Aijana Kostich

Inspired by Fantasy worlds such as Skyrim and Dungeons and Dragons, I wanted to create artworks that represented my love for all things with themes of Fantasy Fiction. All my life, I have been in love with the fantastical and the magical, I remember spending hours after school with my nose in a book, daydreaming about dragons and magic. I remember discovering DnD for the first time and absolutely falling in love with it. To this day, I still love everything to do with Fantasy, and I wanted my artworks to share this love.

When I started creating these artworks, I initially had no idea what I wanted to draw, all I knew was that I wanted it to show my love for fiction, and that it absolutely had to have a dragon in it, my favourite creature. As I thought up ideas, I eventually came up with the idea of putting unique characters in fantasy settings and went with it. As I said earlier, this idea was inspired by Fantasy worlds such as Skyrim and DnD, Terraria, Eragon, The Hobbit, among others. I was also inspired by artists I look up to online, such as Del Northern, Joy Ang and Neytrix, each are artists well-known for their stunning art abilities and skills. These artists use digital media to "paint" beautiful pieces full of vibrant colours and realistic shading, and I wanted to emulate this style of digital art in my own work. I have done this style of art in the past several times and have learnt a lot over the years, which I have also incorporated into my work.

I used a collection of different brushes over the process of creating each painting to expand the different textures within each piece. or sketching I used a simple square brush that allowed me to make crisp strokes that had easy readability, which made sketching easier. I used a light, sketchy brush for lineart and a flat circle brush for colouring. For backgrounds, however, I continued to use the flat brush, and adjusted the opacity settings to create a blending effect. I also used a few flora and cloud brushes to make the grasses and clouds in some pictures easier for me to draw. I used a soft blending brush for the shading and sometimes used a textured brush to add extra effects to things in the background.

These pieces were intended to share my love for fantasy, and I hope that through these paintings, others may begin to appreciate it just as much as I do. Overall, the process of creating these paintings have taught me new ways to create and have allowed me to hone my artistic skills and abilities. I feel as though the process of creating these paintings has given me the insight I need to improve and continue creating art I can share with the world.

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