

Philosophy, debated, thrown around, said in menial conversation to sound smart or to reach for an attempt to impress a group of peers or people above you socially, intellectually, perceived superiority that comes from things like grades or class. Philosophy at its core is no attempt to impress the world or the society, walking around holding novellas written by Burgess or reciting quotes from Dostoevsky is something that has been created by the current timeline of post-postmodernism where we are trying to recreate what was the intellectual phase in the enlightenment era through the postmodern era. Things have popped up around culture that mimic what was those eras, mainly through Aesthetics and I am not referring to what Kant described as Aesthetics which could be summed up with what is basically the senses of the human body which given that the blind or the deaf or the dead is not reading this we can assume all can understand. What Aesthetics is now though is fashion, art, culture, sub-classifications of common groups in the world ie Dark Academics which wear these tweed jackets and sip their coffee beverages (nothing common of course more along the lines of Yerba Mate and Turkish Coffee which do not make regular appearances in the menus of restaurants, so it becomes something that has to be searched out adding to its esoteric nature).

These concepts are so synthetic, there was a quote in the book "The fountainhead" that stuck out to me and it was on the traditional use of pillars, the argument is that pillars were used originally in poorer households and were made out of wood but these pillars were slowly turned into a status of wealth and began to be made out of marble and other more expensive materials. The idea behind it was that as things evolved we simply repurposed the formerly used objects to match a new time or era. This can be seen with dark academia, it is people mimicking the ways of the enlightenment era a time that is so far gone from what we have now, we don't have classical architecture, we don't have brother wars, we don't have a sense of constant need of progression as much anymore. We live in the least violent time in history, we are comfortable and we have replaced thousands of years of ideology and religion with "just do what feels good". This is why I just do not think it is alright to mimic these classical positions. If you want to do it truly, get wine drunk, romanticize everything and understand that your romanticism isn't real. Write till you cannot and when you can't sleep, smoke your own rolled cigarettes, talk and act like madame psychosis. But of course this is just another view of the older times. What I say is sure self aware but it still is what I decide to label as that Classical style, that niche esoteric group.

So what does my artwork represent, what is my personal philosophy? First, let's understand Helana: The Goldfish Blender. Helana was a performance art piece that questioned morality and made a point to make it possible for anyone to become an actor in the piece. It raised ethical questions due to it literally being goldfish in live blenders with any sick person having the ability to come in and press all the buttons. Only once was a blender turned on, shortly after the police shut down the electricity. It really represents morality in art and the power we can have over the environment around us, it also opens questions for if it is right to use animals and that we have become too far removed from the natural ecosystem and with that we have taken the idea of life out of these animals because they don't resemble us. I used it in my art because I feel like it embodied how philosophy/art tends to raise questions more than answer it. This is the same reason why Kant has hundreds of books questioning, debating, and explaining him and this is why the main idea is that we cannot get too involved with these really inapplicable things and concepts.

It is nice to explore them and to spend time trying to understand it but too much is lethal. Why is it that every author death is either suicide or overdose/alcohol poisoning, *Infinite Jest* was published and immediately it was beloved, shortly after he hung himself from his rafters. Hemingway was one of the great American authors, he wrote the beautiful story of *The Sun Also Rises* he later turned the barrel on himself. I am not trying to be negative but with all this reasoning why is it that schools still push for people to read if it becomes such a detrimental thing if one student becomes too obsessed with it. If schools were asked to push a pill that was pretty safe to a majority of students but would get some addicted they would decline. Artur spent his last years in a mental hospital for Christ's sake and he went on to influence Deleuze and Guattari. That is why there is a little character that walks by the blender, Snufkin was a character in Moomin (an extremely popular series in Europe and Japan) written by Tove Jansson. He just wanders, a vagabond and in my view of him he philosophizes but he doesn't make that inapplicable to the world around him and his society. He uses philosophy as a way to understand the actions of people and why the world is the way that it is, this I believe to be a legitimate way of utilizing philosophy and not just something that is more for the topics of high thought.