

Dictated and Read by Daniel Field (North Park) – Art

What does art mean to you?

Art is a form of expressionism. It allows me to translate characters I enjoy to my own design. I've got very good at pencil shading and that brings my drawings to life.

I think art is a good way to connect with people, it can impress or inspire them. There are so many different avenues for art. There's many of different things that could be considered art. Even physical things like the flame of a candle could be art.

What is good about art?

I feel like I can get to know myself a lot more and express myself. It is also a way to meet new people and get to know the scene.

What difficulties have you faced when it comes to art?

When art starts to become competitive, or people have unrealistic expectations, art can become almost meaningless to me. I worry that people might expect things to be done too soon or expect me to produce things that they are not ready to.

What impact does art have on your life?

For the past 9 months, I would say that art has been an important part of my daily life. I have been able to find my 'groove' in my own brain. I feel a lot more 'creatively available.' I feel like this was a part of me that I used to have as a kid, but I lost touch with that side of me. My grandmother was very good at drawing things. I think it could be part of my genetics to want to do art.

The drawing groups I started attending seemed to bring out a more creative and social side to me. I am now friends with some women who attend, this is something I didn't think was possible for me in the past as I found it difficult to connect. It has helped me understand atypical people better.

If you could give advice to others, what would it be?

You should never try to force art. You should let things come naturally. People can tell if something is made with passion or reluctantly. Start with something small. Start with something you know. Do lots of that until you get bored of it then slowly move away from that, into other thing. I like to think of it as building up roots and tree branches. Subtle difference will appear over time as you improve.

What are you working on at the moment?

At the moment I'm trying to peel myself away from using the same tools constantly and drawing the same subject matter. I filled up a whole book with Dalek drawings. I seem to have got most of the desire out of me to do them. I know this is part of who I am, but it would be nice to move onto other things, however looking back through the book, you can see the improvement.

Any other thoughts?

I definitely think attending groups are the way to go. I joined two different art groups over the summer of last year. You can connect with people, and it is more empowering to be around

others as you can better yourself and exchange ideas. There are lots of different groups you can find online full of nice welcoming people.

The start of my sketchbook.



Drawing towards the end of my sketchbook.

