

Hannah Skelton

Portfolio

2016 - 2019

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Artist Statement

Art has always been about expression for me.

As I have grown up and realized all the horrors present around me I am disgusted and outraged and feel called to speak up. Being an introvert, I have found that being loud and boisterous just isn't in my nature. My voice is most powerful when I speak with my paint brushes. It is through art that I connect with people. I create pieces about the social injustices present in our world in hopes to spark conversations about the issues they represent. It is my attempt to influence the world by exposing the pernicious truths in our society. Painting brings meaning to my life and I aspire to share the meaning I have found with others. It is my hope that God will work through me and my art to inspire change, no matter how minimal.

Not all art can or should be thought provoking and loud. Though the world is full of ugliness, there is also much beauty. It is important to capture both for the sake of one's soul. I find rest and rejuvenation in simply painting to paint. I approach my abstract pieces in a spontaneous way, without any prior planning. I let my mind rest and my heart take control. Through my abstract pieces, I create not out of conviction but out of joy.



Folding Hope
Oil
40x30
2019



No Shave November

Oil

24x48

2018

The standard and criteria of beauty for women is ridiculous. We live in a world where razor advertisements shave hairless legs. Women having body hair is so grotesque and abstract in our modern world that showing real woman legs is not okay. Yet, body hair is natural on men and women. Having soft, silky skin, free of hair, is a privilege that time and resources cannot always allow. We, as a society, should be more open, understanding, and not so repulsed when it comes to women having body hair.

Being free of hair is only one of many impossible standards that are put on not only women, but also young girls. The world has made being "beautiful and flawless" a requirement for women in order to be happy or fulfilled. Our appearance is put before our character and heart. This attitude is so dangerous and damaging especially for the developing minds of our youth.



Music in Color
Watercolor and gouache
22x30
2016



Emotion in Color
Watercolor and Gouache
360x33.5
2018



Soul of an Artist
Oil
40x30
2018



United
Oil
42x24
2018



Progression of Depression

Oil

24x48

2018

Depression is one of many mental illnesses that plague our society. It is among the most common yet many people still don't understand the severity of what depression can mean in someone's life. Mental health deserves more attention than it gets. It is often looked down on. People hide and keep silent out of shame because of how our society perceives mental illness. That needs to change. No one is seen as weird or over dramatic if they break a bone. They are expected to see a doctor so it can heal properly. Our mind controls our body so if our mind is compromised in some way it can have a much stronger effect than a physical injury. So why is judgement placed upon those who admit or try to seek help for a mental illness they cannot control? End the stigma.



Stepping out of Darkness
Oil
36x24
2018

This painting is a psychological self-portrait of what I aspire to be. The figure is stepping out of the darkness into the light, which represents broadening my world view. The tree is symbolic of a balloon, a reference to childhood and an attempt to carry the resilience and innocence of my childhood into adulthood. The figure is made up of the earth because we were made from earth in the image of God and I find rejuvenation and peace when I am in nature.



Good Morning World

Acrylic

24x18

2018



Plastic Earth
Mixed Media
60x84
2019

A single person uses a plastic shopping bag for an average of twelve minutes. On average, only 1 of 200 plastic bags are recycled. It is estimated that 500 billion to 1 trillion plastic bags are produced and used throughout the world each year. Earth, our home, is clogged with human waste. Our oceans are suffocating from plastic and we do little to stop it.



Celestial Lollipops
Acrylic
11x14
2016



Collumba
Screenprint
11x15
2018

The Root of Faith is Love

Woodcut

10x12

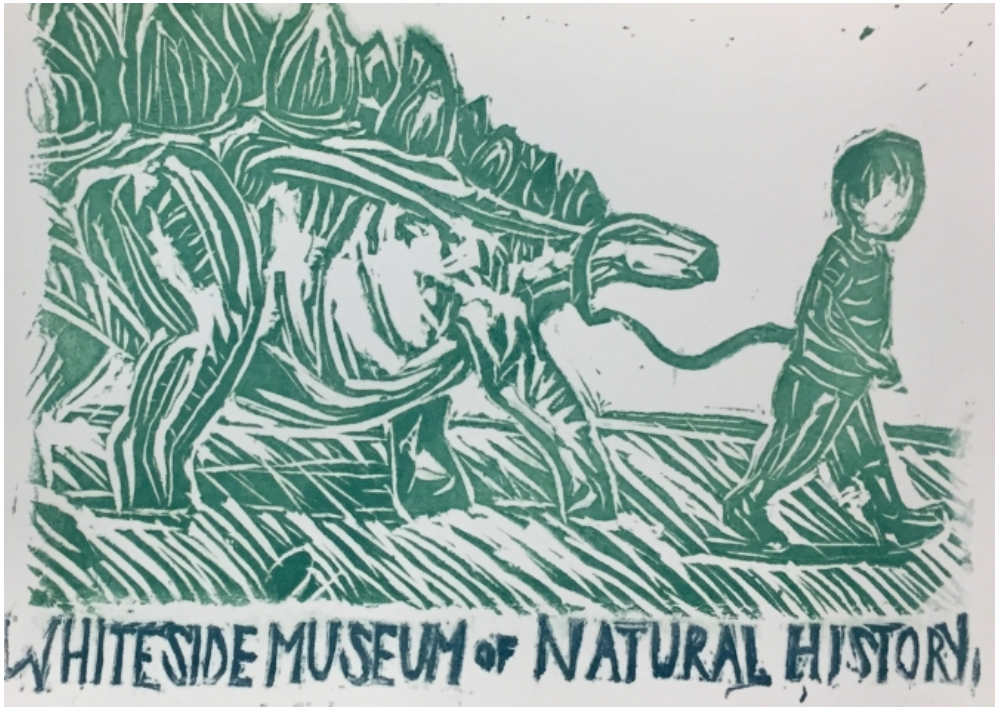
2018

God doesn't just call us to love those like us but to love those different than us. To love the ones we don't understand, the world condemns, the unloveable. By extending that love, we open our souls to experience tremendous growth. To be with God, our faith needs to be rooted in love.

These are a series of prints I made for The Whiteside Museum of Natural History in Seymour, Texas.



Dino Party
Linoleum Block Print
17x11
2019



Friends
Linoleum Block Print
4.5x6.5
2019



Brachiosaurus
Linoleum Block Print
25x11
2019



Whiteside Museum
Linoleum Block Print
9x7.5
2019