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.RAW Journal of Art and Design is a quarterly digital and print magazine committed to being an active source for art and design in the San Luis Obispo community. .RAW acts as a centralized public space for student work in photography, video, graphic design and studio art produced in the Department of Art and Design at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Since its founding as a class project in Professor Lana Z Caplan’s Winter 2017 Editorial Photography class, twenty quarterly issues have been entirely student published. This is the fifth annual issue, containing selections from the previous three quarterly issues.

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WISP
ELISE COATNEY
Disintegrating structures stretch and reach across a hazy field of color.

Red Experiment
KELSEY AMANN
Two figures coated in red make a promise that only one of them intends to keep.
Mint Julep

CELESTE IBARRA

Photographs taken of Mac Saturn at their recent show downtown!

Melt Away

AIDAN HARPER

Created in the darkroom by pouring and splattering developer onto fiber based prints.
Lovesick!
ERIN ROBINSON

When most people think of love they think of something innocent and sweet, but what happens when that innocent, sweet love turns sickly?
This series explores the dichotomy between the beauty of trans people and how they have been increasingly demonized in the media. I wanted to use harsh light on soft, private moments between trans lovers and juxtapose these with borders that give an aggressive, harsh feeling to encourage the audience to dissect their own understanding of this political movement against trans people and access to gender affirming care.
Women in White

MAKAYLA GROGAN

Running through these buildings and halls is a woman in white. Forever looking for the man that wasn’t there when she needed him most.

A Silent Demise

IAN GEDDES

The art piece that I created captures the idea that all emotions, experiences, and thoughts come to an end eventually, some of which may be somber and others uplifting. When I produced this piece, I was going through a period of change that marked the conclusion of various experiences from my past. I decided to internalize these emotions and illustrate them in this work. Although the subjects and elements are simple and not representational in their literal forms, I feel that they give an accurate visual depiction of my thoughts at the time.
Welcome to my Island

CHLOE KERN

A selection of images creating a dreamy mirage of life on an island.
Dear Diary, I Belong

ARI SCHWARZ

This piece is about belonging within the CSU system. Finding a safe space in a university of over 20k students. For many young queer students, college is the first time they can find a safe space to belong and clubs can do that for many students.

Spire & Smoke Stack

FIN SMITH

Experiments in digital trichromatic photography.
FRANK COOKE

The world is big. There are many stories to tell and lives to live. We may not get to see all of them, or even understand the ones we do see, but the chaos of all of these stories is what gives our world such intrigue and purpose.

JACKIE ESPITIA

Inspired by the JACKBOYS album.
In the Spotlight!

NATALIA CELEBRINI

Lighting set up created using multiple projectors, and multiple studio sweeps. Model is fellow second year Art & Design student Kiley Gustin.

Sal De Ahi

RENE BASSO-MEDEL

Sometimes not seeing what’s out there is more terrifying than seeing it.
Create Change for the Unhoused
HALINA HERC

Lack of affordable housing is the leading cause of homelessness. Providing safe shelter and a sense of ‘normal’ is vital. No individual should have to rely on a shopping cart to be their home. Everyone is deserving of a roof over their heads and a bed to sleep in.

Entranced
SARAH TARQUIN

This piece is based on the feeling of being completely absorbed into something whether it is an activity, work, or the feeling of being high. I wanted to capture the feeling of being completely in a trance because of an external force. I feel this way a lot with music, where the melody and rhythm completely govern my emotions and how I view the world at that moment. Even when creating this work, I was completely absorbed in the artwork and the act of creating. Colors feel brighter, sounds get drowned out and it is just you and the art.
Whispers of the Unfinished
LEEZA POLYAKOVA

Whispers from the Unfinished is a manifestation of the internal turmoil I experience when I am reminded of the many unfinished projects I have abandoned. This series has evolved from meticulously arranged still life photographs to larger, simpler compositions, whilst unexpectedly incorporating myself into the images. This shift reflects a journey of embracing the meaning these objects hold for me, personifying them, and connecting them to my identity. I intentionally expose the “behind the scenes” to convey a raw, authentic portrayal of my emotional connection, inviting viewers to accept these objects as they are. Over three weeks, I’ve learned to overcome self-imposed expectations, realizing there’s always support for the art I create. Reclaiming and completing these projects is tangible evidence of my ability to persevere through fear.
Study of Femininity
MADISON GONZALEZ
This project explores the different ways that femininity is defined by society. Yet, argues femininity, in nature, is indefinable to anyone but those who possess the identity.

Sitting on a Couch
DELANIE JOHNSON
All paintings are acrylic and oil on wood panel. All paintings were done in my junior studio class.
This is a collection of two pastiche posters of the Chicano Movement I created for my Art 183 class! I created this art in Photoshop in the style of the American Work Projects Administration posters. I included sayings that were commonly found on protest posters at the time!
Sardines, Shnozzles, and Sneakers

What do fish, non-human creatures, and sneakers have in common? Nothing except cream paper and micron ink.

Come Play at Morro Bay

This project is an advertising campaign for Morro Bay. It includes a custom slogan, poster, and brochure as well as social media posts and merchandise designs.
Smokestacks
MIRANDA KOWALSKI

A seemingly ugly element of Morro that I have grown to find admirable
Entwined
VIVIAN JAMESON

Representing a love of craft - crocheting, knitting, sewing.

Lost in Candyland
RYDEN SECOR

Megan is lost. How will she escape?
Pieces of Me
SARAI DEVI DASI

This series is a reclamation of the photographed female nude, portrayed through the lens of a woman’s camera instead of a man’s. Direct resistance to a history of nude photography such as Edward Weston’s and Alfred Stieglitz’. This work aims to actively desexualize the nude female form, and is a personal exploration of the ways in which I am able to reclaim my own body.
Untitled
MARCUS DAVIDSON

These works were created through using machine learning imagery to create environments that would be difficult to make on set. The models are then shot separately and added to the scene.

Pressed
JOIE RAHN

This piece was developed with the intention of breaking the 4th wall. The pressed cheek and fingers wrapped around the edge of the frame hint at the presence of an external window through which we are seeing.
Encroaching

JULIA NEILS

Under the façade of an alluring and luminous landscape, sinister forces could always be at play.

A Bird Named Shelby

MAYA BENHAM

This painting was a result of me just embracing my love for creating art. I wanted to paint something that was fun and weird, without any high expectations or a serious due date. Shelby is a reminder that making art doesn’t always have to be serious, you can create simply for the pure enjoyment of creating.
Absurd Expressions
AVIV KESAR

This project helped me push my limits of digital exploration, the process was tedious and took much variation, however by the end felt quite satisfying.

The Little Things in Life
LORELEI SAMUEL

Each Poster represents a different aspect of my life that I hold close, what keeps me inspired, and constantly growing. Paired with a quote from a movie or song more recognizable than others, they all bring me joy and inspire me every day.
La Vie En Rose
Brooke De La Torre

The work Life in Pink featured a few of the members of the Cal Poly Drag Club. I wanted to show each authentic self while bringing them into a high fashion studio setting, which is not generally associated with drag. The title refers to the love and positivity surrounding the group of people for not only one another but the craft itself.
My belief is that we are all like mosaics: we are made up of likes, dislikes, influences from other people, etc. Taking this, I photographed friends in places that are important to them with things that are meaningful to them.
General Electric
ZEVIN DELASKI

Plug me in
Turn me on
It's still so empty inside, so I stand outside
A hole in everything
Charged but powerless
Who will power me, who will fill my holes

A Walk Around Pierce Point
TAZ FRUHAUF

These were taken for my black and white photography class at Cal Poly. I took these over Thanksgiving break when I was back home in Marin county. Pierce Point Ranch is a part of the Point Reyes National Seashore in Marin county. I have spent a lot of time in Point Reyes and thought it would fit my black and white photo project. I have photographed at this location before but not with black and white film and I had a blast doing it!
untitled - de Young Museum

Zach Kanter

Dreamscape_01
RYDEN SECOR

Dream journal created using a combination of AI and real video. Song is Remove the Inside by Belong.

Across the Universe A.I. Version
SARAI DEVI DASI

Lyrics fed to AI to create a prompt for another AI to create video which was edited (along with the sound) in a way inspired by the Paik-Abe Video Synthesizer. Exploration of the possibilities of sound to video technology, as well as the capabilities and limits of AI as an art making tool.
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