These Marks are My Own

Senior BFA Exhibit
April 6 - 18, 2020
David Neal
These Marks are My Own

My drawings and paintings both investigate the ambiguity of form, space and light in correspondence to the nature of reality. They are a combination of color fields and the creation of form through process. While I have found that some type of form is necessary in my paintings and drawings, my goal is to have them be derived by the process rather than intentionally placing them in the field. The process of mark-making and layering color and light sometimes leads to forms that are more prevalent but may also lead to forms that are buried deeper in the field for a more investigating eye to uncover.

The differences in my drawings and paintings are a direct result of the medium. Pastels allow for more fine line and subtleties in mark-making. It is also easy to set pastels by fixing each layer with spray to enable almost infinite layering. Oil paint on the other hand allows for more subtleties and nuances in color using mixes and glazes. Mark-making takes a different form in painting and requires a much longer process than it does in drawings.

My artwork takes inspiration from impressionist painters like Claude Monet and Vincent Van Gogh as well as modern painters like Wolf Khan. I try to use light and color in a similar way without making my subject matter too specific or intentional. Emphasis is placed on process and the technical aspects of art, such as line, form, color, and space, rather than trying to replicate a subject.

In closing, my drawings and paintings are an effort to create emotion using a balance of light, color and form through abstraction. This allows me to investigate the technical aspects of art and try to push each medium as far as possible. The process of trying to create this balance in my drawings and paintings usually leads to more questions than answers, which further pushes my creative process to try to solve these problems.

David Neal

This exhibition is in accordance with, and in partial fulfillment towards meeting the requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at Millikin University.
Eminence
6” x 6”
Oil Pastel
November 2019
Impression
10” x 10”
Oil on MDF
February 2020
Negligible
6” x 6”
Pastel
December 2019
Placid
10” x 10”
Oil on MDF
March 2020
Basin
6” x 6”
Pastel
February 2020
Decline
10” x 10”
Oil on MDF
March 2020
Arid I
6” x 6”
Pastel
February 2020
Abyss I
10” x 10”
Oil on MDF
March 2020
Copse
6” x 6”
Pastel
February 2020
Immediate
10” x 10”
Oil on MDF
April 2020
Distant
6” x 6”
Pastel
February 2020
Blush
10” x 10”
Oil on MDF
March 2020
Abyss II
6” x 6”
Pastel
March 2020
Arid II
10” x 10”
Oil on MDF
March 2020