“Venison”

**Medium:** Cast iron and Forged Steel  
**Date of Completion:** November 2018  
**Size:** 22” x 22” x 14”

I completed this project at the beginning of my senior year. I helped run an Iron pour in Monument, Colorado, that was the main event of a public sculpture workshop. I knew my next opportunity to make a piece out of cast iron may not be for a long time, so I came up with this project. I wanted to mix blacksmithing, foundry work, and fabrication into the same, ultimate, metalworking project. Each discipline is represented in this piece.
I used the lost-wax casting method to cast the iron skull. Cast into the skull, the antlers were made out of 5 pieces of rebar each. Prior to casting, the tips of each piece were forged to a point. After casting, I bent the antlers using an oxy-acetylene torch and welded the seams with a mig welder. I made the wall mount out of sheet steel and polished it using an angle grinder. Last but not least, I used chemicals and heat to patina and rust the cast iron. This piece won a gold medal in sculpture at the Colorado Scholastic Art and Writing awards.
“Miejsce do Siedzenia (The Sitting Place)”

**Medium:** Forged Steel and Reclaimed Barn wood sanded and finished with polyurethane.  
**Date of Completion:** December 2018  
**Size:** 4’ x 15” x 17”

As of late, I have become interested in blacksmithing. Using the expertise of my art teacher, I built my own forge, and I set up all of my own blacksmithing equipment in my workshop. Shortly after getting everything ready to go, my father asked if I could make a new bench for his mudroom. Happily, I obliged. With the addition of the new tools in my workshop, I challenged myself to create a piece that pushed my metalworking boundaries and would help me explore my new interest.
After gathering materials at my local steel yard, I used my forge to make twists in the ornamental section of the legs. I then used a mig welder to join a series of pieces together to create long billets that would eventually be bent into the legs. I decided to add banding over the weld joints with flat steel to make for a cleaner, finished look. Next, I used an oxy-acetylene torch and a bench vice to bend the legs into their final shape, shortly before welding in pieces of round bar to create a shoe rack on the bottom of the bench. After completing the metal work, I fashioned the bench top. For this, I used a piece of reclaimed barn wood that I sanded to 220 grit and finished with two coats of Polyurethane. After giving it time to dry, I joined the two pieces with 4 lag bolts and delivered it to its new home!
“Curvatures”

**Medium:** Alabaster

**Date of Completion:** Started in August 2017, completed in January 2018

**Size:** 16” x 24” x 12”
Using a selection of rasps, files, and chisels, I carved this piece of alabaster in a stone carving course I took through my school. After carving the stone to a form I was pleased with, I used files to get out the large tool marks and then wet sanded, through the grits, up to 600. After sanding, I applied a polishing wax as the finish and buffed to a sheen with a silk cloth. This piece was submitted to the Colorado Scholastic Art and Writing Awards and won a silver medal in sculpture. Currently, it is on a year-long tour of the Pikes Peak region of Colorado.
“Titans of Industry”

Medium: Cast Iron and Cast Glass  
Date of Completion: September 2018  
Size: 16” x 12” x 4”

Through my school, I had the opportunity to take a foundry course with a main focus on pouring Iron. For my project, I decided to juxtapose the industrial strength of cast iron with the delicacy and fragility of glass. I used the lost-wax casting method to cast my arm and hand in iron and used a kiln casting method to cast the glass ball that sits in the fingertips. I decided to cantilever the piece because it reinforces the strength of the iron in relation to the delicacy of the glass.
After my parents decided to stop rock climbing, I was given all of their old gear. I found a series of clips and nylon strapping that I thought would look interesting as the shoulder straps for a backpack while sifting through a variety of their old safety equipment. From there, I came up with a design, gathered my materials, and got to sewing. The following pictures show my personalized backpack inspired by used rock climbing gear.
Taking inspiration from a Salvador Dali painting, I created a set of five pixelated pictures using unaltered wine corks. The pictures are of Shakespeare, Marilyn Monroe, Andy Warhol, Charlie Chaplin, and Bob Marley. Using Photoshop, I overlaid a pixelation filter and converted each picture to a grayscale to give myself a grid to work from. After creating the grid, I ranked each pixel/square on a scale from 1 to 9 based on each pixel's comparative value. I then sorted hundreds of corks based off of their natural color coming straight out of a wine bottle and glued them on end to a piece of black foam core following my pixelated guides. The five works are hanging in a gallery/event space in Colorado Springs and are available for purchase.
These are some of the grids I worked from to create the cork pieces.
"Self Portrait"

**Medium:** Ink on paper  
**Date of Completion:** November 2016  
**Size:** 16” x 30”

This piece was made for a drawing and painting class I took during my sophomore year. To differentiate the values within the picture, I put my portrait into Photoshop and overlaid a grayscale filter and then simplified the image. I did this so similar values linked together and produced shapes for me to follow and work with. Taking inspiration from Chuck Close, I used various methods to apply the ink to the paper. I assigned each value a texture, and I correspondingly filled in the previously mentioned shapes. For the darkest value, I used an ink pad with my fingerprints, and for the rest, I used a fountain pen to mimic the different textures on paper.
“Off-piste”

Medium: Encaustic
Date of Completion: December 2018
Size: 8” x 8”

Out of my stepmom’s encaustic studio, I produced this wax painting titled “Off-piste.” Before creating the piece, I experimented with different hand-drawn fonts to make a background I could work on top of. I was inspired by my love for backcountry skiing and the absence of boundaries in the wilderness. This piece won a silver medal in painting at the Colorado Scholastic Art and Writing Awards and is currently on display in a museum in Denver as part of the awarded works show.
“‘Mater”

**Medium:** Watercolor on Paper  
**Date of Completion:** December 2018  
**Size:** 12” x 16.5”

This piece was the culminating project from a water-based painting class that I took at my school. I worked from a still life and challenged myself by choosing three objects that are technically difficult to paint in their own respects. I focused on leaving bare white paper for highlights while layering pigment around the empty areas to create depth and keep the picture in perspective.
“Forging Freedom”

Medium: Intaglio print on paper  
Date of Completion: January 2019  
Size: 14” x 7”

This series of prints was my first exploration in printing. Many in the series were pressed on plain white paper, but my favorite is pictured on the right. This design was created as a visual representation for a satire project I was tasked with in my English class. To accompany this print, I wrote a “Modest Proposal”-style script outlining why getting rid of the steel industry would solve all of our economic issues in the United States.
“The Great Outdoors”

**Medium:** Low Poly made in Photoshop  
**Date of Completion:** November 2016  
**Size:** 8.5” x 11”

Throughout my high school career, I took two consecutive photoshop classes. The first course focused on basic tools, and the second delved deeper into some of the more advanced tools the program has to offer. In each course, we were given projects to reinforce the use of each tool. I made this Low Poly project after learning about the pen tool and the eyedropper. In total, there are around 3000 triangles, which I drew by hand and color matched with the original picture this piece was based on.
"Figure Drawing"

**Medium:** Charcoal on newsprint  
**Date of Completion:** November 2018  
**Size:** 18" x 24"

Every year, the art department at my school invites dancers from a local dance studio to come in and live model for figure drawing. They spend a week set up on the stage in our theatre, and every student, K-12, has the opportunity to draw these models in charcoal. I practiced almost every day while they were around, and the piece to the right is my favorite that came out of the opportunity. In total, I ended up with 11 drawings that I am proud of.