what influences my work is always changing, that is always constant. Both of us wanted to see what making work about that would look like, and how that would change our outlook on life and art. We are working collaboratively to explore the uniqueness of our relationship, as two artists and sisters who always influence each other in work and in life.

CV

Faith Watkins

Artist

Contact:

faithwatkinsart@yahoo.com / 931-801-0714

Education:

Austin Peay State University 2016-2020

BFA Studio Art

Montgomery Central High School 2012-2016

Awards/Recognition:

APSU Charles Young Drawing Award 2018

APSU Ceca Purchase Award 2018

Youth Art Month for Excellence in The Arts 2016

Senior Superlative for Most Creative/Talented 2016

Cemc Calendar Art Contest Award 2015

Exhibitions:

Same Difference, 2020

Ruminate, 2019

Tiny Thoughts, 2019

Matinee Madness, 2019

APSU 50th Juried Student Exhibition 2018

Different Strokes, 2018

APSU 49th Juried Student Exhibition 2017

Clarksville Arts and Heritage Young Artist 2016

Youth Art Month 2016

Curatorial Experience:

Tiny Thoughts, 2019

Achievement Unlocked, 2019

Skills:

Skill in Technique in Various Mediums

Compositional Skills

Organizational Skills

Color Theory

Knowledge of Art Materials and Their Uses

Attention to Detail

4150 PRESENTATION

Thesis Proposal

Hope and Faith
Watkins
Art 4150-13
Fall 2019



METHODOLOGY AND PLANS

We plan to explore different mediums that allow a variety of experiences for us and the viewer.

- We plan to produce paintings from self-given prompts without influencing each other at all throughout the making process. Ultimately discovering similarities and differences when approached with the same idea.
- Double blind painting, in which we will explore our individual art styles without influencing each other again but this time while working from the same reference image(s).
- Experiment with film interview to show more focus on our similarities/differences verbally and visually.
- Photography to emphasize individual identity. Constructed versus not, timeline photos.

This exhibition has much to do with experimentation in identity and the creative process behind the works produced.



Identical Twins (Diane
Arbus Inspired) 2019

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INFLUENCES

- **Diane Arbus**
in *Identical Twins*, emphasizes facial identity in a seemingly identical pair.
- **The Lynn Twins**
focus on fluidity and togetherness through painting together as one.
- **Barbara Schave Klein**
a writer who is also an identical twin that demonstrates and studies how twins can have complicated and intense relationships that range from over-identification or excessive closeness to alienation and conflict.



Diane Arbus
Identical Twins, Roselle, New Jersey, 1967

4150 PRESENTATION

RESEARCH/ ADDITIONAL INFLUENCES



Doug and Mike Starn
Photography/Metaphor



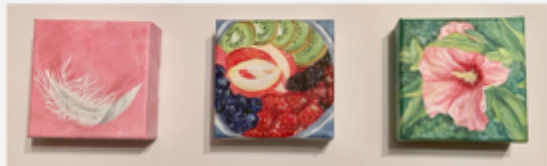
Paul and Phil Gayter
Connection or Coincidence?

COMPLETED WORKS

Delicate Arrange Lively



Faith



Hope

SOLIDIFIED WORK

• **Prompts - One painting, one writing, 4 other non-medium specific.**

1. Reaction/response to a particular song. (Abstracted)
2. Evocation of a sense of precision.
3. Painting first thing that comes to mind when thought of a word. (3) 4x4: Lively, Delicate, Arrange.
4. Make a piece about a reflection.
5. Something/anything yellow? A color?
6. Writing (Response to the question) "What is the focal point of admiration, or cynosure?"

• **Video Questions -**

1. How does your relationship influence outside relationships?
2. What would your friends say about you?
3. Where do you find inspiration?
4. 5-year goal?
5. What do you hope never changes?
6. What takes up too much of your time?

COMPLETED WORKS



4150 PRESENTATION

DOUBLE BLIND PAINTING PROGRESS



5.5' x 7.5'



INSTALLATION IDEAS

- Write Artist Statements on windows in gallery
- Large text, stickers/stencils to make clear what viewer is seeing, possibly no labels
- Largest painting on back wall
- Mirroring quality setup for a set of paintings
- Interview projected on right side wall next to windows

WEBSITE

www.faithwatkinsart.weebly.com

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Faith Watkins Art

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CHECK OUT MY SISTER AND I'S COLLABORATIVE SHOW *SAME DIFFERENCE HERE!*

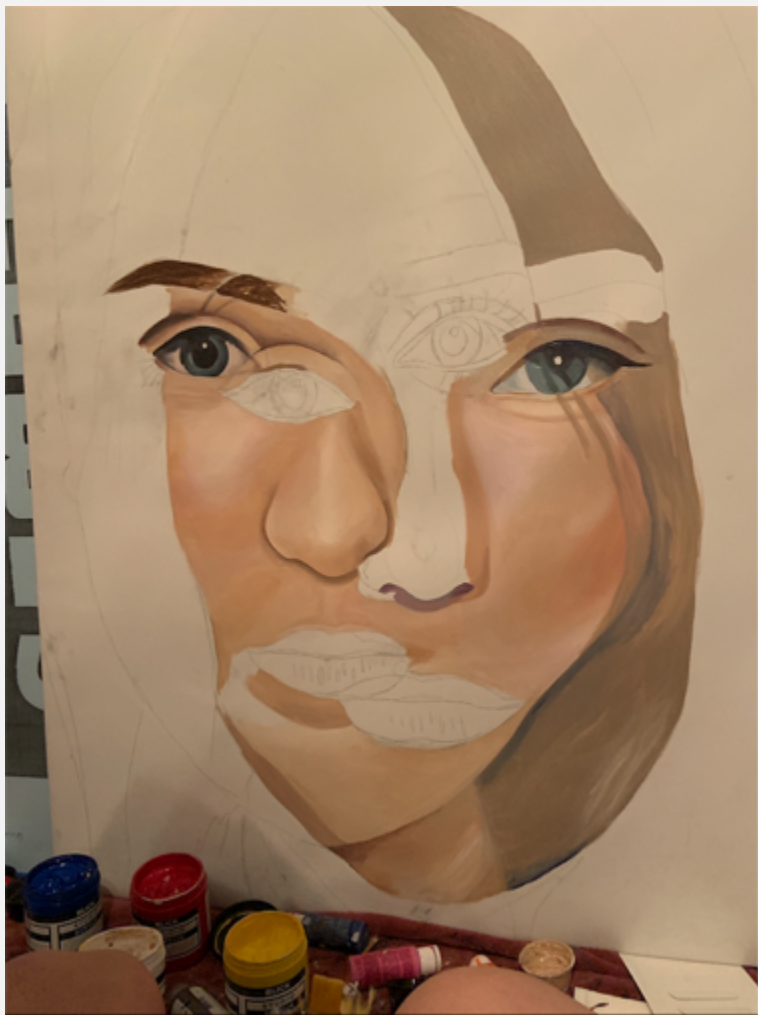
PROCESS DOCUMENTATION



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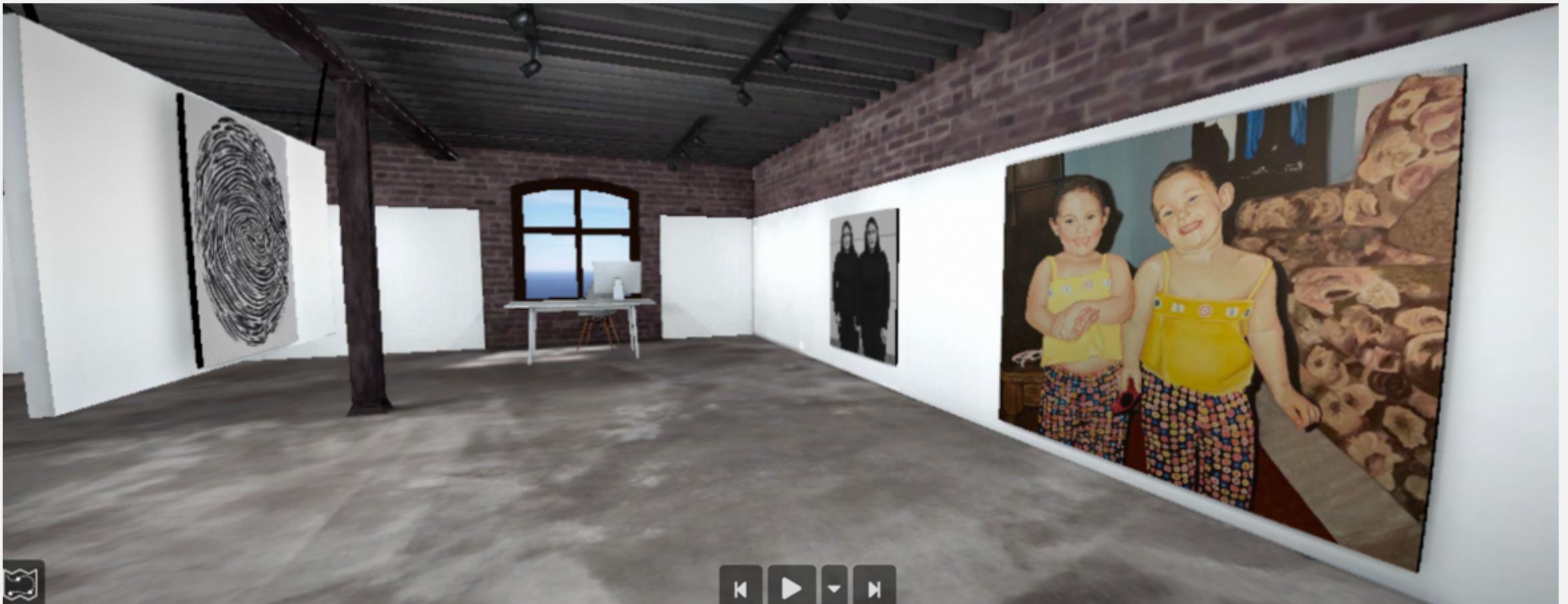


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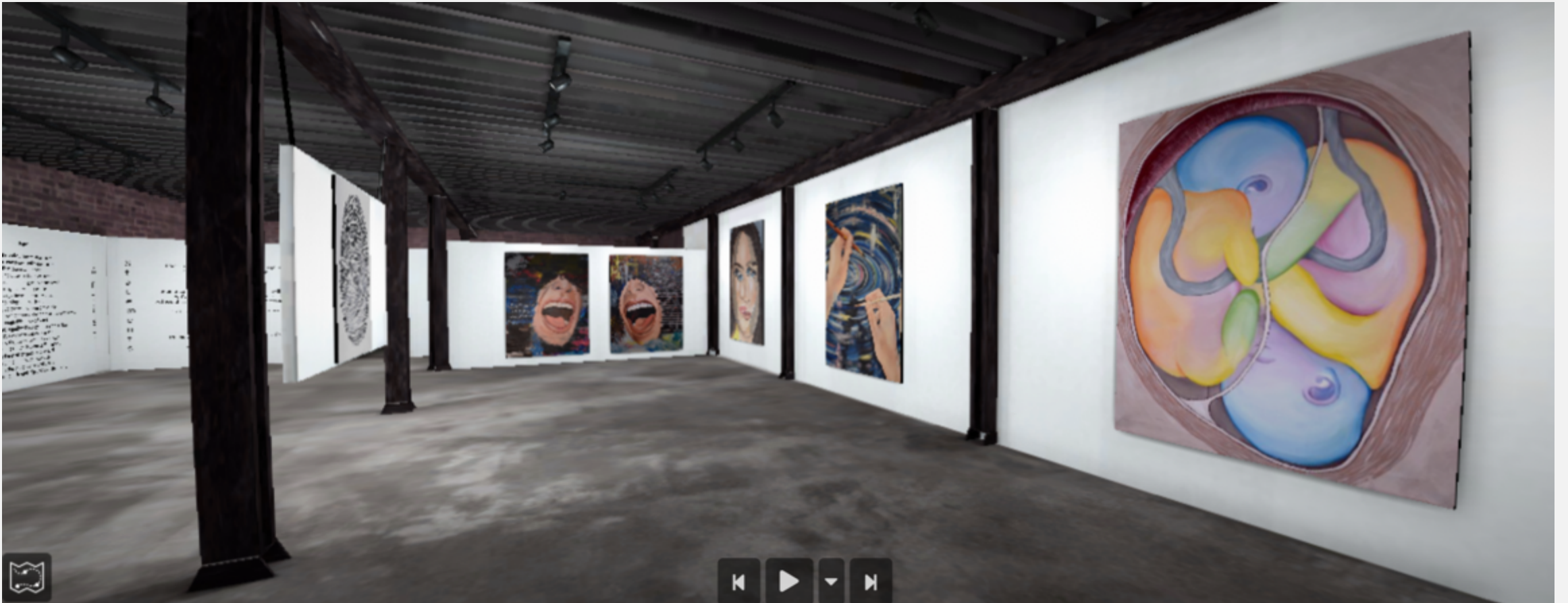
FINAL DOCUMENTATION

Virtual Exhibition: <https://www.artsteps.com/view/5e7e335cdc0dd3184635d53c>



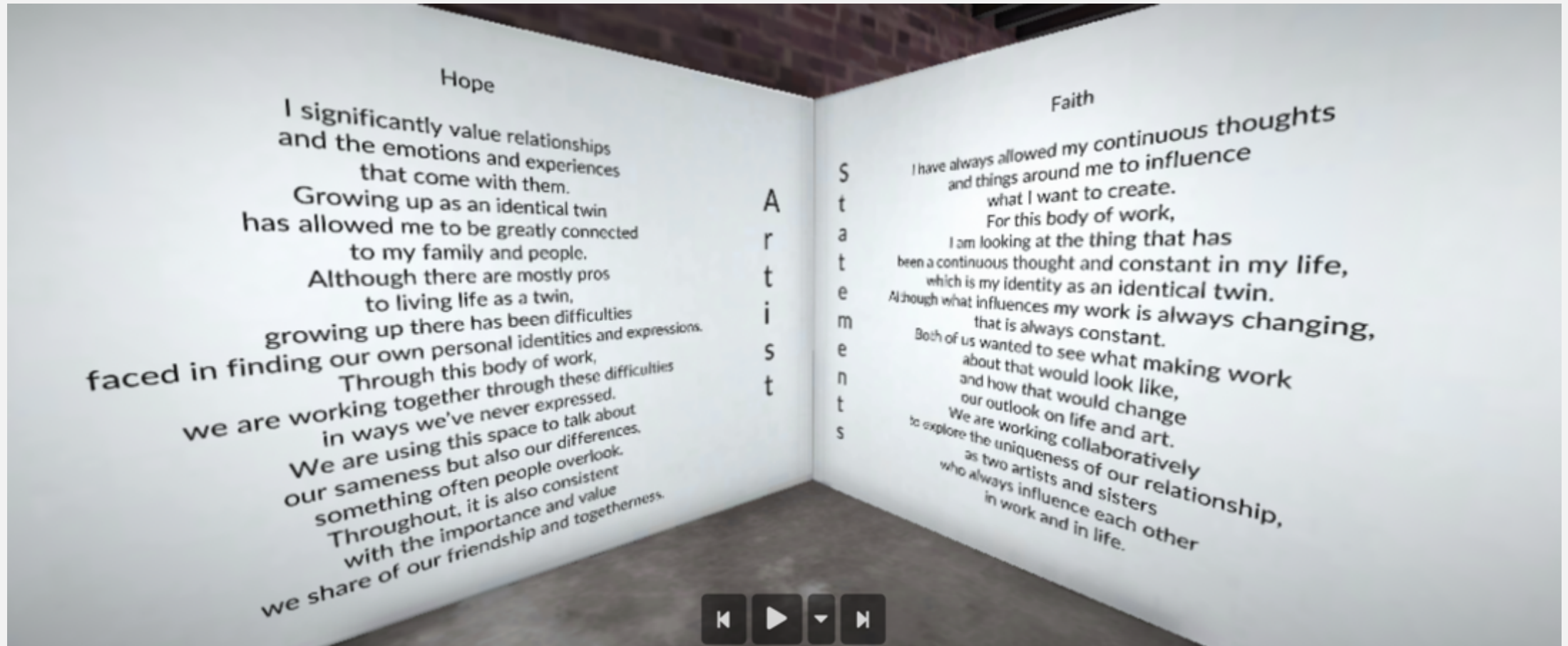
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FINAL DOCUMENTATION



This is a double blind painting. The first work we completed during this process, we were interested to see how our painting application and styles compared. Hope worked solely on her portrait on the left, while Faith worked on her portrait on the right. We worked on these at different times, allowing no influence on each other to further see that point. This subject depicts a developmental age in which we were also finding our own personal identities.

66 x 90 in

FINAL DOCUMENTATION



This image is inspired by renowned photographer Diane Arbus' "Identical Twins". This seemingly identical photograph highlights detail in facial expression to emphasize distinction and identity between twins.

FINAL DOCUMENTATION



This piece showcases our initial bond, as “miracle babies” born three months premature. In the womb, we were positioned this way before birth. We feel this is a reflection on our self- portraits.

48 x 36 in

FINAL DOCUMENTATION



This piece focuses on the hands of creation between us. Highlighting our trait of being mirror twins with different dominate hands, while showing togetherness throughout this process. The reflection represents our awareness of growth and space as we work together.

48 x 36 in

FINAL DOCUMENTATION



Our self-portrait's. This showcases our similarities and differences through our appearance, but also spotlights how people do not see our singularity and character. With implied irony that references the phrase "seeing double", we still wanted to showcase distinction.

48 x 36 in

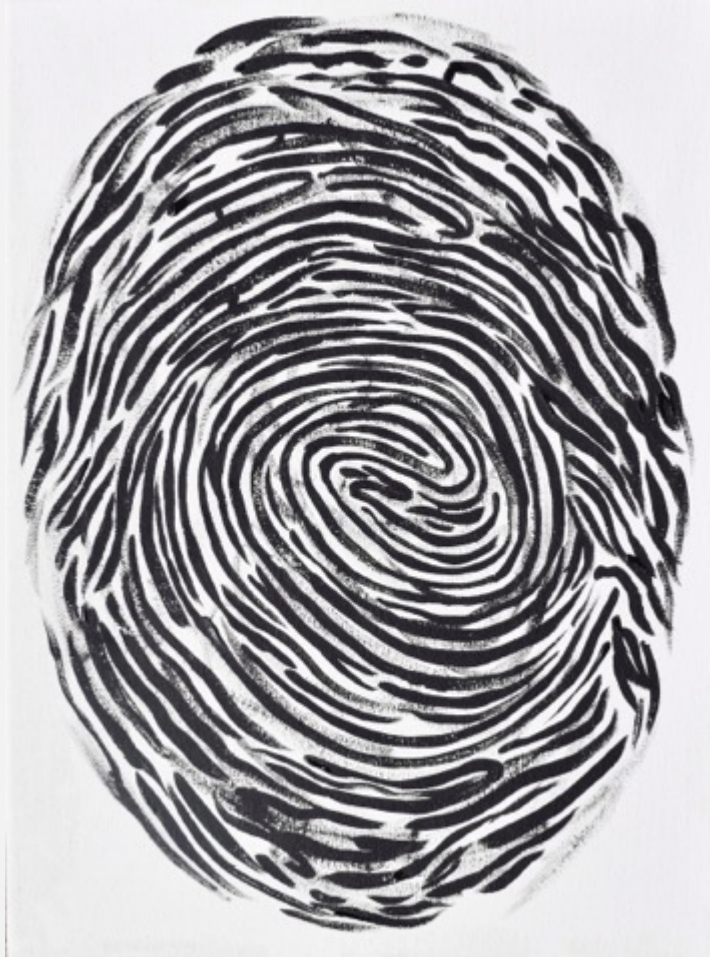
FINAL DOCUMENTATION



These two pieces show the struggle we have faced with wanting to be heard. As twins, it has been easy to lose our individual voices. As people often label us as one, we have grown up trying to escape this, to find ourselves with desire to let our personal identities be known. Often resulting in chaos, lack of confidence and confusion.

48 x 36 in

FINAL DOCUMENTATION



A duo working with each other in the exhibit. This is emphasizing our hands in creating this show. “Identical” depictions while facing other paintings in the gallery that depict our individuality, creates a tension between the two. People often think twins have the same fingerprint and that is false. However, in this way we showcase our individual hands while creating these works together. Highlighting the premise of close- mindedness in thinking all twins are “one way”. This common print depicts predictability in a life where there is much more to our individualism.

*Documentation of 2 more ceramic works
N/A at this time due to city restrictions.*

SELF CRITIQUE

This thesis project has been extremely fulfilling and eye opening for both Hope and I. The process of working together side by side was an experience that neither of us had known. We had a lot of moments of confusion, and changed our minds many times, but it allowed us to speak and influence each other in different problem solving ways.

We knew going into this it would be a challenge, and it was, but the experience and excitement of creating this body of work is something we will never forget. We are leaving this body of work feeling excited for future works together, and hope to dive deeper into thinking about the bond of twins in real life and in work.