

Jacob King
Abstract for GSURC submission

The Inspiration behind this work is myself and how I relate to the world around me. Other inspiration came from two different art movements that originated in Europe. The surrealist art movement of the mid 20th century and the expressionistic art movement from the beginning of the 20th century had a profound influential impact with the creation of this work.

Research is a funny thing. It seems to usually involve an outward stroke of focus and investigation into an external matter. But my research involved an inward stroke of focus and investigation. Internal investigation, or an illuminating journey into the self was the forbearer to this piece. I guess if I were to write down my resources it would be a page consisting of the visual references I used for the piece. These references would consist of a human face, a butt cheek, a foot with an abnormally large big toe, some rotting fruit and dead leaves, and an empty bowl with a topical fake floral design imprinted into its surface.

What this piece tries to express with its metaphorical imagery is a personal feeling of alienation from the society and culture I was born into. The visual elements relate to loneliness, a withering away of confidence and self-purpose, a feeling of deformity, a feeling of not belonging and of melancholy that follows, and the sense of emending doom from the lack of emotional and spiritual connection to my surroundings.