

Destinations

My piece is about the future. It contains both my fears and my hopes for my life in 10 years, with the two represented on opposite sides of the canvas. I chose to focus on the extremes, with my worst fears and most earnest hopes expressed, intentionally neglecting the gray areas between the two. This way I hoped to create an interesting dichotomy, to strengthen the piece.

My biggest concern for my future is that I end up a slave to the almighty dollar, and my career becomes my life. I don't want to drive to the same office every day and sit under the same fluorescent lights in the same swivel chair for the rest of my life. I fear the clutches of the paycheck and opportunities for advancement. That is not who I am. I need a more unstructured environment. Something more connected to our physical world, as opposed to the enigmatic world of business. Without that sort of connection I fear I would suffocate.

I try to express these feelings through symbolism in the piece. On the left, I have myself standing against a very dreary and ominous cityscape, blindfolded as if being executed by a firing squad. But instead of the squad, a swarm of rabid briefcases with razor sharp teeth are lunging towards me, ready to devour my resigned soul and integrate it into their system. Contrasting this, on the right I have myself in a wooden row boat, slowly making my way to an isolated island as the sun sets behind me. This is meant to symbolize my hopes for a liberated future that is more connected to the natural world and less focused on "progress" and getting things done as fast as possible. My unkempt appearance and dress is also supposed to reflect this more natural focus of my life.

I hope that the viewer takes away an understanding of my aspirations and fears for the future. With this knowledge they'll hopefully get an idea of what kind of a person I am, which could later help them understand other artwork of mine that is hung around this piece.