

INT STUDIO 2- CREATIVE
MENTOR (FINE ARTS)



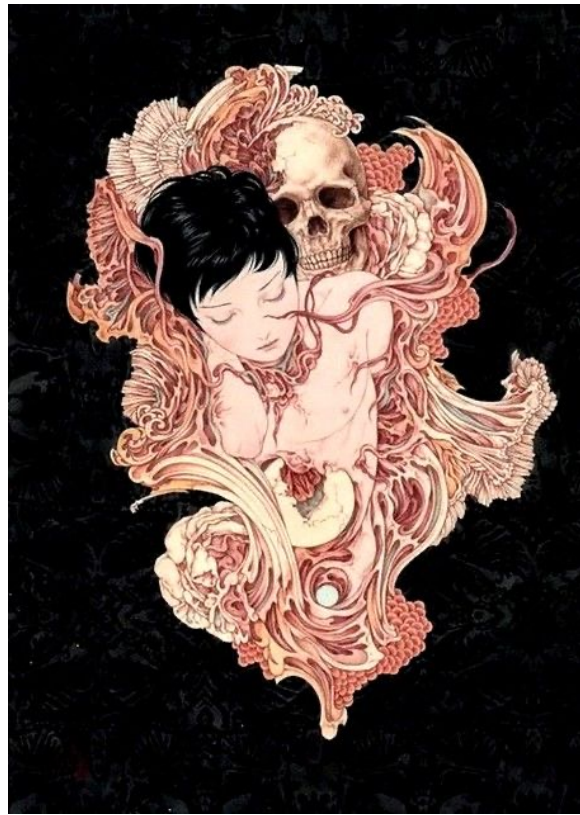
Lulu Zhang

James Jean



- James Jean is a Taiwanese-American visual artist who primarily works with large scale acrylic paintings in Los Angeles. He graduated from the School of Visual Arts in New York and focused on illustrations in his early career.
- Jean's works crosses the boundary between old and new; East and West, by depicting cosmological worlds with contemporary imagery. He weaves a range of elements from traditional Chinese and Japanese scroll paintings to Renaissance portraiture and anime into his paintings.
- The aesthetic juxtaposition that James Jean portrays through his works has gained him a spot in pop culture and high-profile collaborations with brands like Prada and Apple. He explores cultural exchange, nostalgia and emotions.
- His painting skills are clean and smooth that his works resemble digital illustrations. This is also a reason why I am so attracted to his work. I love the way James Jean uses colour and how much detail he puts into his paintings- blurring the line between illustration and painting.

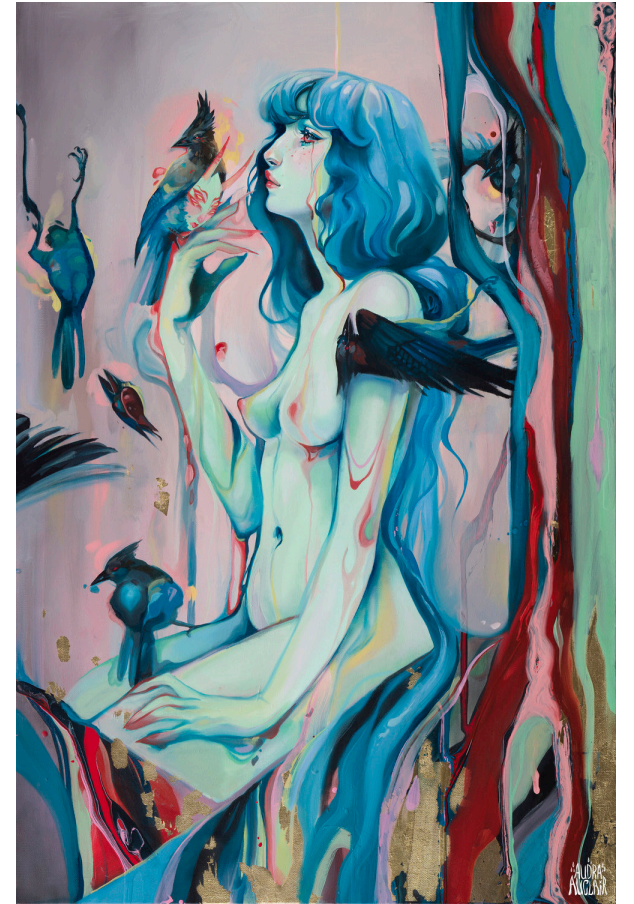
Yamamoto Takato



- Yamamoto Takato is a Japanese painter and manga artist, who is most known for developing a unique style of art called the, "Heisei aestheticism". This style blends influences from traditional Japanese *ukiyo-e* paintings with Western gothic art, to produce dark yet beautiful artworks.
- These gothic inspired artworks explore dark themes of violence, death and sexuality. However, as a result of Yamamoto's unique art style, these dark themes are portrayed in a delicate way to create rather adoring pieces of paintings and illustrations.
- The subject of most of his works are people combined with gothic imagery such as skulls, decay, bones, organs and animals.
- Yamamoto's delicacy in the way he paints, and draws is what attracts me most to his works, and how he combines and expands the style of manga into his prints.



Audra Auclair



- Audra Auclair is a Canadian artist who's works span over multiple mediums such as gouache, oil, acrylic, digital, etc.
- Auclair studied graphic design and attained a degree in that, but her works combines fine arts with illustration in a way that allows her to portray the complexity of the female form while also exploring mental illnesses.
- She is known to have brought awareness to current issues and events through a blend of pop art and fantasy.
- Auclair has a very fluid painting style where her brushstrokes creates the effect of the painting being liquid, creating a lot of movement in her work.
- I am also very drawn to her vibrant and interesting use of colour in her works.

Louise Zhang



- Louise Zhang is a Chinese–Australian multidisciplinary artist with works that span over the painting, sculpture and installation. Growing up to immigrant parents in Australia, Zhang experienced the struggles of navigating through her life and identity as a "third culture kid".
- The complexity of her upbringing has led her to create her amorphous works that play with colour and meaning. Her paintings uses a bright and vibrant palette which misleads people to think of her artworks as 'cute' and 'playful', but when understood deeper, her palette contradicts the dark and sinister meanings behind them.
- She believes that colour has the power to change the narrative and perspective of an artwork, which is why I find her pieces so alluring.
- Zhang mixes elements from Chinese culture like the *gongshi* (scholar's rock) with Western horror films. The swirls and blobs in her painting that just seem to be fun motifs are oozing guts and mutated bodies that stem from the concepts of anxiety and death.

IN HELL WE...

(2018)

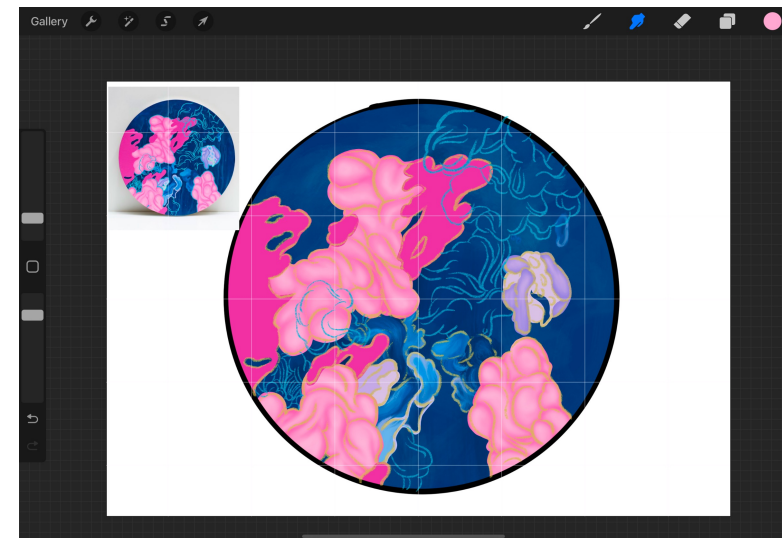
OIL AND
ACRYLIC ON
CANVAS

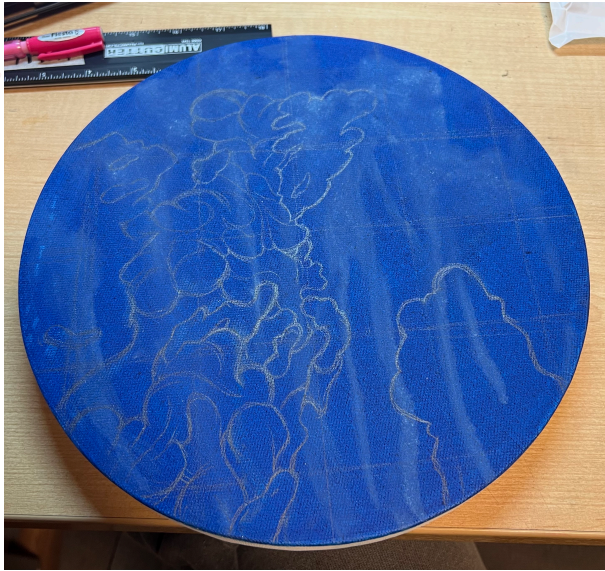
CHOSEN PIECE



Analysis and Experimentation

- I started by understanding the colour palette and buying the necessary colours and canvas for the painting.
- Then I placed the image of the original painting into procreate in order to analyse and understand it better since the motif in the painting is so organic.
- I practiced doing the painting digitally first to see how I would go about the actual painting and which parts to paint first.





Process



Painting process was done in layers—
from what I learned practicing it in
procreate, I painted the darker layers
first. With each layer I blotted the
darkest colours in first and worked
my way to lighter values.



Comparison



Reflection

Doing this project was very inspiring and a great learning experience. Louise Zhang is an artist I only learned of recently and have been so drawn to her paintings because of how different her style is compared to mine. Looking and analysing one of her paintings in depth helped me see a different approach to painting and pushed me to try a new style. Even the colour palette I used for this piece was very out of my comfort zone, I usually stick with what I see and have always wanted to experiment with colour which is why Louise Zhang was a good artist for me to learn from- she focuses on changing the narrative of her paintings through colour.

If I were to have this project again, I would've liked for a bit more time as oil paint takes a long time to dry and my painting, the colours do not look as vibrant as the original as the colours slightly blended with the layer below because it did not dry properly.