

Analysis of Completion and Satisfaction of Artwork

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INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

This research project focused on the relationship between an artist and their piece. Various artists were surveyed to reveal their feelings towards the process of completing their work. I selected this topic as I myself am an artist and am curious about this process for my contemporaries.

My passion for art developed very early in my life. As a child, I would doodle on an easel. I still have memories of being in the first-grade and drawing in my journal instead of writing. Since then, I have continued to foster my dream of becoming a professional artist and will continue to pursue this goal as I will be attending an art school next year.



MY SELF PORTRAIT

DATA

In a survey, each artist was asked to complete the following statement: *I know my piece of art is done when...*

"I just know"

"I look at it and the colors sort of dance with each other, the composition is pleasing (not perfect, always) and inviting, as though you could stare at it awhile and enjoy finding new things to look at."

"...each part of the work is resolved aesthetically AND seems to convey the ideas and feeling that I sought out to explore... (then), it's just time to put your hands down and sit with it for a while, which usually culminates in being finished for me"



"I know my piece of art is done when it becomes its own person"

-Ramona Martinez

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to thank my mentor, Jil Coolidge, my art teacher, Kate McKenzie, and the three other artists who participated in my survey: Kat Kennedy, Katie Schweitzer, and Ramona Martinez. I'd also like to thank my family.

SUMMARY

Based on the feedback from these five established artists, I have altered my version of how to determine when my work of art is complete. In the past, I used to rely on time frames and due dates to complete a work of art. However, moving forward, when time is not restricting, I will determine that my piece of art is complete when I feel that it is done. The process of creating art is more of an intrinsic process rather than having it be based on assignments and time. Some artists go back to look at old work, and if something feels underdeveloped, they will adjust it. As a result of this project, I feel that I've improved both my practice and my knowledge of how a professional completes their artwork, which makes me feel proud because I used to just leave a piece, walk away, and never look at it again. Now, I will allow myself the freedom to explore other options when determining when my piece is complete.

"Commissioned Artwork: What rules do you follow when accepting /pricing a commission?" *Fine Arts View*, 13 May 2013, faso.com/fineartviews/59965/commissioned-artwork-what-rules-do-you-follow-when-accepting-pricing-a-commission. Accessed 2 Nov. 2016. Stamberg, Susan.

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RESOURCES