

- A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR -

We wanted to help provide a bit of joy and entertainment during this unique time, so we decided to form "Collective Coloring", a free downloadable PDF packed with original coloring pages that anyone can print from home. Coloring is a great way to relax and to focus on something happy and it's a way to regain a little control when things can feel uncontrollable. We have brought together a worldwide coalition of artists who are working to spread inspiration, joy, and curiosity to those who need it most. We know that even while physically isolated, we can come together to foster a loving, supportive, and safe world. Together, let's turn isolation into inspiration!

Because of the widespread effects of COVID-19, many people are voluntarily or involuntarily being confined to their homes. We want to emphasize that while it may seem scary or extreme, a quarantine is anything but. It's a simple way to stay safe and to keep others safe! It starts with just staying home. By distancing ourselves from one-another, we can limit how many people catch this virus and can help those who are working to find a vaccine. Worldwide, hundreds of thousands of people of all ages are changing how they live their lives so that others can continue to live their lives.

Share the results of your coloring experiments with us on Instagram

@CollectiveColoring

#CollectiveColoring

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- FEATURING -

ALEX KUNCHEVSKY - ASHLEY JENNINGS - CHANE_ART DANIELLEBOINAY CLAUDYA SCHMIDT - CRISCOART -ELIA PELLEGRINI - EVAYABAI -**FLYQUEENART** IZABELA ADAMI – JADE MERIEN – JENRAEART JOJOESART - JONNA HYTTINEN - KATY LIPSCOMB KLOODWIG - LARIENNECHAN - LIZ BOUDREAU MANDIE MANZANO - MARGARET MORALES ART NIKOLAS TOWER - PEANUTBUTTERJULITIME PETER BROCKHAMMER - PUFFY GATOR - RJ PALMER RONALD ONG - RYKYART - SAPHINA ART SARA TEPES - SEERLIGHT - TOSHIASAN TINESDIERPORTRETTEN_NL - WOLFSKULLJACK

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ALEX KUNCHEVSKY

@KUNCHEVSKY.COM

Hey, I'm Alex Kunchevsky - a graphic designer, illustrator and animator. I started my full-time journey in digital art 4 years ago, that was the time when I decided to make a change and quit my 9-to-5 job to try doing something creative. It was a blank start for me and I couldn't even imagine back then that by this time I'd be able to travel the world non-stop and make a living from drawing freelance.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Currently I'm working on the projects that I had previously postponed. Now I have time to learn more new stuff as well!

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Right now is the best time to slow down and think about your life, about who you really want to be, and focus on making a change in your regular-day life for after things get back to normal.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Simply create more stuff and you will find the right path for yourself!

Any recommendations on shows or movies to binge-watch to pass the time?

Movies can be a way to pass time, but soon enough you will get bored of this too. In order to feel good, you need to feel productive and the best way to do that is through constant learning and working :-)

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

My recent Feather animation. You can find it on my Instagram account.

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

Be cautious but don't panic. Have more quality time with your friends and family, and focus on selfimprovement every day!







ASHLEY JENNINGS

@ASHLEY.JENNINGS.ART O

Determined to make an impact in bridging the gap between art and technology, Ashley Jennings is a video game developer who has worked at companies such as Hi-Rez Studios, Walt Disney Imagineering, and Esri. She is passionate about creating unique experiences through digital media, and works hard to empower other women to follow their dreams in computer science. In her free time, Ashley loves to explore her creative side by drawing and sketching.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I've been trying to focus on creating art, working out, and spending time with my parents. There have been many times in the past where I wanted more free time to do these things, so I'm trying to make the most of it while I have this opportunity. My mother and I are planning to start sewing reusable cotton masks together for local hospitals, and we encourage anyone who has a sewing machine to do the same!

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines? Give an example and why.

I prefer coloring inside the lines! One of my favorite things to do in life is to solve problems based on the restraints I've been given.

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

We are all going to get through this! Things might seem tough now, but we are all stronger and more capable than we give ourselves credit for.

Johly Jennes





CHANE

@CHANE_ART O

French Illustrator in the field of role play, I worked for AgateRPG (Dragons, Esteren) before embarking on my own projects. Since 2017, I have self-published Draconis and Draconis-Etincelles, two books about dragons. I love to paint details and imagine stories around my drawings. I like working both in traditional (ink, watercolor) and digital (graphic tablet).

I invite you to discover my world that is fantastic, dreamlike and filled with dragons!



How is the quarantine affecting your work, if at all?

The quarantine slowed me a little bit. The situation is very stressful because a part of my income came from Comic-Cons. For now, I'm still working on my book 'Draconis' with two months left until the deadline!

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Be yourself! Dare to undertake new projects, don't be afraid of missing or trying new things, new mediums. Stay open to others and to art in general!

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Read, pet your cat, or do something unusual like washing the dishes! If you're uninspired, don't force yourself and take a break!

What podcast or audiobook is your favorite to draw to?

I listen to lots of different music when i draw. Everything from artists like Elton John and Ghost to bands like Savatage and Iron Maiden. Sometime even songs from musicals like Jekyll & Hyde or JesusChrist Superstar.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

I love coloring inside, outside, or just EVERYWHERE :D





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CLAUDYA SCHMIDT

I'm Claudya Schmidt, mostly known as AlectorFencer. My passion is to create fantasy art, comics, creatures and tinker with the world-building of Yria. I call myself a dreamer who loves to share my imagination with you. I mostly work on my long-term comic project, Myre - Chronicles of Yria. But I sometimes delve into different realms of imagination. Such is with my comic, Haunter of Dreams and my Plant Spirit Wolf.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I try my best to lift up everyone else. Since I work from home and have big projects coming up, my routine hasn't really changed. I do feel the vibes that social distancing causes since I am unable to invite friends over, for example. Luckily, there are streams and Google Duo. When I sink my teeth in a project, such as my comic, I don't even notice seasons' changing.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

If you're stuck indoors, study movies. Not just watching them but studying them. See them with the eyes of someone who's right in the middle. Alternatively, if you listen to music, play movies in your head. Tune in and imagine this very soundtrack has been composed for your own movie that you have produced yourself. And oh, boy, it's epic!:)

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

This is very difficult for me to answer. As a sequential artist, meaning as someone who draws a lot of comic panels and concept art in preparation for the next, I feel connected to all of the works. All of them require the same love and attention.

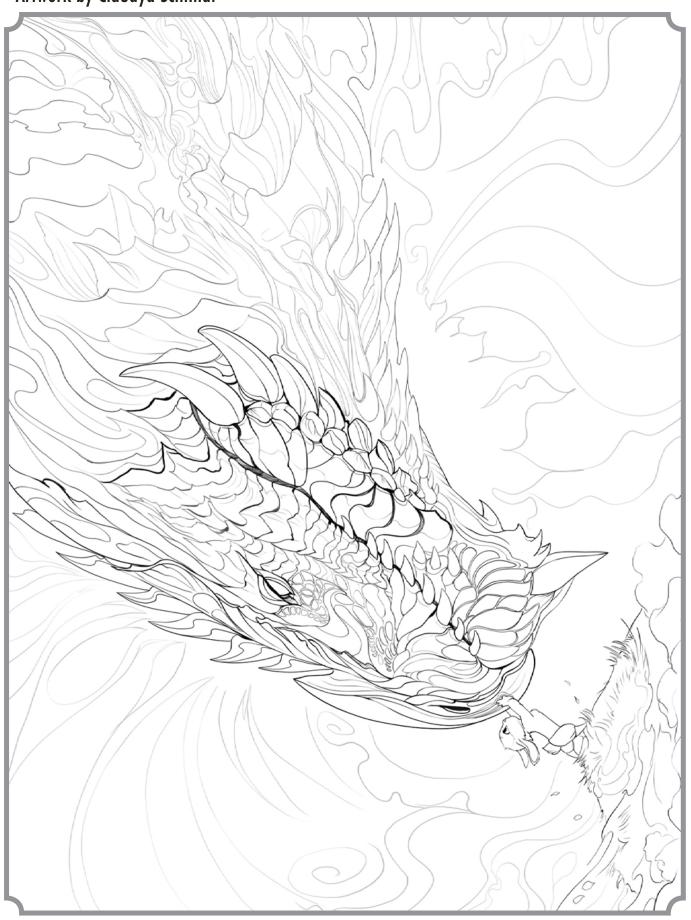
What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Curiosity and Challenge. Be curious about every medium, every style, every colour and shape. Challenge yourself with the aforementioned things.

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

I know that this is a very difficult time for us all. Society is going through a lot and some of you can't see your family members right now, either. Keep your heads up, do the best to stay in touch with your friends and family. There are so many good ways to stay connected. Channel your feelings with art. Challenge yourself with new things. Maybe even do fun projects that you always wanted to do. You will definitely leave this situation stronger.

Artwork by Claudya Schmidt



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CRISCO ART

@CRISCOART © CRISCOART.COM

Crisco is an Italian artist who challenges the idea that you can only appreciate a painting in full light. Although his artworks are lovely to look at in daylight, they really come to life when the lights go out! Achieved by using his Glow in the dark paint to embellish each work, Cristo has developed a practice that allows him to create two paintings within the same composition. The works transition from day to night scenes as your own surroundings get darker, allowing you to uncover what lies beneath the light.



How is the quarantine affecting your work, if at all?

I'm a very active person so it's a little destabilizing not having that rhythm. But this can serve as a moment of meditation and think about what we can improve in our life or our work!

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

When I'm feeling down, I'll usually draw and try to focus on something else.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Try to be creative! Especially now, you have the time and opportunity to create something special!

If you could only make art with one type of art material, what would it be?

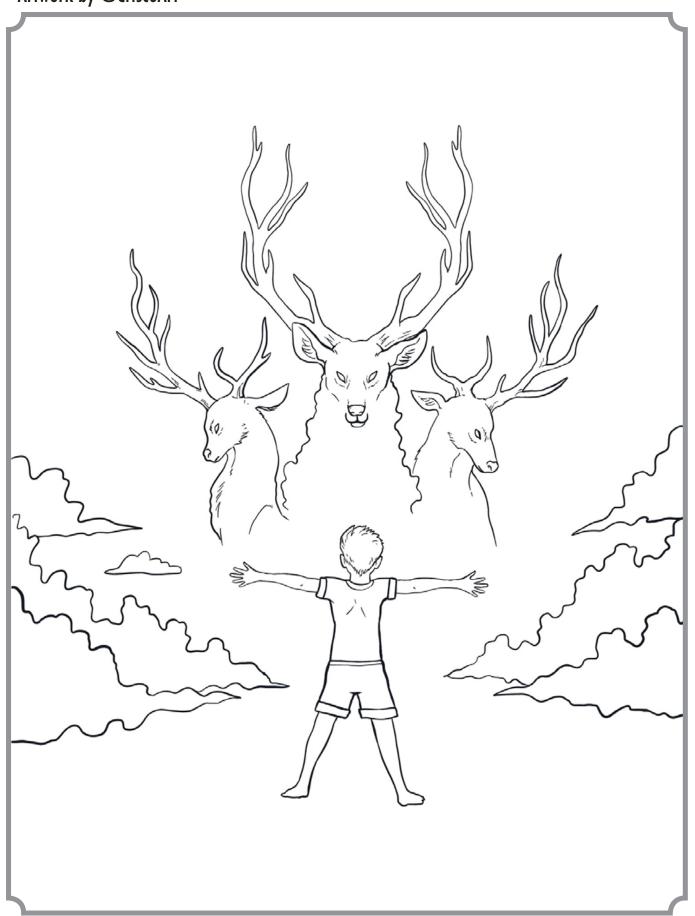
My Glow-in-the-Dark Colors!

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

We must try not to sink beneath our anguish...but battle on!

THE LIGHT IS LIKE A HOPE!







DANIELLE BOINAY

@DANIELLEBOINAY © DANIELLEBOINAY.COM

Having lived in both the country and cities, Danielle Boinay finds her inspiration in each. She grew up in Oregon, spending most of her time exploring the woods and finding magic in the surrounding trees, plants and wildlife. Later she would move to LA to work as a graphic artist which would heavily influence her illustration style and her interest in drawing female characters. Because of her love of nature and illustration, she often incorporates both organic and graphic styles into her work.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I'm an introvert so having more at-home time is right up my alley. Now that my son is not in preschool I am spending a lot of time with him helping him learn. My husband works from home now, so a normal day includes learning time, cleaning, cooking, creating art, and going on walks. On the weekends we drive out into nature to go on hikes. It's important to get fresh air in times like these for good mental health! With also keeping a 6ft distance from others, of course.:)

What podcast or audiobook is your favorite to draw to?

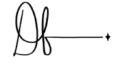
For the artist side of things, I love Three Point Perspective. I also like true crime podcasts such as Up & Vanished and Dr Death, and my guilty pleasure is listening to paranormal podcasts like Mysterious Universe and Astonishing Legends.

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

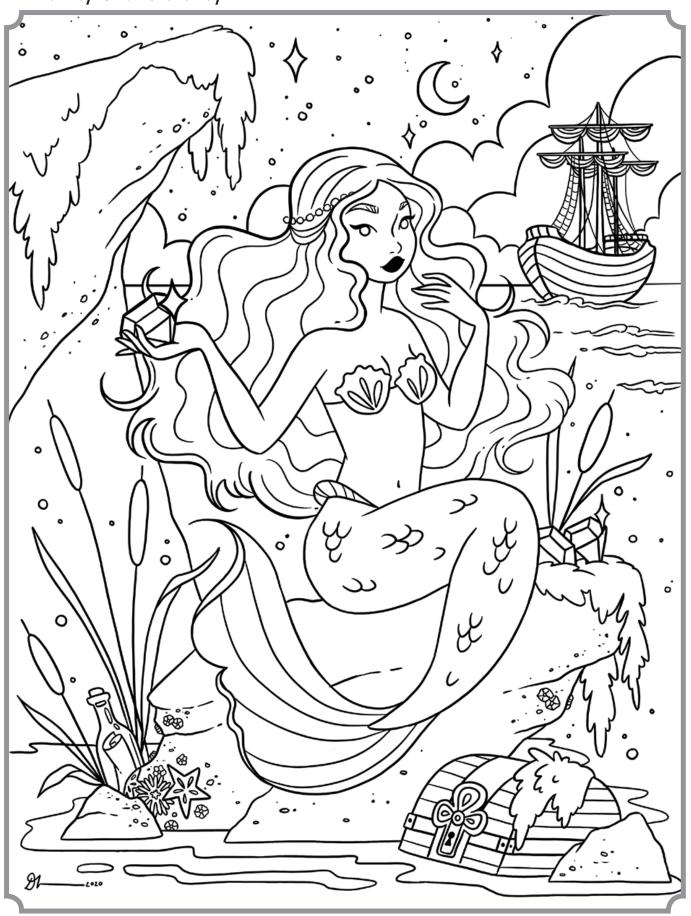
My favorite piece that I've made recently would be a simple pen and marker illustration for the Inktober challenge last year. I like it because I almost didn't finish it. I couldn't get the angle of the face right and was about to give up but I saw it through and completed it. Now it's one of my best selling prints in my shop!

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

Things are crazy right now but we are in this together! Isolation may be daunting, but none of us are really alone. There's a hashtag being used online called #alonetogether and I love that. Imagine if this happened a few decades earlier with the absent of social media. Technology now allows us to connect instantly with others. If you are feeling lonely, remember that a friend or family member is just a video call away!



Artwork by @DanielleBoinay



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ELIA PELLEGRINI

@ELIA_PELLE O BEHANCE.NET/ELIAPELLE

I'm Elia Pellegrini, an artist from Italy. I specialize in visual arts mixing light and colors with music. I've collaborated with the filmmaker Andrea Bassani for a project focusing on the US Air Force, and I created the illustration for two books of Ivan Nossa. In 2017 I published my first book called "The life that stood one meter away" that deals with the concept of Time. I also collaborated with Pixar Italia x Disney for the movie "Coco" and Disney x Marvel for the movie "Black Panther".



What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

I think the whole situation is somewhat surreal, the fact that we are talking about nothing more than the coronavirus and also that the days begin to fade together due to the absence of events particularly out of the routine. I'm making the most of this free time, continuing to create in multiple ways.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Continue to stay at home with your family and make the most of your time.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines? Give an example and why.

I think prefer to color outside the lines. When space extends to infinity the possibilities of creating new things grow.

Many people sing "Happy Birthday" but what is your favorite song to sing while washing your hands?

I know it may sound strange but I repeat the first digits of the number pi π .

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

I'm working on a completely CGI short film that deals with the topic "exploration and change of perspective". It's not finished yet but I'm sure it will become one of my best works. It comes from a story I wrote a few years ago and I am particularly interested in it so I decided to give it life in this way.



Artwork by Elia Pellegrini



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EVAYABAI

@EVAYABAI © TWITTER.COM/ZWITSCHEREVA

I'm a full-time-potato and catlady living in the very center of Germany's capitol Berlin, where I'm working as a designer/art-director in an advertising agency (like mad men:D). In my free time I'm a dedicated hobby artist. My style is a mixture of manga, Disney and comic. I especially enjoy drawing happy girls with dynamic lines and bright colors. Since the beginning of this year I've been obsessed with quick little sketches about my daily life which I'm sharing on my instastory.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I'm drawing, dancing, singing along to Disney songs, doing workouts and yoga sessions, going for a walk alone in the park nearby, working for my agency, watching Netflix, playing switch....

How is the quarantine affecting your work, if at all?

Regularly I'm working full-time in an advertising agency with my lovely co-workers. Though I'm an introvert I enjoy having people around me and socializing a little bit during the day. When the quarantine started it was a bit strange for me at first but I've gotten used to working from home by now.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Establish a morning routine! It's essential for your mental health and well-being. I'm starting my day with stretching, yoga, showering, coffee and a healthy breakfast before sitting at my workplace. I'm feeling awake and refreshed after that to start my daily to-do-list. Also search for some little projects that keep you busy to stay sane!! <3

Many people sing "Happy Birthday" but what is your favorite song to sing while washing your hands?

The catchphrase from TeamRocket has the same length as "Happy Birthday"

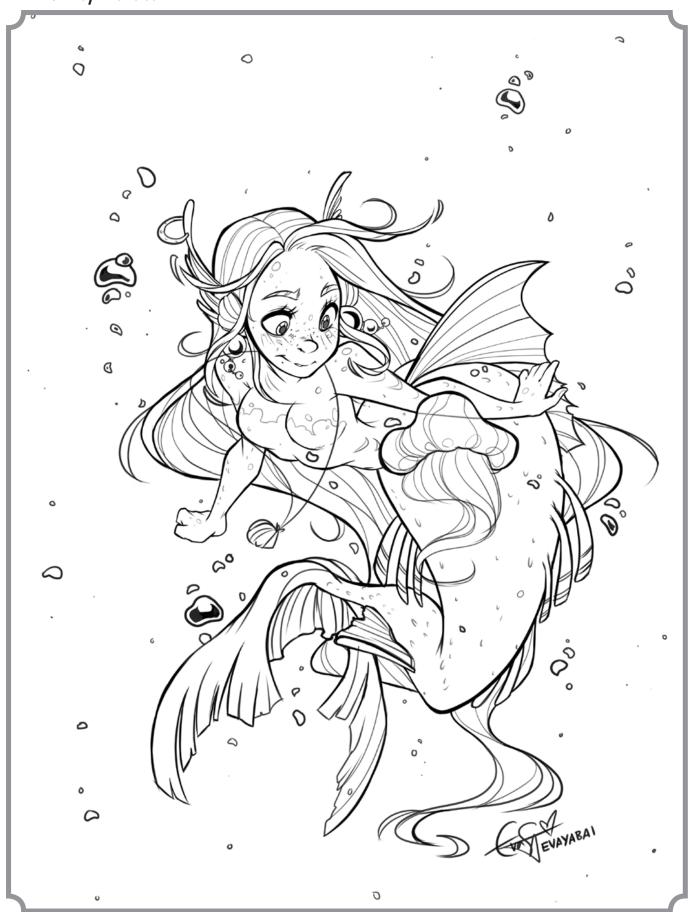
Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines??

Inside!! I especially enjoy coloring the face or the hair.

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

Stay healthy guys! I love you all! We're in this together and there'll be a time after all of this







ROTARR

@FLYQUEENART >> FLYQUEEN.NET

I'm a silly little person from the countryside of Austria, who enjoys meeting people for art-jams and drink & draws. I've doodled since I was old enough to hold a pencil. There have been many ups and downs but I've stuck with it for the majority of my life. I can't imagine a world without the joy of creating!



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I've mostly spent my time by talking to friends via Zoom and drawing, mainly. I already work from home so the quarantine hasn't affected me too much. What's surprised me most is how much you want to be outside when it's not allowed.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

Getting a hug from my husband.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Making gifts for friends is a great way to get the juices flowing again and you make somebody else happy in the process. But it's OK to not always have inspiration. We all need to take a break sometimes.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Just keep a sketchbook with you all the time and doodle whenever you can.

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

I doodle a lot, so I don't have a single favorite finished piece. I like my sketchbook in as a whole, just browsing through gives me motivation to draw more.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

I like to color inside the lines for the order of it but I get my freedom when I draw the lines in the first place.

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

This too shall pass. Just keep going and live in the moment.





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IZABELA ADAMI

I'm a Brazilian artist, I'm 27 years old and I've always been drawing since I was a child! I'm in love with animals and fantastic creatures, whether cute or scary. I've worked as a freelancer for the past 10 years, mainly by doing custom commissions, which is always a lot of fun and an honor for me to be able to have direct contact with my clients and followers of my art. I have a twin sister who is also an artist like me. Even though she and I have very different artistic styles, together we are like Batman and Robin, inseparable and always supporting each other no matter what.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Currently, I have used my isolation time to meditate, listen to philosophy lectures and read books on personal development, mind and emotions.

Do you have any tips for someone who feels bored or uninspired?

When I get bored or uninspired, I usually rely on two options. I can respect this moment of not having creativity by doing something that is not artistic, like watching Netflix or playing a game. Alternatively, I can use the moment as an opportunity to study the fundamentals of art since it is always good to be studying and looking to improve.

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

I don't usually have a favorite design because I'm always looking to improve each new piece. However, I always like to remember the moment I completed a drawing, the feeling I had while I was drawing it, and what I learned from each that I have done.

Many people sing "Happy Birthday" but what is your favorite song to sing while washing your hands?

The opening song from the show Steven Universe is great. Otherwise the music from Frozen II or pretty much any Disney song.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

Inside the lines, no doubt.





JADE MERIEN

@JADEMERIEN.COM

I have a passion for drawing surreal wildlife art, my favorite subject being big cats. I'm always trying to grow and learn, never feeling personally satisfied with my art, which can sometimes be frustrating, but it keeps me striving for improvement. I also love exploring the outdoors, hiking in the forest with my dogs, or kayaking out on the ocean. Sometimes it's good to wander, to not be afraid of new things or situations. The world can be a scary place, but it can also be a beautiful, extraordinary place, if you know where to look.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I have been working on commission, taking walks, and playing video games. I have actually seen little to no change as I always worked from home and never went anywhere.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Try guided meditation, a different form of exercise than you usually do, and watch an epic movie or show.

Any recommendations on shows or movies to binge-watch to pass the time?

Avatar the Last Airbender. The world Aang wakes up to is crazy, scary, and dangerous. He feels he can't handle it, but still stays positive, tries hard and never gives up despite the overwhelming odds against him.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

Oh my, I almost never use lines when I paint unless it's a loose gesture; I like big, bold shapes, sculpting with light and shadow as I paint, because then you discover so much more as you go.

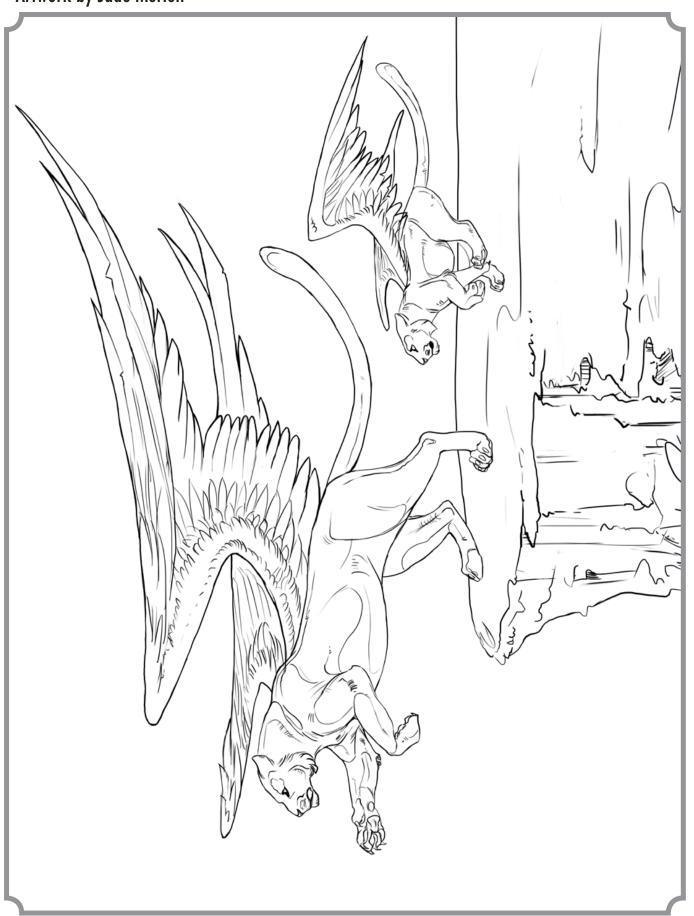
What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

It's one I haven't posted yet of a wolf with weird things growing out of it. I like it because it's different from my usual art.

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

Humans can be real jerks, but we have the most amazing ability to adapt and survive horrible situations. It's kinda what makes us so remarkable. You are not your thoughts, so try not to spend time worrying about what you cannot change. You are far, far stronger than you give yourself credit for.

Artwork by Jade Merien





JENNY RAE PHILLIPS

@JENRAEART 👩



JENNYRAEPHILLIPS.WIXSITE.COM/JENRAEART

I have been drawing for as long as I could hold a pencil and have followed my grandfather's footsteps as I have become more fond of producing art. I am nearly 26 years old and only really have been pursuing art as a career over the past couple of years. I mainly produce art in my spare time as I currently work full time for the water industry in the UK. As a critical worker, no mandatory self isolation for me! But I am distancing myself as much as possible, spending that time drawing to save my sanity!



What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

My favourite place to get inspiration is nature. I've always loved animals and the wonders of the wilderness. I find a great deal of comfort in the outdoors and am never disappointed by how beautiful it all is. The colours, cute little behaviors by animals, flowers. It's all perfect and amazing.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

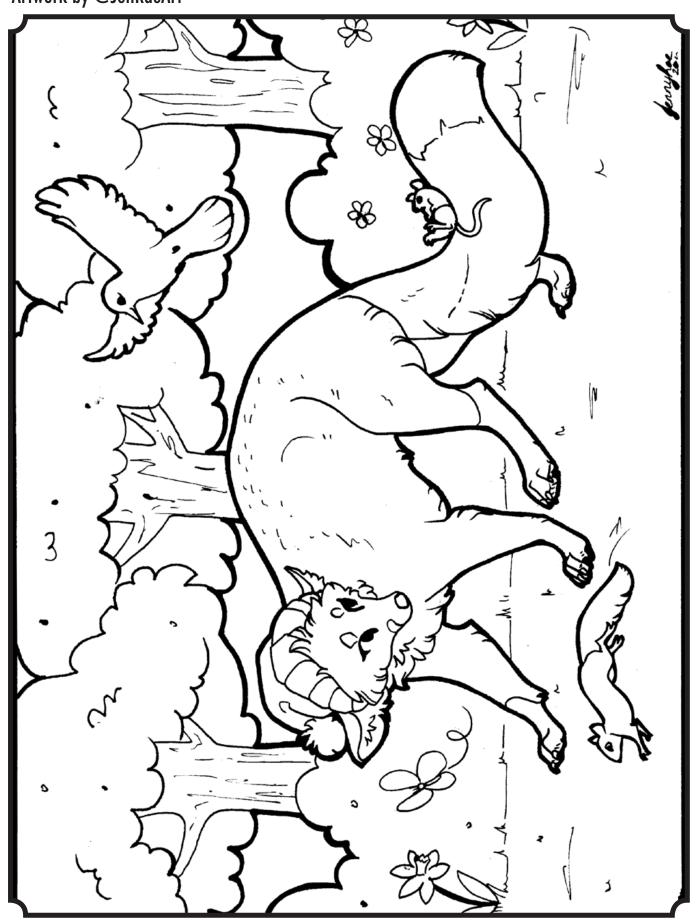
Art block can be a tricky thing to deal with. I find that I face it a lot, and have really struggled to get out of the rut. As I have had to deal with some mental illness over the past few years, I found that a lot of techniques that help with anxiety and depression can really tackle art block too (this makes me think they all stem from similar origins). My best tips are to get up and move. Blood flow and a change of scenery can be great boosts. Music in the background is great too. I used to watch TV, but found that was too distracting! Watch YouTube videos of artists creating and, best of all, scroll through Pinterest! You can find some really inspiring things by looking at what others have made!

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Be kind to yourself! It isn't selfish to look after your own well-being throughout the process of learning. Growing as an artist takes a lot of work, just like any skill. Persevere even when times are hard. Don't give up and definitely don't punish yourself if you don't think you are improving. There will be days where you just can't do what you want to do, and that's fine! Take a breather. It will be okay and tomorrow is a new day. You have totally got this, I believe in you!

Love and Hope, Jenny Rae





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JOJOESART

My name is Jonas Jödicke, aka JoJoesArt, and I'm a digital artist from Berlin, Germany. I am fascinated by the bipolar relationship between the forces governing our universe: cold and warmth, day and night, body and spirit. Portraying both sides of the spectrum creates a tension the viewer can feel inside of them. My paintings are known for their portrayal of majestic animals and magical sceneries, mixed with bold colours and spiritual themes - especially the interplay of Yin and Yang.



What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

Weirdly enough I suddenly feel the strong urge to go out and experience life, while I have usually spent lots of time on the inside and it didn't bother me. Maybe it is reverse psychology or I just like to swim against the stream and do whatever the mass is not doing? But rest assured, I am resisting that urge and obediently practicing social distance.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

I love meditating, praying a little, spending time with loved ones and - maybe most importantly - listening to Harry Potter audio books. These really keep me sane!

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Draw something every day. I struggle with it still, but I have seen the biggest improvement in the times I have practiced daily discipline. It doesn't have to be a super detailed, complex artwork every day. Just a quick sketch, doodle or study is enough. Just like with working out every day or meditating every day, these small actions form habits that ultimately alter your brain and you'll improve so quickly!

Any recommendations on shows or movies to binge-watch to pass the time?

I would recommend watching the Studio Ghibli movies on Netflix, such as Princess Mononoke or Spirited Away. These have been huge influences on my art style and each time I watch them, I get so inspired. Japanese mythology and artistry are simply otherworldly.

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

My all-time favourite piece is probably "Brotherhood", as it reflects a lot of my inner battles and what I try to express through my art: the interplay of Yin and Yang.





JONNA HYTTINEN

@SCANDY_GIRL O SCANDYGIRL.BIGCARTEL.COM

I'm Finnish artist located in the beautiful Northern Finland, Lapland. Turning 26 years old this year. Art has been my passion and escape from the world ever since I was a little. I never thought it would be the thing I'll do as a living. I'm Information technology engineer and graduated in 2017. But right after that, I set up my own little company and have been full time artist ever since. I love nature and animals, and recently I've been really into mythology too!



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Actually I'm such a hermit anyways that not much has changed for me. I mostly only see my hubby and I drive almost everyday to my work place where I'm completely alone. The only time i need to go out it is when I go ship orders or buy food. I live in a small village too, so there's not awfully lot of people here.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

Art has always been my way to process my feelings and of course my husband comforts me if I'm feeling down for some reason. Otherwise I love to play games!

If you could only make art with one type of art material, what would it be?

If it's just one material, I'd say clay. Never done any sculptures but with that material the possibilities are endless! Would be guite cool to turn something I've painted in 2D into 3D sculpture.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Do not get discouraged by the amount of followers you have. Smaller artists can also have a lot of customers and do just as well as people with big following. And after all it's not about the amount of people who follow your art, it's about you enjoying what you do:)

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

My favorite would actually be Sekhmet, the same drawing that the coloring page is based on. I've always struggled with backgrounds but decided this year that I'd try to do them more and I'm really happy how the background turned out on this piece.

Juan Hyth

Artwork by Jonna Hyttinen



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KATY LIPSCOMB

@KATY_LIPSCOMB © KATYLIPSCOMB.COM

Whether finding color in the most unexpected places or finding magic in the smallest of moments, Katy Lipscomb has always had an artistic eye for the world around her. Now, acting as the head of her own design firm, Katy shares the creatures she creates on almost every platform imaginable, from Children's Books to Augmented Reality. Katy Lipscomb LLC works to bring the joy of Katy's paintings into as many lives as possible, hoping to spark a similar curiosity and to share her contagious passion.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Currently I am happy to be at home in self quarantine with my husband and dog August. We have been working diligently on restructuring our business model, but have also found time to unwind in the evenings. We enjoy playing Super Smash Bros or binging the latest on selection on Netflix. While working at home is a normal occurrence for me, being in quarantine has allowed me to really focus on my 366 project which has been completing a new drawing every day for 2020.

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

The piece I am most proud of this year so far is my jaguar painting "Spots". It uses watercolor, colored pencil, and Finetec pearlescent Colours, which are still new to me. Now is a great time to experiment with media that might be outside your comfort zone!

Many people sing "Happy Birthday" but what is your favorite song to sing while washing your hands?

Float On by Modest Mouse. Singing that chorus a few times is always uplifting!

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

I know that it can be easy to succumb to cabin fever, but we are so lucky to be living in an age where everyone is connected and downloadable media is only a click away. Take this time to pursue a passion, read a physical or digital book, listen to podcasts, or play a game. When I am feeling particularly uninspired, I enjoy listening to fantasy novels or Steven King books on Audible. I also highly recommend the podcast "Rabbits" which is one of the most compelling mystery podcasts I have listened to! Also consider organizing virtual hangouts with friends and family! We're all in this together!

Mely pion



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KLOODWIG

@KLOODWIG © KLOODWIG.COM

I started my journey as an artist early on but eventually I lost sight of the joy it gave me. Now that it is a big focus in my life again, I try to make up for that lost time by creating and improving as much as I can. I've tested many different mediums but the thing I consistently enjoy the most is doing line art. Whether it's digital or traditional, drawing lines is the most enjoyable part of my process. I hope that if I keep practicing, I'll find the same satisfaction with color one day but, even if not, I am happy just creating characters and making vast worlds with my lines.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Art, art, art. Being in isolation puts more pressure on me to create.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Just start moving your hand. Often we try to come up with some grand idea that is going to be worth working on or coming up with goals we can work towards. Take a piece of paper or your tablet and start with a doodle of the first thing that comes to mind. Draw what you see, draw a face, draw from reference. It doesn't have to be the best thing ever, it doesn't have to have a big meaning. Just start moving your hand and make a habit out of drawing, don't wait for inspiration.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Practice what you enjoy. I think a lot of artists that are starting out focus too much on drawing in a "style". The way you draw things, the way you paint the world will become very "you" over time. Just draw the things you enjoy, draw them many times in any way you can imagine. Also, references are you friends, use them. It doesn't matter if you look at an object/person directly or from a photo, draw what you see or just draw the parts you like. 90% of art I share online was created using references and the 10% that wasn't could only be imagined because I've learned from so many references in the past.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines? Give an example and why.

I want to color inside the lines but color makes my brain go blank. I often loose myself in coloring and I end up changing my lines with color to a point that I don't enjoy my finished piece anymore.

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

I think I still prefer most of my sketches in my sketchbook or on my iPad more then anything I call a finished piece.

Stay safe and take care -Kloodwig

Artwork by Kloodwig



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My name is Karolina and I love drawing spooky and nostalgic images. The most important thing to me is to connect with people through my art and to tell them a story they might relate to. I love fantasy, horror, Lord of the Rings, Studio Ghibli amd traveling! I hope my lineart will brighten everyone's day during these tough times.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I spend my time drawing and watching Netflix. I try not to let the distancing affect me.

What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

What's surprised me most is how I'm apparently good at it, haha. I spend most of time indoors drawing.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Try to browse art online, it may help you find something inspiring!

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

Inside, I just feel like I have to fix less later.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

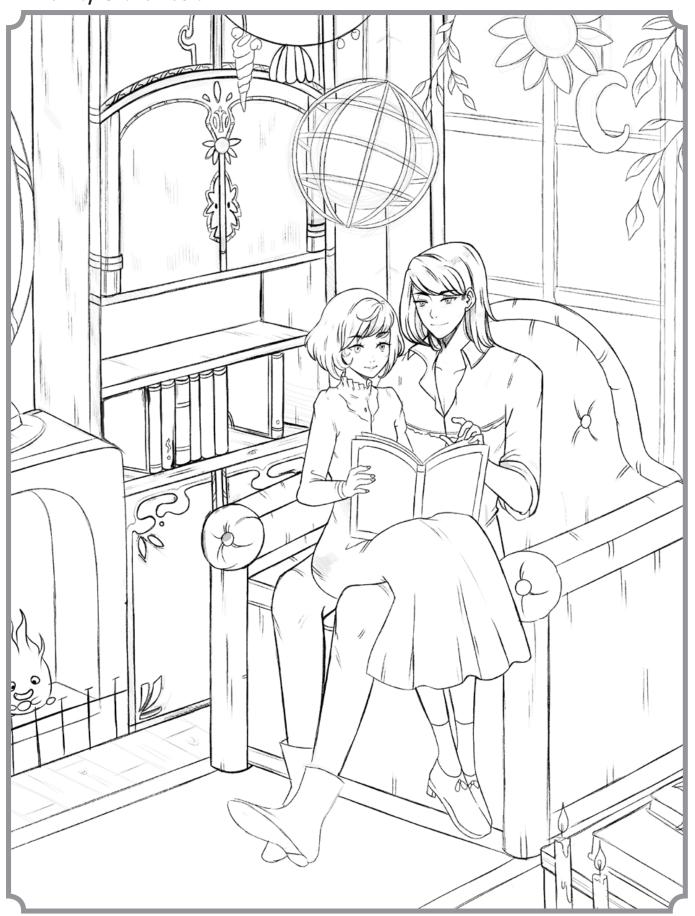
Drawing and loved ones

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

Never give up. Keep going even if times are tough! It's worth the effort :)

Lantons

Artwork by @LarienneChan



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LIZ BOUDREAU

I am a Georgia-based wildlife illustrator and enthusiast. I graduated from the University of Georgia with my BFA in Drawing and Painting, continuing my path in freelance illustration and teaching paint classes. My passion is capturing the life and essence of nature, celebrating the beauty of all its interwoven elements. I greatly enjoy the study of species, both in anatomy and interactions with the ecosystem as a whole. Blending the scientific beauty and emergent artfulness of nature gives me endless inspiration.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

My studio is my happy place - this is where I go to create, escape for a bit and find inner happiness. It's nice to have some devoted time to work on projects, both personal and for clients. Recently I picked up "Breath of the Wild" (I know...what took me so long?). This extra time indoors has proven to be perfect for the game! I think I'm hooked.

How is the quarantine affecting your work, if at all?

I teach paint classes a couple times a week, but those have all been canceled for however long the epidemic lasts. To counter that, my art time has increased, so there is extra opportunity to work on client art. It's all about finding the balance right now.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Learn to accept critique and grow from it. It can be difficult to hear the negative, especially if you felt positive about a piece or project. Train yourself to separate the personal self from the artist self and listen to the critique. Even if you don't take every bit of advice, paying attention and pondering is important. True critique is also a rare gem that should be valued when someone is brave or mindful enough to give it.

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

My absolute favorite recent piece has been a sea lion watercolor illustration. During the quarantine, I have been practicing my watercolor brush strokes and texture to create more interesting backgrounds. Watercolor is my primary medium, but there is always room to improve and especially get back to the basics to train better habits. Essentially, I'm trying to better master a skill I enjoy and continue growing!

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

We are a community and must continue to help each other. Stay strong, be mindful and reach out to anyone in need. We will make it!

Thyshel But

Artwork by Liz Boudreau



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I'm a visual artist, child of God, and a self-proclaimed goofball. I paint my images to emulate the vibrancy and glow of a stained-glass window. I believe that sharing our light is the most important thing we can do in inspiring and loving others, and like a stained-glass window, our full brilliance is revealed only by having that light shine through.

ETSY.COM/SHOP/MANDIEMANZANOART



How is the quarantine affecting your work, if at all?

I'm staying positive, helping others, and sharing my passion during this time. Hoping to create some smiles. During the day, I am a music teacher. I miss my students but it is nice to be able to have this time to create more and to share some coloring sheets with them, their families, and others in our community/world. It's amazing how when you're stuck indoors the "artsy-fartsy bug" likes to bite you more than usual!

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Find your muse! Maybe you've tried painting but felt like giving up. Don't! Pick up some charcoal, write a story, or play the oboe! (Okay it's hard to find an oboe let alone play one) Whatever you've had an interest in, go and spark it. You never know what will stick. A student of mine hated painting, but one day he played around with some clay and discovered he was pretty good at sculpting. Now he is phenomenal because he kept working at it!:)

Any recommendations on shows or movies to binge-watch to pass the time?

I've been binge-watching my favorite films like Star Wars, the Harry Potter series, Lord of the Rings, anything with Chris Farley in it, opera or Broadway performances, Parks and Recreation or The Office I focus on fun, exciting, and "feel-good" stuff to keep my head positive during this time!

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines? Give an example and why.

Personally I stay inside the lines because I'm very OCD about color. Before I paint or color, I organize all of my colored pencils in their order and if I color outside the line I try to fix it or start over! I appreciate the people that color outside of the lines. They are able to make it look absolutely fantastic and that's a extra helping of talent all on its own!



Artwork by Mandie Manzano



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MARGARETMORALES.COM

Margaret Morales is a Filipino visual artist and illustrator. She is known for her stylized watercolor portraits in surreal settings with flowing lines and vibrant colors. Her artworks depict the tales of women encapsulated in a dream-like state. The theme of her evolving art is rooted in her love for natural elements, contemporary artists, RPG games, fantasy images and Japanese culture. She worked as a Graphic and User Interface Designer for 5 years before pursuing her art full-time.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Aside from painting, I'm reading a lot about pregnancy and motherhood. It's not the best time to be pregnant but it actually brightens my day knowing that a life is growing inside me right now.

What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

I've noticed that the simplest things can entertain people, if they choose to be happy and contented with it.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

I play with our dog, eat something cold, talk to my husband or draw one of my favorite characters.

What podcast or audiobook is your favorite to draw to?

Any fantasy or contemporary books. I love the stories that make me imagine worlds or creatures!

Any recommendations on shows or movies to binge-watch to pass the time?

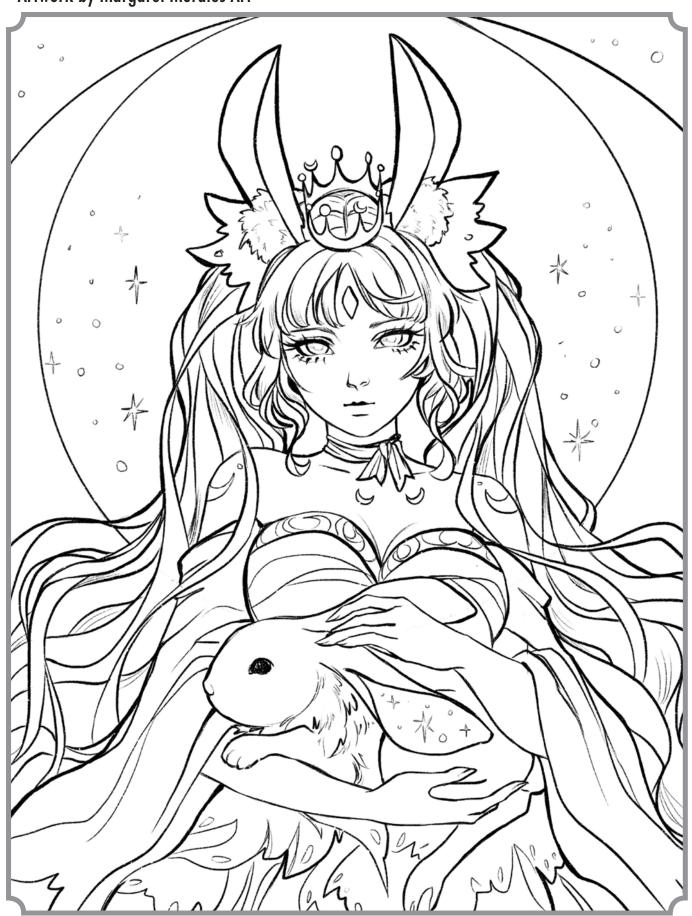
Maybe something cheerful and action-packed like the anime Haikyuu or the Marvel movies. They never fail to entertain our family and it's a good stress-reliever.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Jump out of your comfort zone once in a while and try to learn something new everyday.

Margaret Mosales

Artwork by Margaret Morales Art



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NIKOLAOS KAFASIS

@NIKOLAS_TOWER © NIKOLASTOWER.COM

Nikolaos Kafasis, also known as Nikolas Tower, is an artist based out of Greece. He is inspired by nature, anime, fantasy books, video games, ancient Greek and Asian culture, and mythology. Nikolas' stylized compositions are characterized by organic motifs such as spirals, flowing lines and abstract elements, surrounding female & male portraiture. Through his watercolor Illustrations of otherworldly, tranquil and mysterious women & men, he is trying to convey a world of silent human feelings that cannot easily be expressed in words; a Cosmos in Silence.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

As creatively and productively as possible but, trying to stay chill too. Social distancing gives me a lot of time to paint and prepare upcoming works while also allowing me to enjoy a movie night!

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Don't be hard on yourself! Feeling sometimes uninspired is also part of finding what actually inspires you! Maybe trying out this coloring book could help:)

What podcast or audiobook is your favorite to draw to?

It depends on what I am drawing. Most of the time, I put some Lo-Fi or Jazz livestream on in the background, especially when I need to focus on the piece. For more relaxed works, I might put on a movie.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

Both!! Either of these techniques shows a different coloring approach but, I often like to combine them!

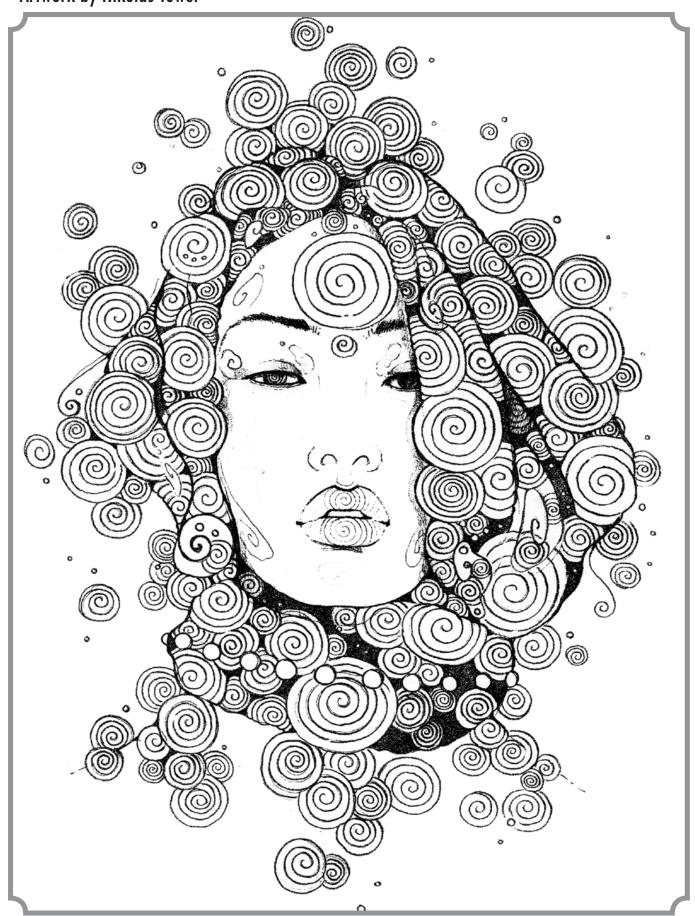
What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

One my favorite pieces is "Tacenda", which means "things better left unsaid". It holds great personal value to me and I really like how it turned out! This is the reason why I put it into the cover of my recent art book, but also why I decided to create a second piece based on that theme.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Experiment as much as you can! Try out different art mediums, combine them and see what happens!

Lujásorz



PEANUTBUTTERJULITIME

@PEANUTBUTTERJULITIME BASED IN THE USA

I'm a peanut butter fueled, California based, full-time Product Designer working in the Toy Industry. When I'm not at work doodling toys, I like to doodle (mostly fantastical critters) in my sketchbook at home. I also think trees, mountains, snowboarding, vegetables, and video games are the jam. Watercolor and pencils make my heart smile, and I hope coloring some fancy critters can make your heart smile a little too.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

When not working, I've been trying to get outside on hikes when safely possible. When inside I've been working, hanging out with my husband, playing video games, sketching in my sketchbook, chatting with friends and family, and trying to do (at least some) organization. We also recently got a puppy, so it's a great opportunity to spend time with her and teach her new things!

What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

I didn't realize how often I want to go out and do something, or get something for a project! I'm a pretty introverted person so I usually don't mind spending time at home, but this experience has changed my perspective a little.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

Spending time with my husband. He is the best teammate and is always there to offer support.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Try to sketch everyday! The more you do it, the more you can learn and improve. It's not like riding a bike... you'll get rusty if you don't do it!

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

A little bit of both. It can be great to use the existing lines as a springboard to create something new.

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

This year has been very challenging, but it's also been encouraging to see how resilient and compassionate people can be. I hope everyone is able to continue to comfort and support each other, we'll get through this!



Artwork by PeanutButterJuliTime





PETER BROCKHAMMER

@PIETMAEN.COM

Hey my name is Peter! I'm a character designer and illustration artist based in Berlin. While studying at BTK University of Art and Design, I specialized in character design, illustration, animation and concept art. I grew up being influenced by Disney, Studio Ghibli, and Naoko Takeuchi, but old painters like Caravaggio and Mucha also influence my style. You can always find me sketching to stay in touch with my environment and to practice. I like that I can carry my ideas with me without getting overly carried away.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I do have more time to work on my personal projects which makes me quite happy since I feel that I can finally finish them soon. I'm having almost daily Google Hangouts with friends but I would say that we might even see each other way more often now. Especially when it comes to my artist squad, we are having a really nice exchange of ideas which has a super motivating effect.

What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

It's insane how checking online updates on a regular base can make you crazy in your brain. But when you go outside for a walk, everything is so relaxed and calm. That's why my boyfriend and I decided to go for a walk for one hour every day the get things off our chest and out of our minds.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Get yourself a sketchbook, carry it with you where ever you are so that you can be ready to put your ideas and studies on paper.

Many people sing "Happy Birthday" but what is your favorite song to sing while washing your hands?

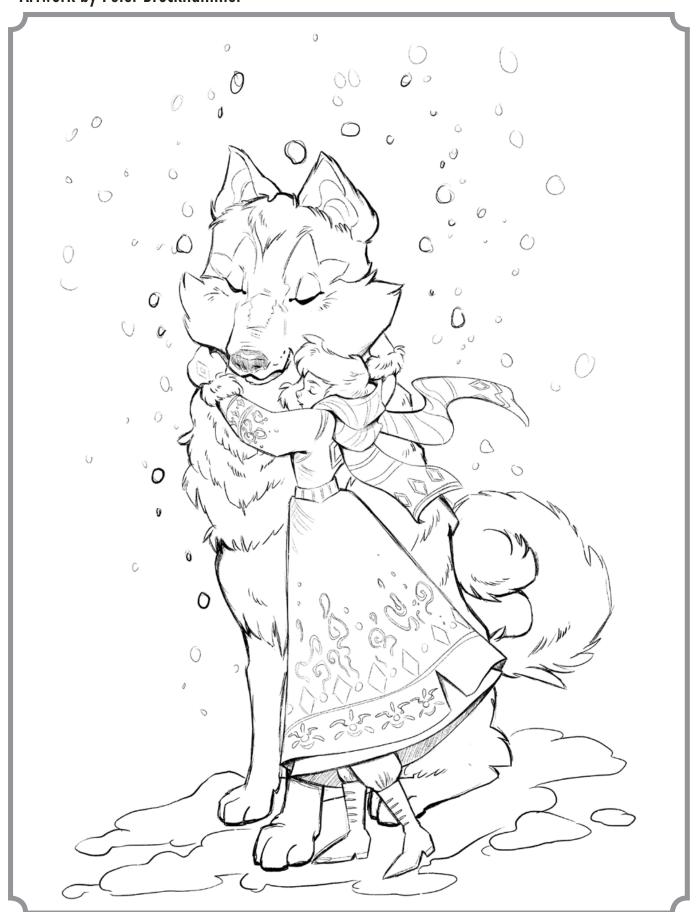
Under the Sea by The Little Mermaid. "Darling it's better, Down where it's wetter, Take it from me!"

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

My favourite piece that I've made is the 'Amazonian Guardian' which I did for Earthdraw by 3dtotal where we collected money to reforest the rainforest after the forest fires.

John Som

Artwork by Peter Brockhammer



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NANA (PUFFS)

@PUFFYGATOR © PUFFYGATOR.COM

Hello there! I'm an illustrator/sculptor who's shy as a clam, but loves sharing animal art. They can be wonderfully therapeutic, and help tell the stories we have. I am grateful to have shared their uplifting ability in books, toy designs, augmented reality and more. Animals have a marvelous way of providing comfort in challenging times. Sending you good vibes on your coloring adventure!



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Drawing, watching miniature food videos, & planting random seeds I find.

What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

Finding seeds that I did not bring inside.

What podcast or audiobook is your favorite to draw to?

I love "Welcome to Night Vale" and its small town oddities.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Maybe a break can help, or browsing for new interests. You might find something to bring on your return.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Don't let go of your reason for drawing, what you like your unique voice. Mine were almost taken away at times, but holding them close is valuable.

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

Things can be worrying, but there are those who do their best to help and comfort. If you focus on the good, there can be an overwhelming amount of kindness out there. Someone has offered to fetch groceries for me due to my immune issues and friends reach out online to talk. It's been such a relief for me. Good people shine brighter in hard times, and they truly want the best for us. Sending you good vibes,





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RJ Palmer is a concept artist and illustrator from California, based in the San Francisco Bay Area. He specializes in creature design for film and video games and his art has been featured the world over. You might know him from his series of realistic Pokemon illustrations that got him a job designing Pokemon for Detective Pikachu (2019).



How is the quarantine affecting your work, if at all?

I was already working from home as a freelancer so things haven't really changed too much for me. At one point when freelancing I did not leave my property for around three months. I am somewhat uniquely prepared for a situation like this. Just been plugging away at work but now with the added joy of stressing about the apocalypse.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Get a subscription to all the streaming services. Occupy your restless mind with content going in the background at all times. I find it's hard to feel bored when there is stuff going 100% of the time.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Draw for fun but draw with purpose. Plan to learn something new with each piece you are creating. Comfort zone is great but be sure to step outside of it once in a while.

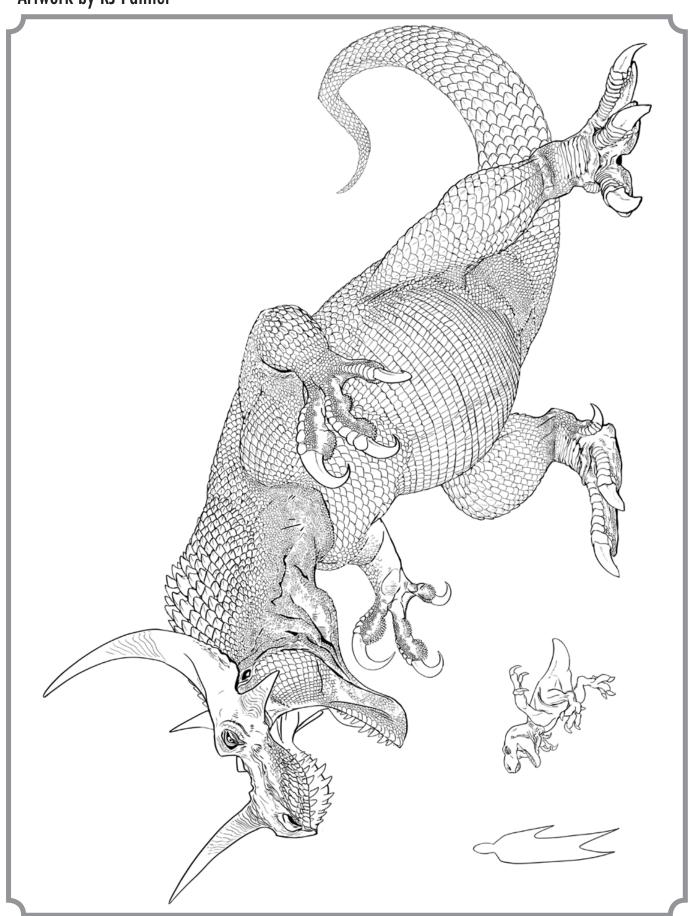
What podcast or audiobook is your favorite to draw to?

Behind the Bastards or Knowledge Fight have been my go-to's lately. Behind the Bastards is a hilarious deep dive into history's worst people. Knowledge Fight is somewhat related but its specifically a deep dive into history's worst Alex Jones. That guy is extremely terrible and it's nice to hear people taking up the good fight against him.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

I am quite fond of my Rathalos https://www.deviantart.com/arvalis/art/Rathalos-825590238 It took me the better part of last year to complete. It is an intensely personal subject for me and I struggled greatly to finish it.





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RONALD ONG

@RONNALDONG BASED OUT OF MALAYSIA

Hi there! I'm Ronald, a 23 years old self-learned Photoshop artist that goes by @ronnaldong on Instagram. Also, I'm a 4th year medical student. I'm so driven by the concept of minimalism art so I've incorporated into my artwork. I find I can explore my weird ideas much easier through drawings than I can through words. I hope you enjoy my artwork!



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I think being stuck indoors doesn't necessarily mean as a bad thing. I enjoy working from home so it's a great opportunity for me to settle down and think through what has been happening lately in our world. I'm currently back in my hometown, spending some time away from studies and working on creating new concepts for my Instagram page.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Do what makes your heart feels alive, that's it. You can never force inspiration, take your time and let it comes as it goes..

What podcast or audiobook is your favorite to draw to?

Recently I have been reading *Digital Minimalism: Choosing a Focused Life in a Noisy World* written by Cal Newport. You should definitely check it out, it's amazing!

Any recommendations on shows or movies to binge-watch to pass the time?

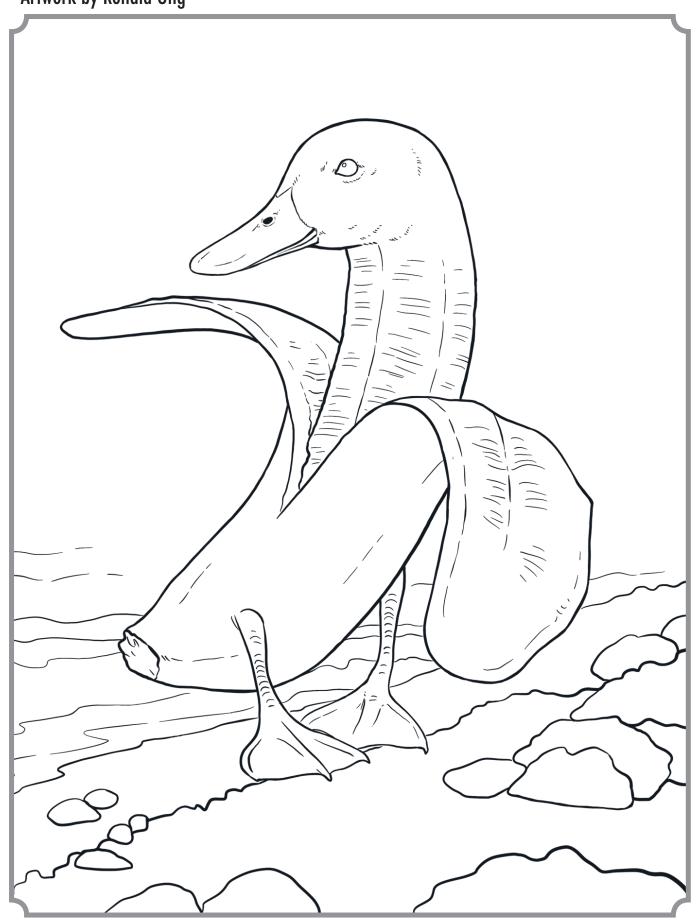
Since I'm a Netflix user, I would recommend few TV series such as Stranger Things, Black Mirror (this series make you think A LOT), Friends, The Office and Breaking Bad.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Keep on practicing, lots of perseverance and most importantly, LOVE WHAT YOU DO...

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

Keep going people, spend this period of quarantine to reflect upon yourselves! We will get through this together.



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BENJAMIN CEHELSKY

@RYKYART O DEVIANTART.COM/RYKY

I'm a 27 years old Czech artist. I've drawn almost every day since my childhood but I started posting on the internet in 2004. I've tried so many different styles during time, it has taken years to find my own. I've always loved colors and glowy things and by using this I want to express my feelings and show you my own world. Of course i love painting but best time to spend, is with my family, friends and my cat Abby. I just enjoy life, making the most of every minute.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Painting, watching Netflix and eating! I work from my home so i don't feel like I'm in quarantine while working.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

The internet is full of interesting videos. Try to learn something new, like how to draw hands or a second eye! But it doesn't have to be something to do with drawing. Maybe I'll see if can learn how to sing, is this possible? I'm sorry neighbors!:D

Any recommendations on shows or movies to binge-watch to pass the time?

Stranger Things is so cool and epic! The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina is funny, relaxing and scary all at the same time! I'll watch Elite when i want to cry.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

Honestly, in my painting process, i don't even make lines. But if i had to choose, I'd choose inside the lines!

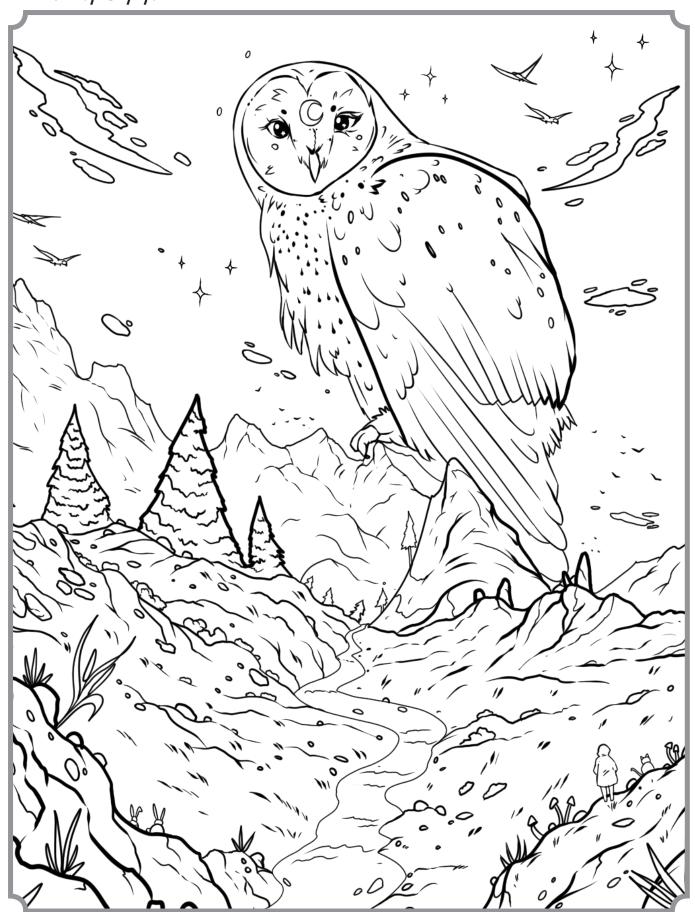
What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

Every piece of mine is my favorite because each one is made for a reason.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Never stop trying! Everything needs its time.





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SARINA JÖDICKE

@SAPHINA_ART © ETSY.COM/SHOP/SAPHINAART

I have been drawing, painting and crafting since I was little but I have not always wanted to become an artist. Back then I wanted to be an author, so I could write and publish books. When I was abroad in England at the age of 17, I discovered a love for children's book. As an Au Pair I used to read so many to the kids I was taking care of. Soon after that I fell in love with illustrations and the craft of telling stories using pictures. And I still do!



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I try to get as much variety throughout the day as possible. Sometimes that is FaceTiming my family. Sometimes that is learning new things, like French braiding my own hair. I have also downloaded the app TikTok now and am very keen on learning how to shuffle. My poor neighbors haha.

What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

I've become aware of the privilege that we had to go out before and not having to lack anything. It is often in the times of trouble that you truly appreciate the things you always took for granted but now miss.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

My biggest comfort is the knowledge that there are ALWAYS better days ahead. Also, I know that I can make the best out of any situation. I just need to break my routines and find new ones that suit the situation. That process can be guite adventurous too.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

In an artistry way, I mostly feel uninspired when I don't have anything to say: no opinion and no message to pass on. What helps against that is reading, researching, becoming involved in other peoples projects, and developing a passion in certain topics that interest you. When you know what you wanna say it will guide you on how to express it in the right way to reach others. Having a goal in mind helps with the drive that keeps you going. And on that way there are so many great new things that can inspire you for more. Just keep your eyes open!

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Don't be too hard on yourself and don't compare yourself too much to others. You don't have to be like them, rather be yourself and give the world your special uniqueness that's not out there yet. Don't fear to try out new things. Enjoy the way!



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SARA TEPES

@SARUCATEPES © SARUCATEPES.COM

Hey! My name is Sara Tepes, and I'm a college student studying Graphic Design, Studio Arts, and Photography. I was born in Romania but now live in the United States. I love anything peach flavored and have I two dwarf rabbits (and a crazy dog and cat). In my free time, I like to check out new recipes from my favorite cookbook and watch The Office. I have a YouTube channel on which I post regular process videos of my art.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I'm catching up on Patreon work and planning lots of YouTube videos! I'm also spending time cleaning, watching Netflix, and playing with my cat, Klaus. I personally really thrive when I'm alone and have time to think and write.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

Self-care really helps me when I'm down. The quarantine has hit right as I'm going through a heavier time in my personal life. I've been focusing on keeping my environment clean, as well as taking showers and baths and doing my makeup even though no one is going to see me. Putting on a cute outfit and treating myself well helps me be in a good mindset.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Write about how you feel; stream of consciousness writing always helps me process my emotions. Lists and setting manageable goals also helps me with planning out bigger projects. Also, drawing from references that I wouldn't usually gravitate towards helps to keep me with a fresh mindset. Try a new recipe, video call your friends, and do some spring cleaning!

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Watching lots of process videos from other artists has helped me grow significantly. YouTube helped me learn new techniques and inspired me to continue drawing and painting when I was trying to get into art. Even recording your own timelapses is insanely satisfying to watch back, and they make you feel more like a legitimate artist (at least my process videos do!).

Any specific words of encouragement to leave off on?

You got this! Make sure to open your windows and blast some good music if you're feeling down. Do whatever self care makes you feel good about yourself, and reach out to other artists online and encourage one another!





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SEERLIGHT

@SEERLIGHT © SEERLIGHTART.COM

Heyo, I'm Ronald Kuang. I go by the name SeerLight online. Like many artists I've been drawing for the majority of my life. I love Anime and video games as much as I love drawing. Naturally, these two things I love found a way to merge together into the type of work I create. I hope that people enjoy my creations as much as I enjoy working on them.



How is the quarantine affecting your work, if at all?

I work from home, so there hasn't been too big an effect. I haven't been able to go out to get boba whenever I like now. The most surprising thing is how much I miss going out now that I have to stay indoors.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

Playing video games, catching up on anime, do some drawing.

Any recommendations on shows or movies to binge-watch to pass the time?

Fullmetal Alchemist, Anohana, Violet Evergarden, Hinamatsuri, Re:Zero, Natsume Yuujinchou

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

My M1-K0 ghost in the shell inspired piece. It was tons of fun to animate a beautiful girl suddenly have their face open up to reveal their android machine parts.

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

Literally? I like coloring inside lines because I don't like to be messy with lines. Figuratively? I love to teeter right on the edge of the lines and sometimes step right out of it.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

There is no shame in using references and taking inspiration from artists' you admire. And of course PRACTICE.





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TOSHIASAN

@TOSHIASAN © ETSY.COM/SHOP/TOSHIASAN

I'm just a girl who likes to draw:) I'm self-taught and I feel like I still learn something new every day. I find inspiration in small little things, it can be moss on an old roof, wet grass after rain or a little ladybug walking on the pavement! I believe that beauty is in details and that details create a story. I really want to tell a story with my illustrations, I wish the viewer would get lost in details and read the art almost like a book, finding beauty in the chaos.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

I'm trying to take one day at a time, I'm tidying every nook in the house that needed a new arrangement and trying out new placements of house equipment that I always wanted to see if it could work. Yesterday I took out really old box of puzzles from my basement and will give them a try! :D

How is the quarantine affecting your work, if at all?

Self employment has it's ups and downs. The opening of my Etsy shop had to be suspended as I'm not able to ship international orders. Unfortunately that also goes for sending out any original works and commissions. Thankfully I can still take digital commissions and I'm also considering opening my Patreon.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

When I'm not around my loved ones who I can hug onto, I listen to lo-fi music, watch an uplifting movie, take a hot bath, or try to meditate (which I am currently really terrible at).

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Try to find the things that inspire you the most. See what gives you that spark of joy. Is it bright neon colors and funky outfits or is it elegant black lace dress, demons and crows? Whatever it is go for it and don't force yourself to draw things you don't want to! Seek inspiration in the unlimited resources of the internet and you will discover your style. Every one of us is completely different, even if you feel like you're "copying" someone else, there is something you can add from your perspective and experiences.

We are all in this together!



Artwork by ToshiaSan



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LEONTINE VAN VLIET

I am a 24 year old full time pet portrait and wildlife artist from the Netherlands. I work in colored pencil, pastels and graphite. Next to commissioned work I also teach drawing online, which I really love! I focus on photorealism.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

Working! I work from home, so luckily it doesn't affect my work week. I am noticing I am getting less inquiries for commissioned work. I will probably do a lot more yoga though!

What's surprised you the most about being stuck indoors?

What's surprising is the fact that I don't mind it at all! I like being alone with my stuff and coming up with ways to entertain myself.

What podcast or audiobook is your favorite to draw to?

I really like Andrew Tischler's art podcast

Do you enjoy coloring inside the lines or outside the lines?

Inside...I'm such a perfectionist.

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

I recently made a Snow Leopard with colored pencil and pastels. It has a certain feel to it that my other work doesn't have. I love that drawing!

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Don't compare your work too much to other artists. Especially if it's not a fair comparison, if the other artist has more experience for instance. Follow your own path and draw the things you enjoy drawing.

NEVER GIVE UP!

Leontine van Vliet

Artwork by Tinesdierportretten_nL



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MICHELLE

Michelle is a British artist based in Gloucestershire. She specializes in finely detailed ink work that largely features wildlife and anatomical elements. Her work explores the volatile and often hostile relationship between man and nature by intertwining human and animal anatomy together. Although sometimes unsettling, her pieces convey the message that, despite our ego, both man and beast are built of the same blood and bone. Clients include Metallica and The Anchorage Brewing Company.



How are you spending your time while social-distancing?

To be honest, not a lot has changed in my day to day! I'm fortunate to have client work on the go that is still going ahead. What has been a big change is not going to the post office to post orders and I do miss the exercise and pottering around town whilst I'm there. I think what's surprised me is how much I miss seeing my friends. Now that I can't, I really wish I could see them in person.

What is your biggest comfort when you're feeling down?

My hamster is an amazing distraction. Her name is Ripley Ham Salad and she is the love of my life.

Do you have any tips for someone who might feel bored or uninspired?

Lack of Inspiration is a tough one! If you're an artist I would say to try and create someone based on what you're feeling at that time. If you're sad or bored, create something based on that. Make a comic, story, or drawing on what you are feeling. A lot of the time it's just STARTING the thing that's the hardest and once you do it becomes a lot easier. If it doesn't turn into anything, that's okay too. It usually cathartic just to try!

What's your favorite piece that you've made lately and why?

My favourite and most proud pieces I've done recently is the work I did for Metallica back in September. They're one of my favourite bands and working with them has been the highlight of my career.

What is one thing you'd recommend to growing artists?

Keep going. Your art is going to be stagnant for a long time and it feels like you're not getting anywhere. But just keep going and keep creating.

Wishing you love and howls,

WolfSkullJack



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