Always There

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My idea developed throughout the course of my folio. I was able to improve and bring it more alive as I changed and experimented, adding things in or taking things out. I wanted my piece to communicate the idea that the person has lost someone close to her and is grieving but that also that their loved one is still with them in their memories and spiritually, which is represented by the ball of light held in the hands.

Throughout my folio I experimented with different media because I wanted to develop my skills but early on I found that I wanted to use oil paint for my final piece. I was able to experiment in different ways and found that applying it with a palette knife was a great way to create rough but interesting texture which can be seen in the background. I used brushes to paint the person because I wanted to get a smooth effect for the skin and the glowing light.

I research a variety of practitioners but Andrew Salgado was the most inspirational for the painting style I wanted to achieve. Although I had much smoother textures in my portrait, his style can be seen in the hair and especially the background where the paint is thick, very textured and more abstracted.

For my final piece I believe the most effective area of the painting would be the background and the face. The background gives the painting the abstract and soft feel that I was trying to achieve. The background makes her seem she is in her own world that she feels she has needed to push herself to cope with the loss. Her face shows her emotions of loss and sadness and I think this presents my intended message to the audience. It shows that she is holding on to her loved ones spirit in her heart and she isn't ready to let them go yet.

Although I am happy with the result I think the piece could be improved if the expression on her face was sadder and I would make the spirit and highlights brighter which would make it more attention grabbing. By experimenting in this folio and creating this final piece I have learned how to use oil paint and these techniques will help me to create future art works.