



CAN I BE PRETTY TOO?

SADIE MARIE

THESIS STATEMENT

I have always found beauty in things that are not conventionally beautiful. Things like bats, bones, decay, creatures with extra eyes and limbs. Through this body of work I wanted to give my audience the opportunity to see beauty in these things as well, by incorporating something lovely like a flower with something gruesome like my creatures. They adorn themselves with flowers because they know that flowers are seen as beautiful and they want you to see them as beautiful as well, because they aren't really gruesome or scary or mean, they are just as soft, sweet, and delicate as a flower.

THESIS PROPOSAL

I plan on creating a body of work using paint and collage material. These images will show terrifying looking creatures surrounded by and decorating themselves with flowers in an effort to appear to others on the outside, the way they are on the inside. These creatures are not terrifying, they are sweet and delicate.

I want to explore a reality where monsters and creatures are sweet and loving. By combining traditionally grotesque and beautiful imagery, I want to create a window into a world full of inviting creatures where the abnormal isn't feared.

I also want to take the skills I learned in my collage class and incorporate them into my painting practice to create more complex and visually interesting pieces.

ARTIST STATEMENT

For me, creating is an impulse that dominates all other desires. This urge to represent visually the images that manifest within my mind has always been with me. My mind is a collection of macabre images, unusual experiences, and ethereal poetry that I've gathered throughout my life. This is where I draw my inspiration from.

When I create, I often dive right in with little preparation because my interest is to discover rather than invent. During this discovery different characters emerge, and these characters are often creatures that each come with their own intrigue. They develop their own stories and personalities. When I paint them it's as if I'm getting to know them rather than making them up. I feel responsible for and protective of these creatures.

As far back as I can remember I have always been drawn to books, television shows, and movies that were about fictional creatures and gruesome monsters. The monsters never scared me. I saw them as lonely and misunderstood just because they were ugly or different. I wanted to be an advocate for them, I wanted everyone else to see them the way that I saw they could be; sensitive and kind.

Even though the creatures in my show look gruesome and frightening, in reality they are sweet and delicate. They decorate themselves with flowers so that the audience may see their true nature. Flowers are beautiful and people typically aren't afraid of beautiful things. My creatures just want to be pretty too.

(WEBSITE)
SADIEMARIEART@GMAIL.COM

SADIE MARIE

EDUCATION

Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah Georgia

SEPTEMBER 2015 - FEBRUARY 2018

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville Tennessee - BFA

JUNE 2018 - APRIL 2020

EXHIBITIONS

Rotten Revival, Online Exhibition

Nashville Dark Arts Collective - APRIL 2020

Can I Be Pretty Too?, Clarksville Tennessee

APSU Barbara Beach Gallery - FEBRUARY 2020

Merry Mayhem, Nashville Tennessee

Nashville Dark Arts Collective - DECEMBER 2019

Oddities and Curiosities Expo, Atlanta Georgia

NOVEMBER 2019

The Full Moon Market, Nashville Tennessee

Extraordinary Oracle - JULY 2019/OCTOBER 2019

Walk into the Dark, Nashville Tennessee

Nashville Dark Arts Collective - APRIL 2019

Drawing Works Savannah Georgia

SCAD, Alexander Hall - FEBRUARY 2018

EXPERIENCE

All American Tattoo, Clarksville Tennessee - Tattoo Apprentice

NOVEMBER 2019 - PRESENT

MEMBER OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS

Nashville Dark Art Collective - 2018

Nashville Curiosity Collective - 2018

ARTIST CURRICULUM VITAE

4150 PRESENTATION



Thesis Proposal

By Sadie Ushman

Project

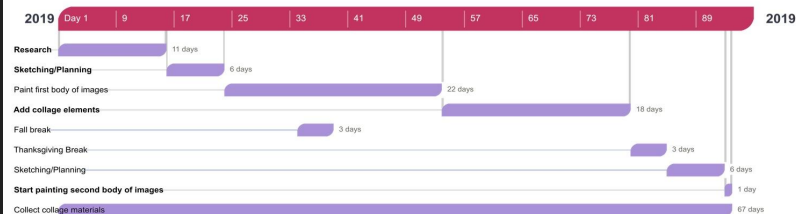
I plan on creating a series of between five to ten images, around 24 x 48 inches in size, using paint and collage material. These images will show terrifying looking creatures surrounded by and decorating themselves with flowers in an effort to appear to others on the outside, the way they are on the inside. These creatures are not terrifying, they are sweet and delicate.

Intent

I want to explore a reality where monsters and creatures are sweet and loving. By combining traditionally grotesque and beautiful imagery, I want to create a window into a world full of inviting creatures where the abnormal isn't feared.

I also want to take the skills I learned in my collage class and incorporate that into my painting practice to create more complex and visually interesting pieces.

Schedule



4150 PRESENTATION (RESEARCH)

Meagan Rodgers



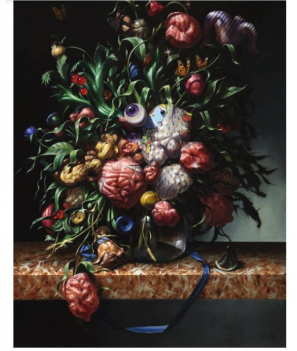
Jason Mowry



Tanya Shatseva



Christian Rex van Minnen



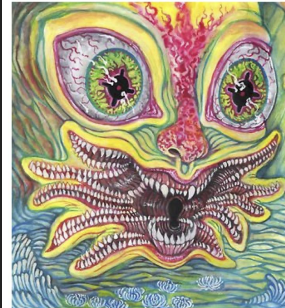
Stella Hultberg



Beautiful Bizarre Magazine



Moxie Saturday



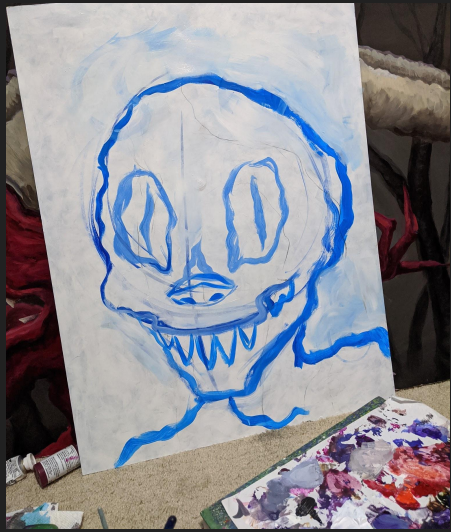
PROCESS DOCUMENTATION (SKETCHES)



PROCESS DOCUMENTATION



PROCESS DOCUMENTATION



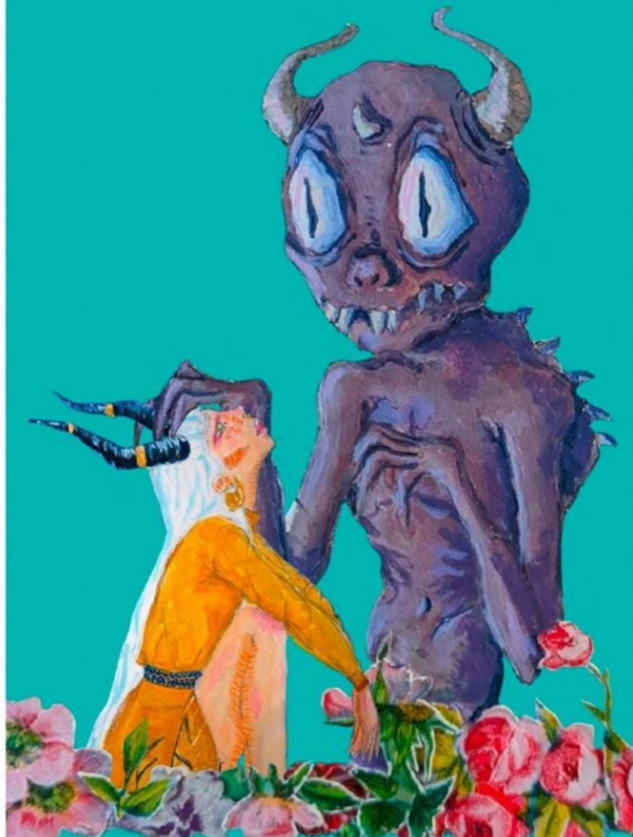
FINAL SHOW

Sadie Ushman and
Cait Brummett

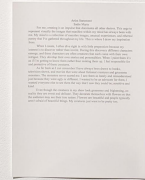
Can I Be Pretty Too? // The Bramble and Thicket

Barbara Beach Gallery
February 17th-21st

Reception: February 17th 5-7pm
Artist talk: 5:30pm



Can I Be Pretty Too?



FINAL SHOW



FINISHED WORKS



Creature IV



Creature III

FINISHED WORKS



Creature V



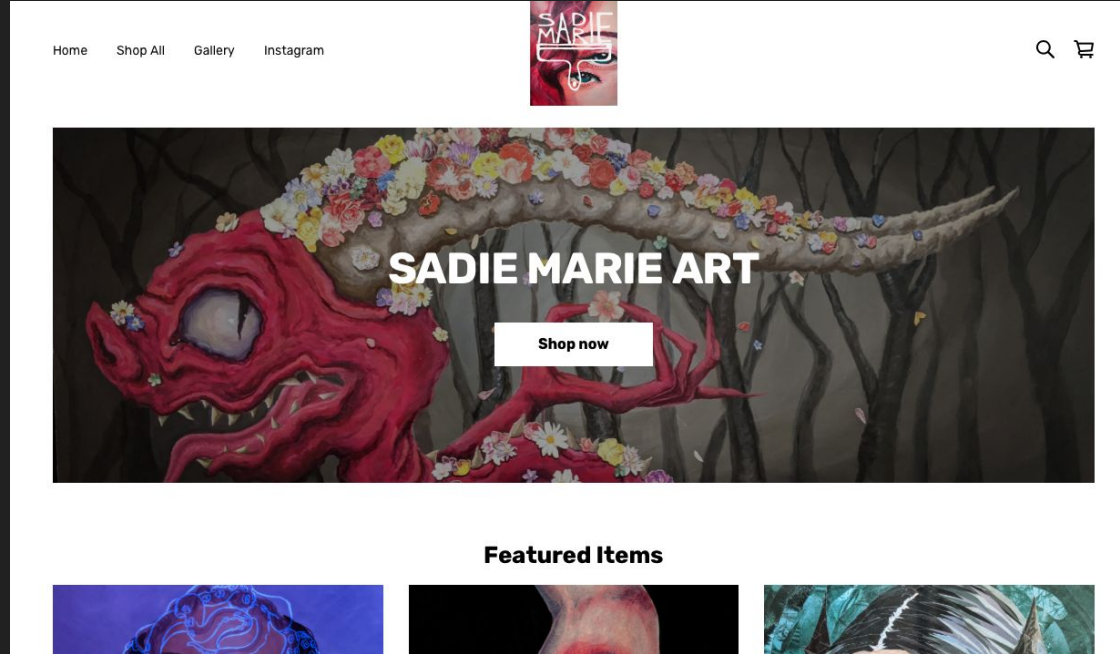
Creature II

FINISHED WORKS



Creature I

PROFESSIONAL MATERIALS



sadiemarieart.square.site

SELF CRITIQUE

As mentioned in my artist statement, I am not usually someone who plans out projects before executing them. The process of planning and research for my thesis was difficult for me but I feel as though my show turned out much better because of it and I will implement more planning into future paintings.

My concept stayed strong from the beginning to the end and the finished paintings represented it beautifully. I felt as though my audience was able to connect with and fall in love with these creatures. Just as I had intended, my creatures got exactly what they wanted in the end. Even though my show is finished, I will continue to expand on this concept while painting even more of these creatures.

The show itself exceeded all expectations I had for it. The decision to make the gallery walls and the labels black, combined with the dark vignette of the paintings themselves, really highlighted the creatures and made them the focal points of the space as if the audience actually was viewing them from a dark forest. Something I did struggle with during my show was speaking about my pieces. I knew exactly what I wanted to say, I just got a little choked up because of my emotional attachment to the characters I created.

This is the first time I have ever made a body of much larger paintings. It was a fantastic challenge and although I believe it was necessary to make the creatures more life size, a lot of the detail I could have accomplished at a smaller scale was lost a bit. One day I will return to larger paintings, but for now I still prefer working on a smaller scale. My only regrets for this show was not putting even more creatures in it and forgetting to put out business cards.