Reflections

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Vol. 2(2), 2017
Article Title: Reflections
DOI: 10.21081/AX0120
ISSN: 2381-800X
Key Words: communication, whimsical, painting, interactive, sea creatures, path, future
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Artist Statement

Communication has many forms, and not all of these forms require words. In my work, I create imaginary worlds to illustrate ideas that words alone may not be able to express. Beneath the whimsical surface, many of my drawings, paintings, and installations are about trying to understand and be understood. Some of my work is interactive, but I hope that all of it will encourage people to interact with each other.

Some of my work is about making sense of a winding path. As I near graduation, I still have many questions about my future. Will I continue to gain experience with sea creatures in an aquarium? How will my autism acceptance advocacy fit into whatever path I choose? Wherever the next few years take me, I will continue to develop my artistic skills.

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Introduction

This summer, I took care of manatees at an aquarium in Florida. Working with these gentle giants taught me a lot about both them and myself.

In this story, a trail of mirrors forms a connection between a manatee and a human being. The mirrors can be thought of as a metaphor for self-discovery.

This story has no words. I hope it will remind you that communication comes in many forms, and that spoken language is not always required to connect with others.

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