

## *Original Characters*

### **Reuben Azevedo**

My overall aim was to create a series of characters using my favourite medium of digital art. I have created my own on-line digital art store on Instagram and wanted to use my folio to explore further and develop further my skills.

I wanted to create and draw characters that had their own definitive style and I wanted to explore how to express each character's personality fitting them into their own personalised environment. This environment would help the viewer to connect and understand the character further.

My process involved analysing and creating several pieces from scratch of each character. I began with line drawings and developed them further creating several layers changing and developing my characters as I went I did this in order to properly determine the characters appearance and features from multiple angles. This included sketching up a pose that suits their position on the page including line-art, colour, shading and highlights; before finally arranging them into the one image and adding the finishing touches.

The concept behind my design work was based representing strong female characters which there are not as many of as there are male. I was inspired by the covers of superhero comics both old and new, predominantly the character composition and poses, rather than the art style and colours. I drew on this knowledge to extend my own skills. The most prominent connection to my artists would be Viking Skirts. She is a good friend of mine who has not only inspired me with her Art, but also introduced me to the online community of artists which included the other contemporary practitioners I analysed such as Ravenous Russ and Dsloogie.

I think the final aim was rather successful as my original characters are unique and distinct with their own personalised individual poster. This also made it easy to create a group poster of character creations that belonged together.

I believe I have learnt new skills along the way and improved my technique whilst developing my own personal style. I look forward to showcasing my new designs on my Instagram page.

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