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Professor Pindyck

Int. Seminar 1: Memory

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Rachel E. Artist Statement

Although she doesn't often find her creativity in her memories, Rachel Ellenbogen draws inspiration from many aspect of her life: including nature, her friends and family, and other artists. Her family especially has been a real influence in shaping the artist she is today. From her mother and grandmother teaching her how to sew, to her father observing and noting her dedication while working on her art as a child, it all comes full circle.

Ever since she can remember, Rachel has been drawing and creating. She has taken sewing classes since she was a young girl because of the role that this skill played in her family—it was very important that every member know how to sew. This insistence is what sparked her dream of working in fashion design.

When she was younger a lot of people around her thought that she might need medication for Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) because of her constant fidgeting; her father, however, had noticed that when working on her art, Rachel wouldn't fidget at all, and this meant that she couldn't have ADD. Her father had noticed the amount of attention she paid to her art, and how focused she would get when she was doing it. It showed how important this aspect of her life was, and how it was this that kept her mind occupied and completely enthralled.

As a whole, Rachel's goal as an artist is to influence change in the world. She mainly works with fabric and a sewing machine or colored pencils, and hopes that one day she will be able to make a change in the world or within someone viewing her art. The way that she starts a new piece is with a generally consistent process. She starts by falling into her old projects and

studying them. She'll start drawing one idea and keep changing it until it evolves into something completely new and different. She also often splits the work up into pieces and focuses on each space individually where she fills it with as much detail as she can—something that she enjoys being able to do.

Rachel has been invested in art for a long time. Even when she didn't realize that it was her passion, people like her dad saw it in her. Her family and her dedication have brought her to where she is today, and she hopes that she can have a career in the field. Art helps her relieve her own stress, and ultimately she hopes that she invokes a feeling or change in the viewers of her work.

Poem from Interview

Nature growing with a purpose,
I myself have been growing into.

Have I evolved?

Have I finished growing?

Is it time to make a change?

It's time to make old ideas new ones.

It's time I know my purpose.

Don't sit still as time evolved

From the fall.