

# Ideas & Brainstorming

(lots of little sketches)



I think it'd be really cool to do a collection of paintings to show a complete person. Like small snapshots to show how different aspects create one whole person.



live drawings; )  
even at dickson  
taphouse ~



I'd also like to have three ~~separate~~ separate paintings, either of all different sizes, or one being different from the other two and forming a square or rectangle overall shape (like all of the sketches on these pages).

# Series inspiration

To get some inspiration for my series, I decided to look for series of artwork on Pinterest and found lots of cool things. Series 1 (as labelled) is quite similar to what I want to do, as it has three segments of different sizes showing aspects of a story (particularly one involving a person). Series 2 is really cool, though quite possibly not an actual series. But, its various frames of the face within the artwork really appeal to me, especially as it fits with the "extended portrait" idea I'd like to go for.



1



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Series 3 and series 4 are both really cool and aesthetically pleasing. I really like how series 3 is able to capture a scenario in a more complex and detailed way by using two separate drawings with different perspectives, and I really like how series 4 is a realistic person-depicting triptych painting.



3



4



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Series 5 is also a similar concept to what I want to go for, though for my series I think I'd like to have the images less close up, so I can include more detail. Series 6 is very interesting to me because of how relevant it is to my own paintings. It is in a similar style and the colour scheme is similar to what I'd like to do for my series. I also really like how the combination of the images gives the painting more detail.



6

Series 7 is so cool. I love the colour scheme and the use of the diptych as a metaphor, to comment on the situation within the larger drawing. Series 8 and 9 are also really cool, I like them because they're somewhat close to what I want to do in terms of showing fragments of a person.



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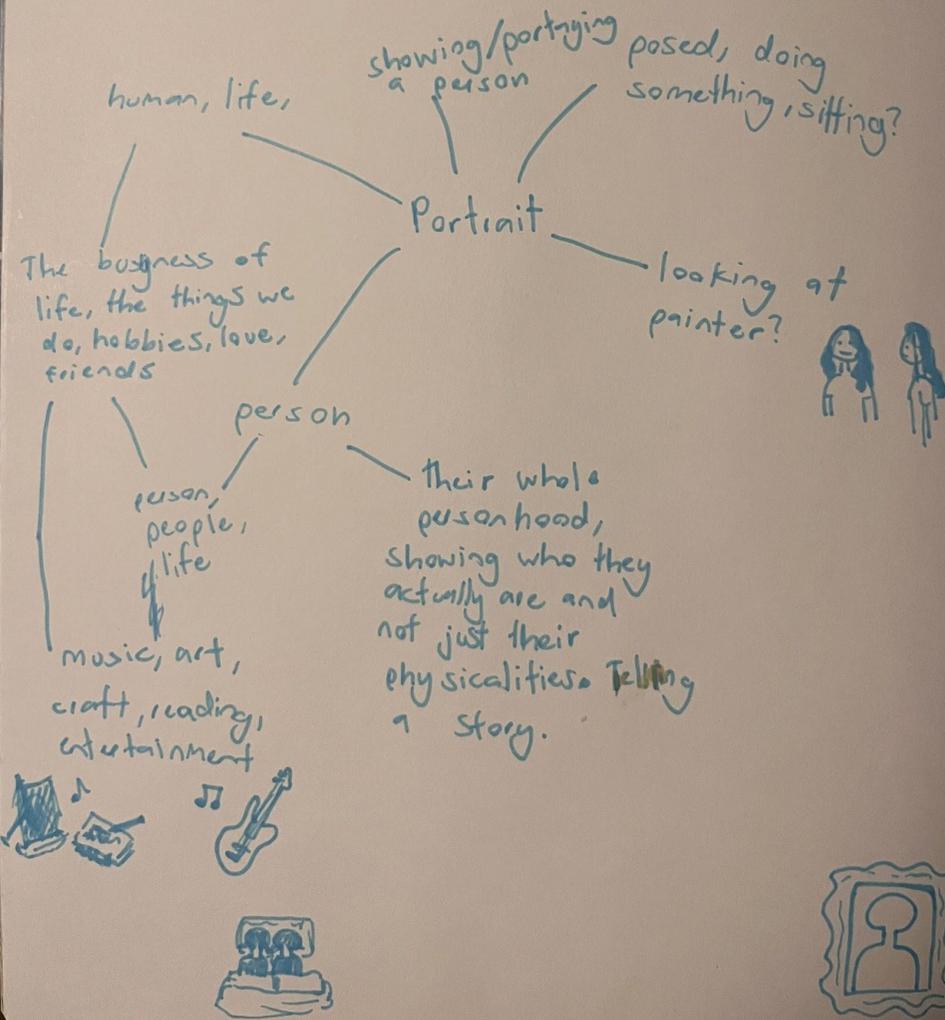


8



9

# mind map of ideas



My plan is to ~~draw~~ paint 3 paintings of my boyfriend Evan. He's really into music and plays double bass and bass guitar, so I'd like to show him playing one of those. I'd also like to do a ~~close~~ close of his face (perhaps one half of his face) and another one of him doing another activity. I feel like the painting would be suited to a colour scheme of warm browns and oranges, as that's both the colour of his hair and his instruments, so that would be a very dominant colour in the three paintings.

# Cho Gi-Seok ☆

Cho Gi-Seok is a South Korean photographer and founder of his streetwear brand Kusikohc. Gi-Seok's work is portrait based, exploring unusual themes and involving intricate details. He has worked for publications like CR fashion, Vogue Korea, Wallpaper China, Kinfolk, and Dazed Korea, as well as brands like Prada and Converse Korea. His work has also been featured in Sweden's Fotografiska Museum.



Born in 1992 in Korea, Gi-Seok dreamed of being an art director when he was a child, and started with experimenting with graphic design and art direction when he realised that in order to properly capture the images he had in his mind, he had to make them himself.



"It took me a long time to accept that there were such different aspects within my personality. I didn't understand which version of myself was the real one, until I decided that they all were. It's something I always try to express in my work" - Cho Gi-Seok



"I looked at millions of images online, and gradually I realized that none of them told what I was familiar with. At that point, I decided to work on an iconography that spoke to the Korean identity, of one around me, of my most intimate emotions. And at the same time, it would address the world."  
- Cho Gi-Seok



In Gi-Seok's first major exhibition "Coexistence" (displayed first in 2021) explores his thoughts and beliefs of a symbiotic relationship between plants, humans, and digital matter. Several pieces in the exhibition are diptychs, comparing and contrasting portraits and flowers and other natural elements. Gi-Seok states "Different things reveal their true nature when juxtaposed, and through the similarity of lines, colours and composition he gets his point across beautifully."

I find Cho Gi-Seok's work to be really interesting, as well as aesthetically pleasing, and while it's not exactly what I intend to do with my piece, nor is he a painter, I think that this concept of more abstract and out-of-the-box portraiture really appeals to me.





## Evan's Taphouse gig sketches

These are some sketches I did while I was at one of Evan's gigs! It was really fun doing quick sketches of a moving subject, and I was able to get some good ideas for my series painting.



# Gan Chin Lee

Gan Chin Lee is a Malaysian artist known for his realistic portrait and figure paintings. Many of Gan's works are triptyches, diptyches and small scale series, which he uses to create more in-depth and multi-faceted stories and contrast and compare ideas to further build upon his art's discussions of identity and multiculturalism.



Many of Gan's paintings depict people seated outside coffee shops, in mall cafeterias and walking around busy streets, showing the beauty within the busyness of life.



Job history  
Crispin Hall (Town-centre Proposal)



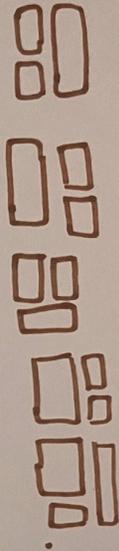
Gan Chin Lee was born in 1977 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with a Chinese immigrant lineage that Gan has explored and discussed in many of his works. Moreover, Gan tackles the ethnic and religious complexities of Malaysia and the migratory waves of South Asian Muslim diaspora that he has witnessed first hand.



# Brainstorming & planning

As ~~the~~ the purpose of this piece is to give a well rounded and multi-faceted perspective of the subject, I want to depict a variety of aspects. While I think it would be cool to have the ~~the~~ printings be music related (as seen in the taphouse gig sketches earlier) I want to show other things as well, as Evan is so much more than just a "music man" despite it being a large part of his identity.

options:



half of face?

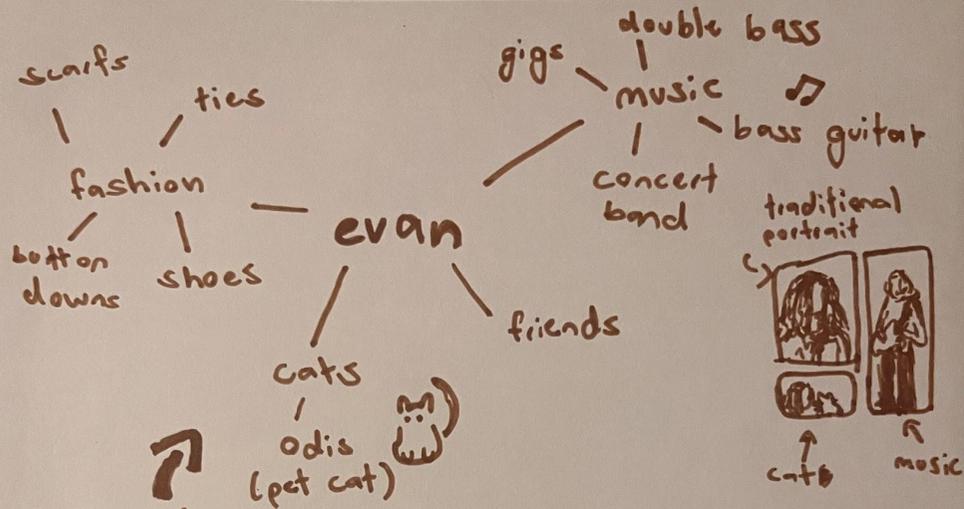


The struggle will be working out how to fill the narrow boxes, and what to fill them with. Because something interesting needs to fit within the frame.

full body?



extreme close up?



I thought I would do a mind map to brainstorm the things evan likes as a way to get ideas for what the subjects of each of the paintings should be.

these two look too similar

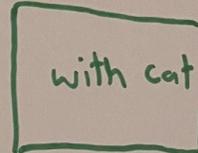
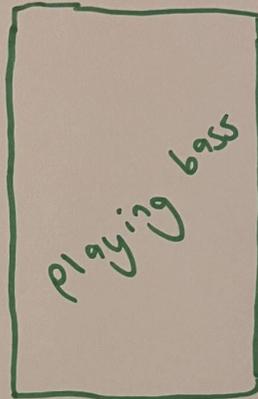


All of the faces are similar sizes, which I don't want. They also all have a similar ratio of positive and negative space, which I don't like either.

# Planning details

set up & subjects:

I like this for the portrait ↙



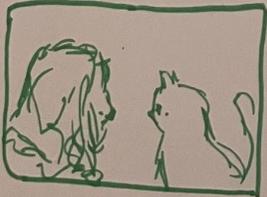
I like the framing of this one ↙



too much negative space ↘



I like this one! ↙

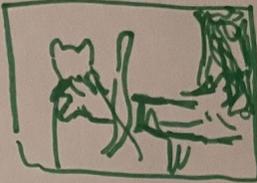


It's really hard to exactly plan what I will do for the cat photo, as it will be difficult to control her and I probably wouldn't be able to get the exact photo I'd like if I did plan it, but I've thought of some ~~the~~ potential ideas. But I will see what photos and poses I can get on the day of the photoshoot.

If I end up going with his double bass



I don't plan to use a photo of him playing double bass, but I'll take some anyways in case I like them better.





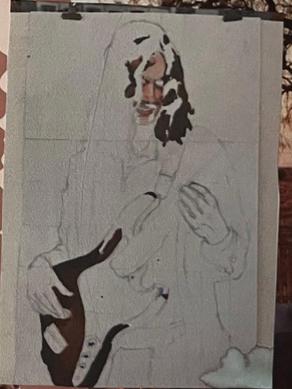
## Proposal

For this art series, I plan to make a triptych of three differently sized portraits and figure paintings, arranged in a rectangle. A 26cm x 42cm piece will take up the left portion of the work and depict the subject playing the bass guitar. A 26cm x 16cm piece will stack on top of a 26cm x 25cm piece and will make up the right side of the piece, the smaller depicting the subject petting his cat and the larger a portrait of the subject. Through this artwork I intend to explore the theme of identity and a person's multi-dimensionality. Rather than a traditional portrait of figure painting, which would only show a subject through one angle in one scene, this artwork will be able to depict the subject and who they are more holistically through its multiple perspectives. I intend for each of the paintings to take technical inspiration from the impressionist and realist art movements, similar to that of my previous paintings. My series of paintings will be unified through sharing the same subject and colour palette. I intend for the paintings to share a muted colour scheme, using a variety of browns and greens.

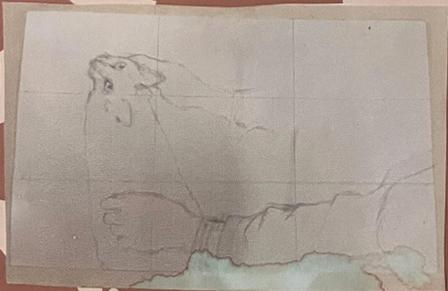


# Painting Progress

I've started on my paintings! I did the sketch for the largest, bass painting. I decided to change the colour of the shadows on his face, because I tried the purplely gray that was in the reference photo, but it looked really strange. Now that I've used browns I think it looks a lot better. I also painted his bass, which I'm not quite happy with but plan to fix later, and his hair and hands which I think are going well. I'm excited to make more progress!



I also started the sketch for the cat painting. I cut out all three pieces to make sure I would have the right dimensions for me to have space around each painting (like a border), and Miriam advised that it would be a good idea to work on all three paintings at the same time, so that's what I'm going to do. Next I will continue with the bass, start painting the cat and sketch the headshot.



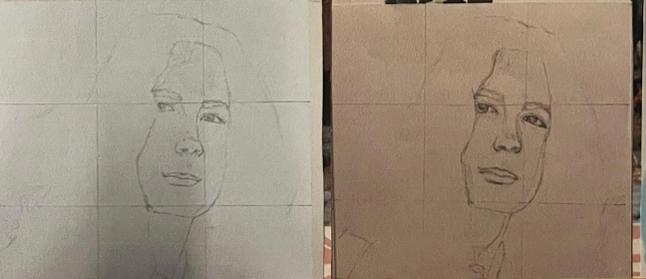
# Realism

Realism is an artistic movement that emerged in 1840's France, around the time of the French Revolution. Rejecting the exotic subject matter and drama of the Romantic movement, realism sought to capture ordinary and contemporary people accurately, as they appear to the eye. Realism is still popular and useful today, being used for both official affairs and artistic alike.



# Painting Progress

I think the paintings are going well! I decided to make the green of his sweater more vibrant than the reference photo in order to create more variety in the work and make it look a bit more visually appealing, so as the different elements of the work can stand out better and clearer. I also made a lot of progress on my "cat" painting, so now all I need to do is add some more detail to the hair and jacket. I also finished the sketch for the headshot, which took me a while to get correct, but I think I managed.



I'm also experimenting with the background colours in photo mark up. I think the blue looks nice, but I don't really think it fits his vibe or the vibe I want for this series.



# Painting Progress

Painting the headshot was quite a journey. I started out really hating it. The colours were too orange/yellow and his face was very disproportionate. I decide it was definitely a good idea to paint over the mouth and move it upwards, which I am very happy I did because that made the face look significantly better. At first I went too dark for his lips and too grey for his chin, but I was able to change it into something I am now quite happy with. I think that adding layers is a part of my process in order for me to get exactly the product I want.



I was able to make more progress with and finish the bass and cat paintings too! I experimented with some different background colours, but eventually decided that a light aqua would be best, and I'm happy with how that turned out. I also, as recommended by Miriam, made the background of the cat painting a dark green and the portrait/headshot a bit lighter. I think this turned out well, though I could have made the headshots background lighter. I managed to do a lot of work before Monday (the due date) so I was just able to add some finishing touches on the day and be done! :)

