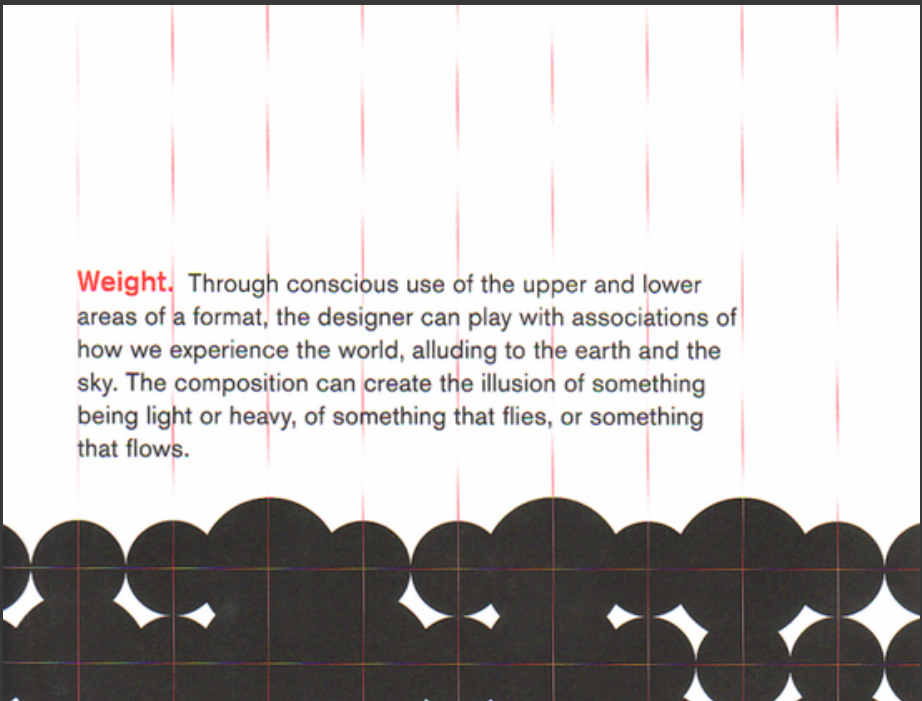
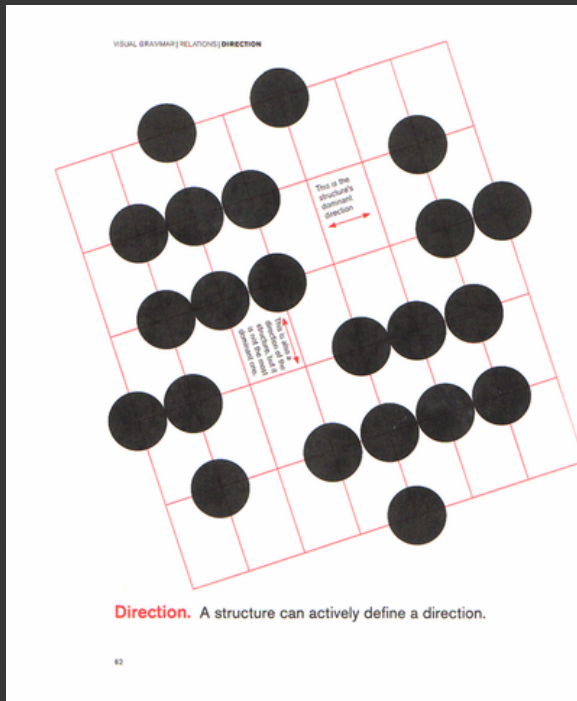
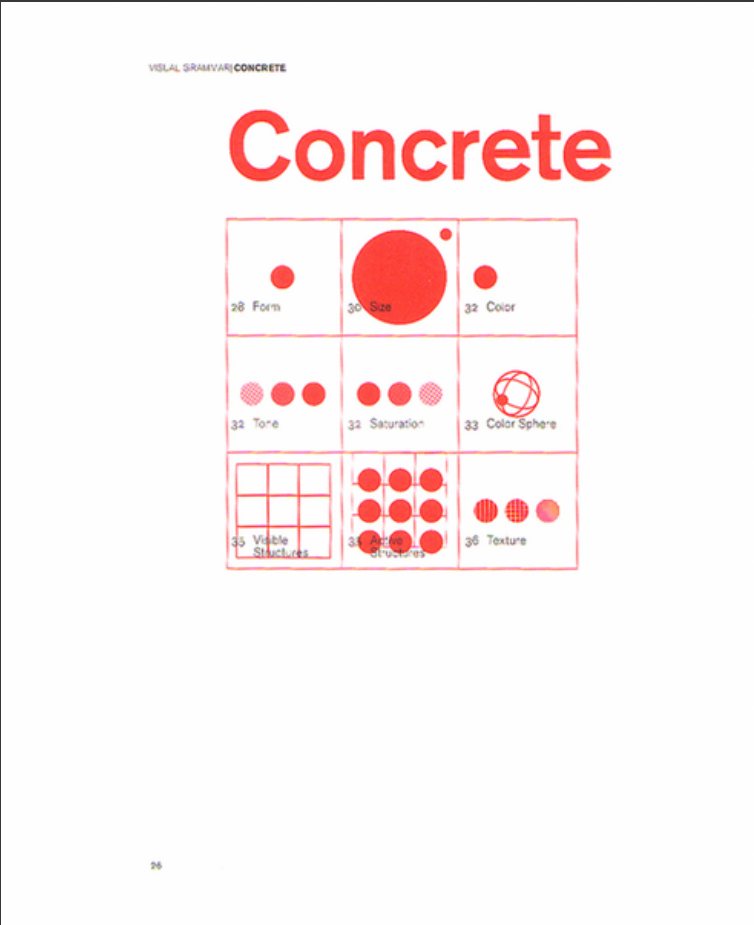
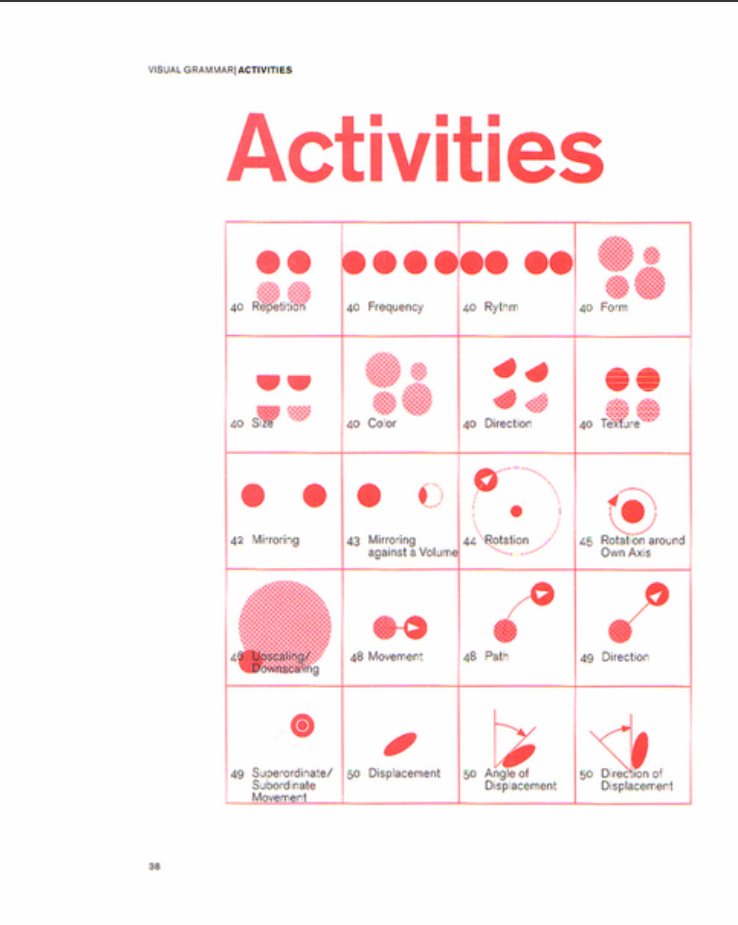




INDEPENDENT PROJECTS

2023

Christian Leborg’s “Visual Grammar” ↗



Research

Adopting a 'back to the basics' approach in my research, the majority of my explorations delved into early, fundamental concepts of both character and graphic design. Christian Leborg’s 'Visual Grammar' proved particularly insightful, prompting a reevaluation of the strengths of employing a simplistic visual language. It highlighted how strategic usage can enable the expression of even the most complicated or compelling visual concepts through shapes. This became especially relevant as I aimed not to overcomplicate my emotions but rather to distill them into something easily digestible for both myself and the audience. Notably, I've been acquainted with this text since my freshman year. Revisiting it, especially outside its usual graphic design context, allowed for critical reflection on my artistic journey and the new interpretations I've developed along the way.

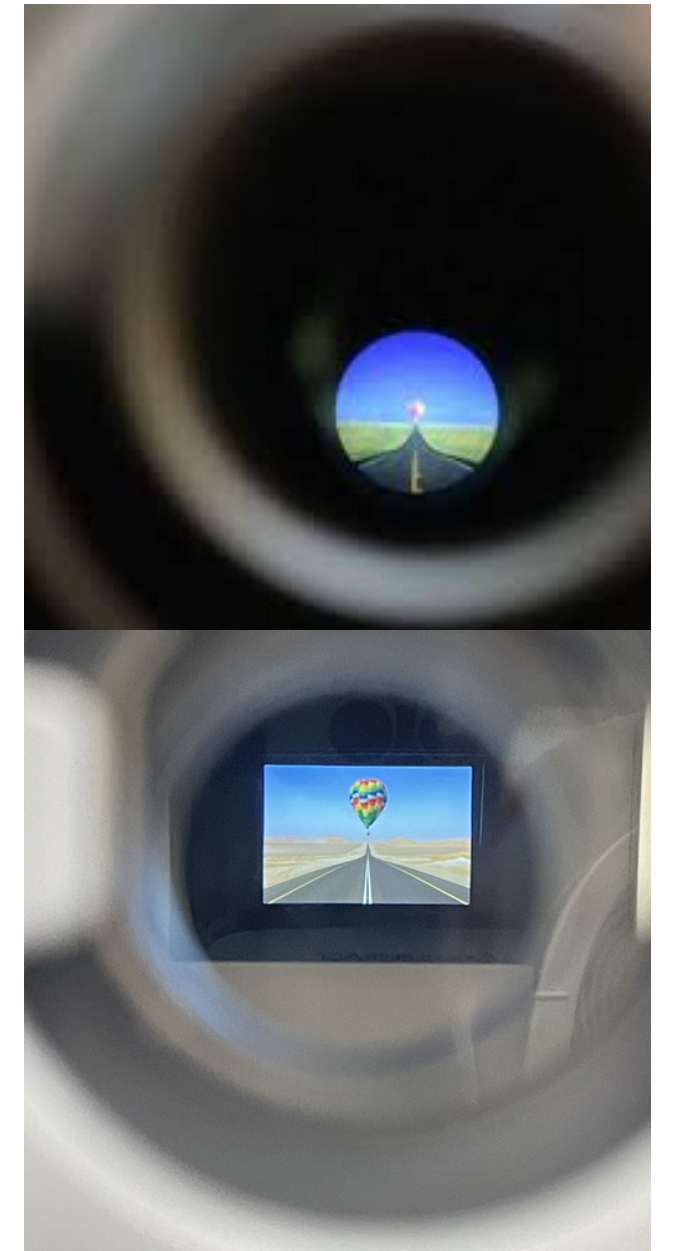
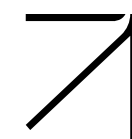
Equally important was my research on the historical timeline of anime/manga-style drawing, crucial in informing the drawing style I intended to universally apply to each character. At the SMFA Library, I discovered the perfect reference book, 'Krazy: The Delirious World of Anime,' which proved invaluable for tracing a robust timeline of manga and anime art. It led me to incredible references, such as the 1960s manga 'Pure Trance.'

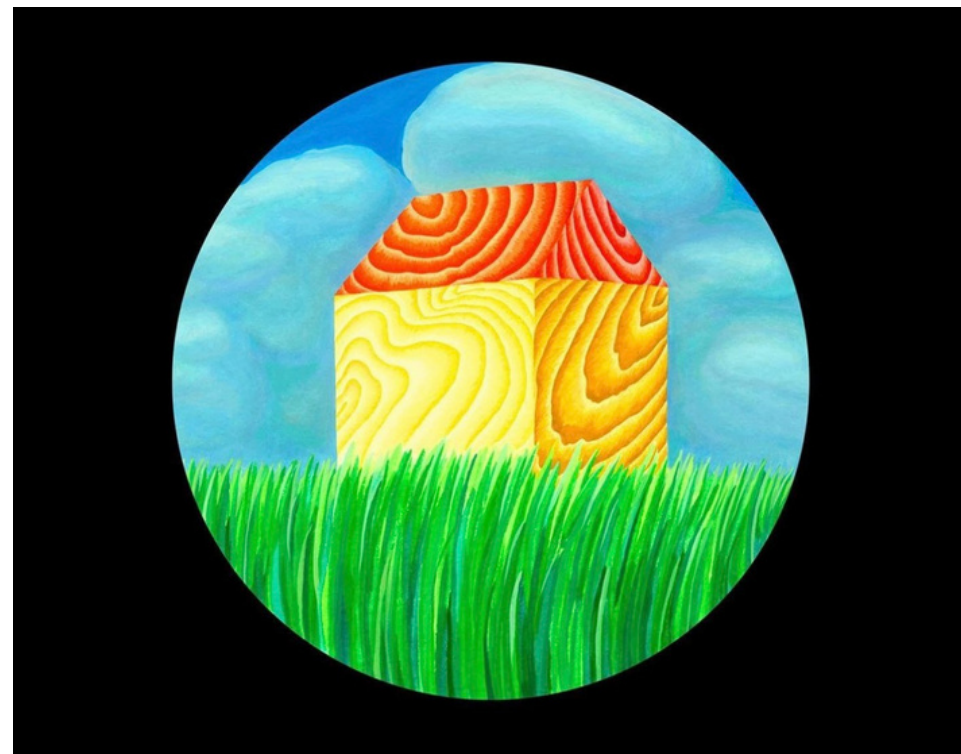
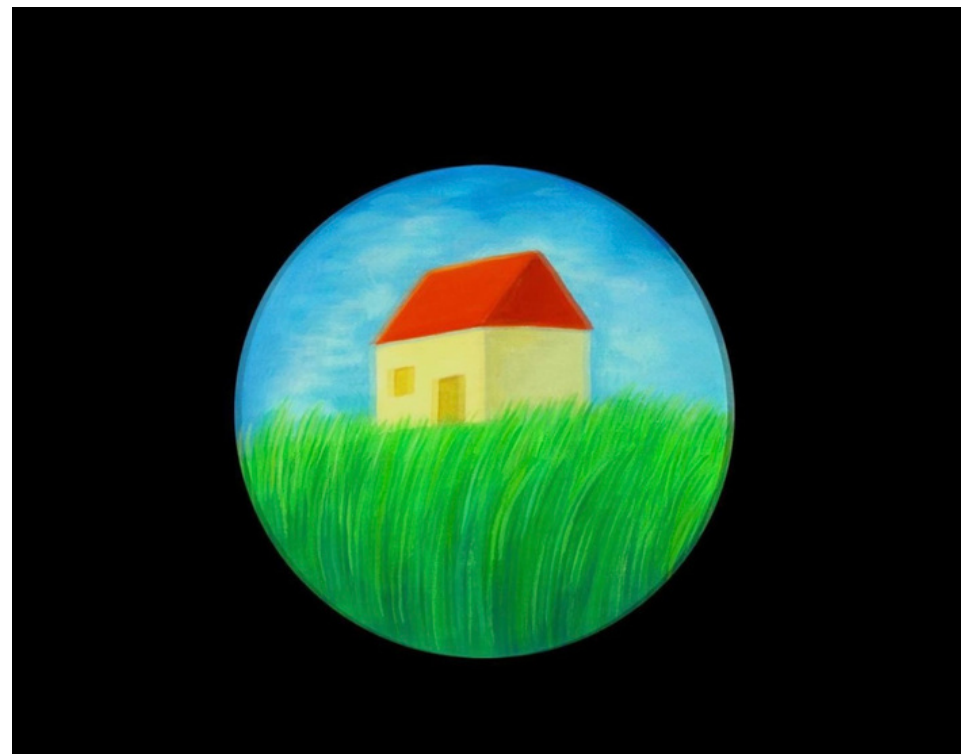
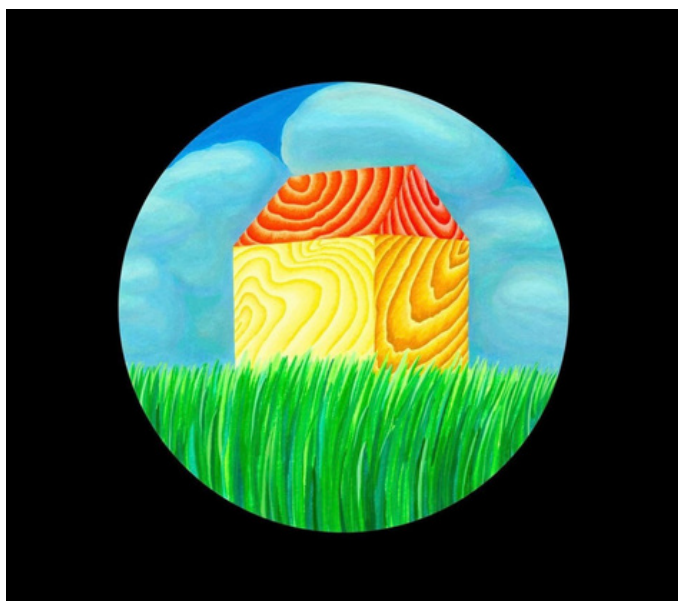
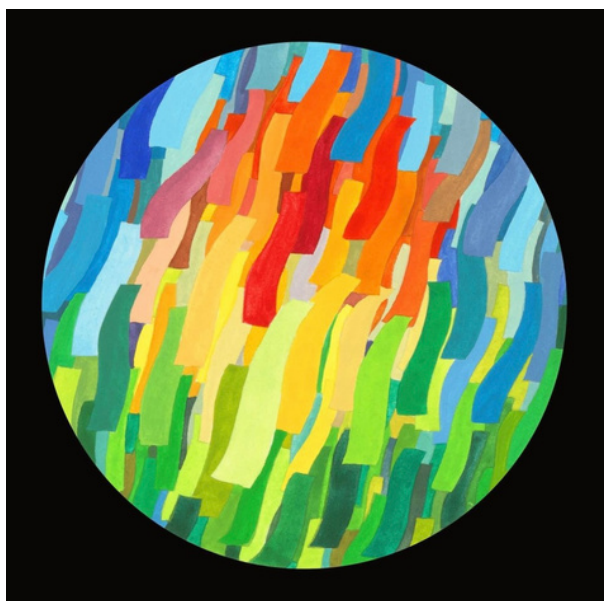
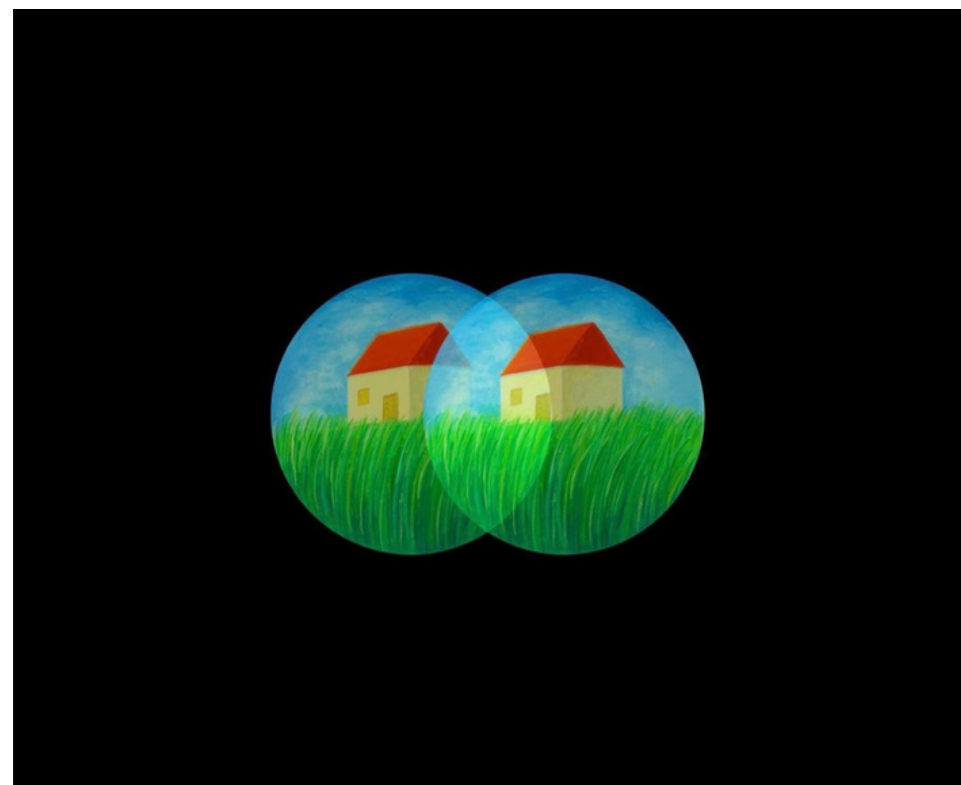
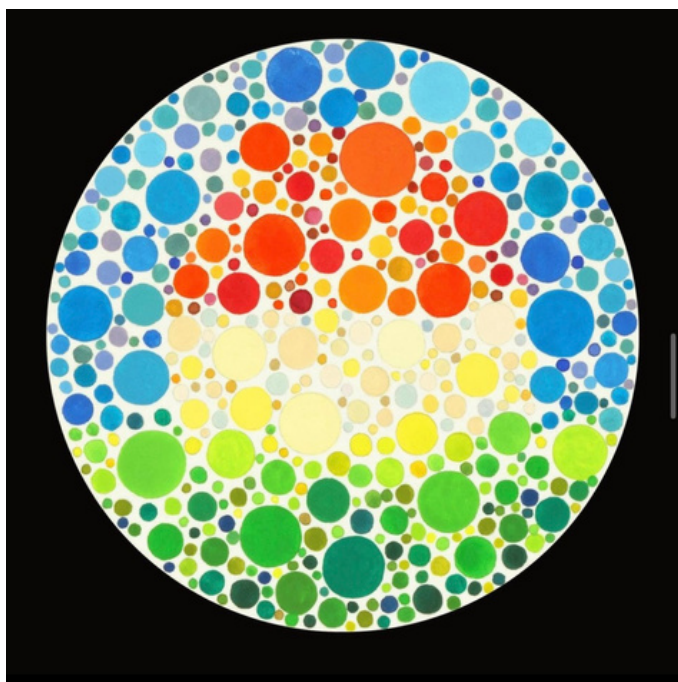
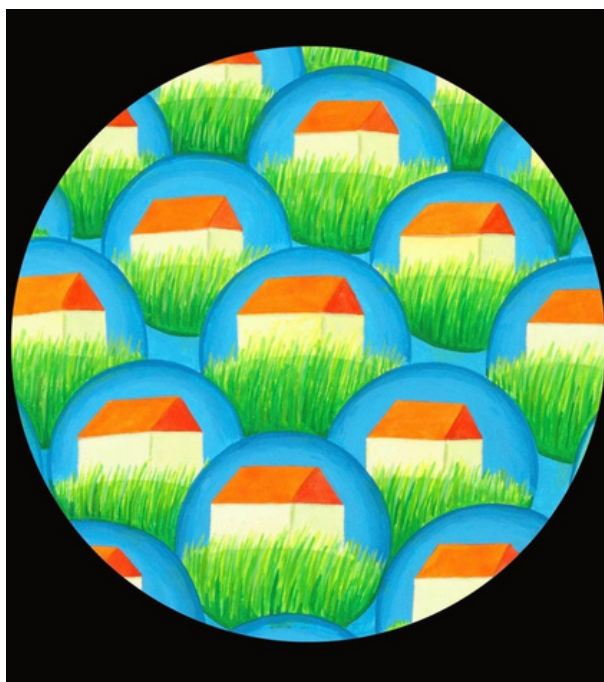
Visual “Obsession”



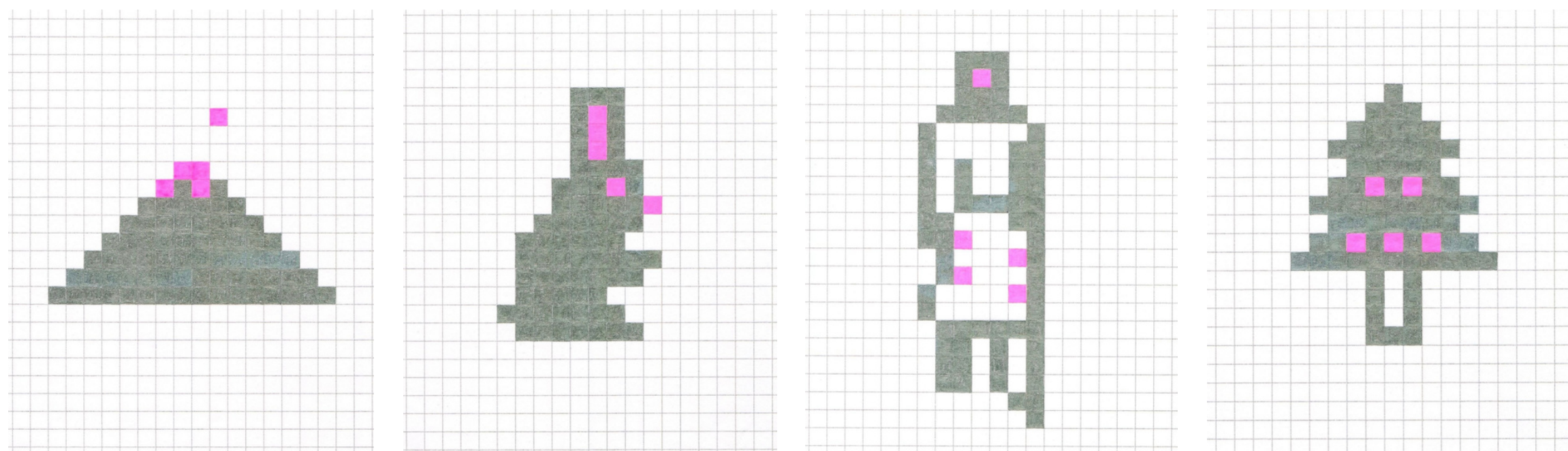
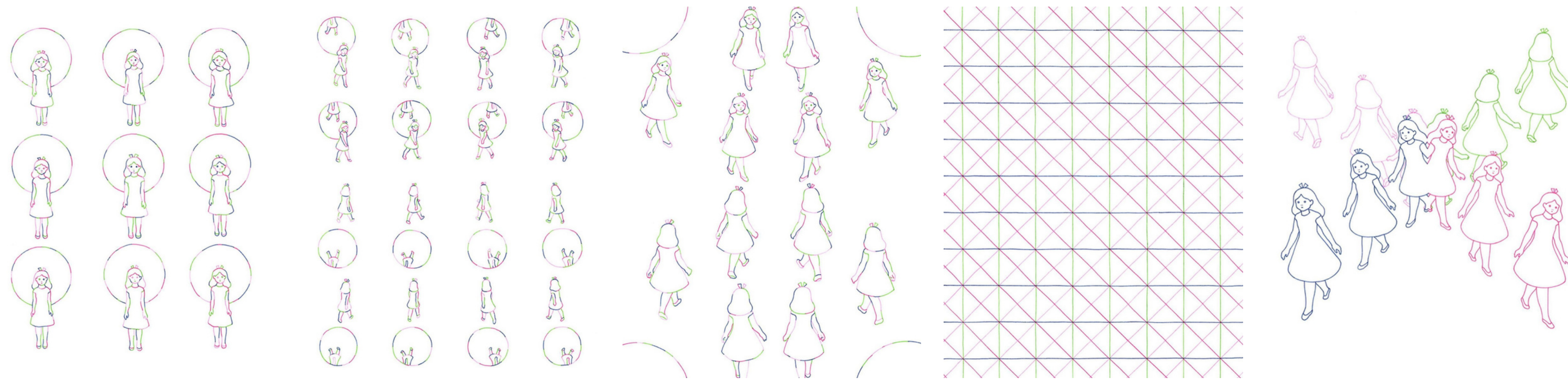
Is this house familiar?

I was also heavily 'obsessed' with this image while working on this project. The image, typically shown during eye exams, spoke volumes within the context of home and the feeling of the in-between. Right now, home is Medford, Massachusetts, which feels a lot like this picture: what's meant to be pleasant and nice still comes off feeling incredibly strange and displacing. How this image of a quaint, cozy little home amid a seemingly perfect green field manages to cause so much discomfort and uneasiness within the viewer is exactly what I hoped to both dissect and evoke through my work.





“Obsession”
Studies ↗

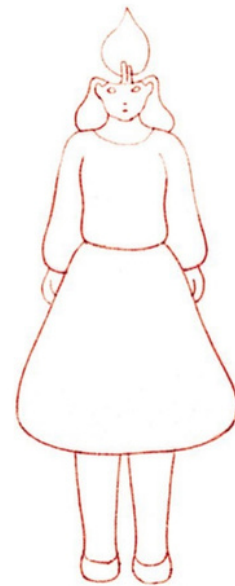
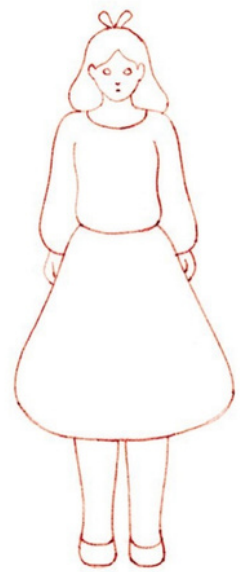
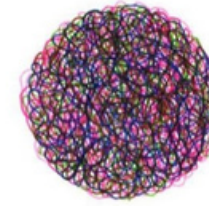
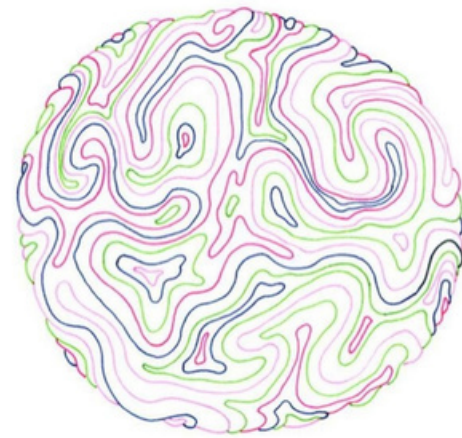


Developing my own unique visual grammar

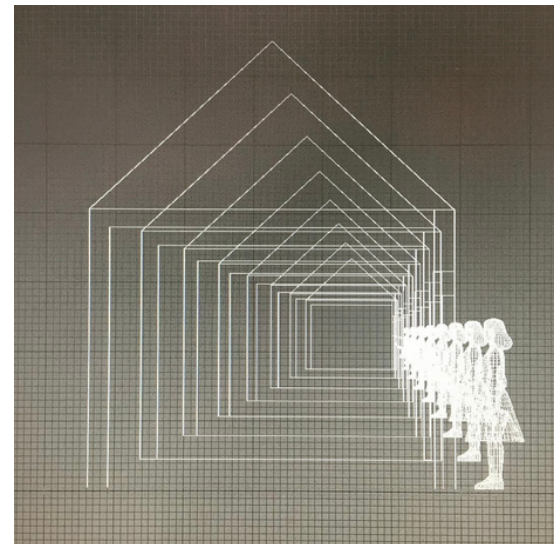
I conducted a series of visual studies based on Leborg's methods, incorporating highly simplistic shapes into complex designs. Here, you can see my various attempts to develop a visual system using mere circles and squares. This marked the beginning of the development of my repetitive, sequential style for the project.

Pattern Studies



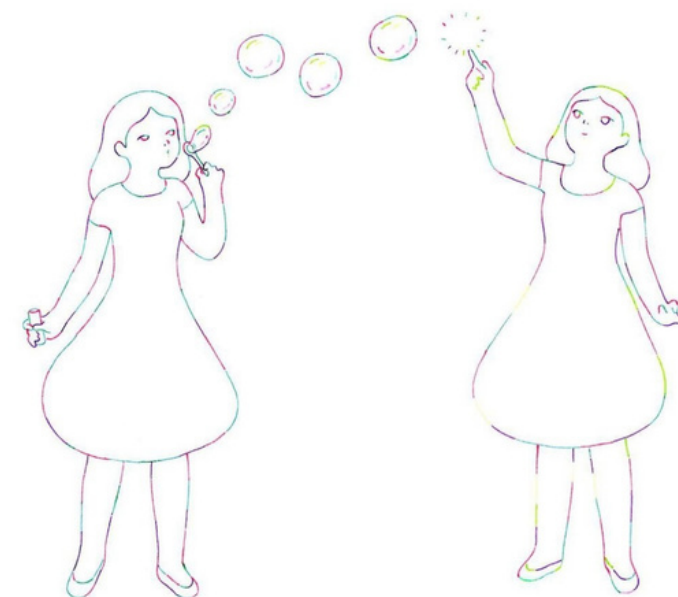


Sequential Studies ↗

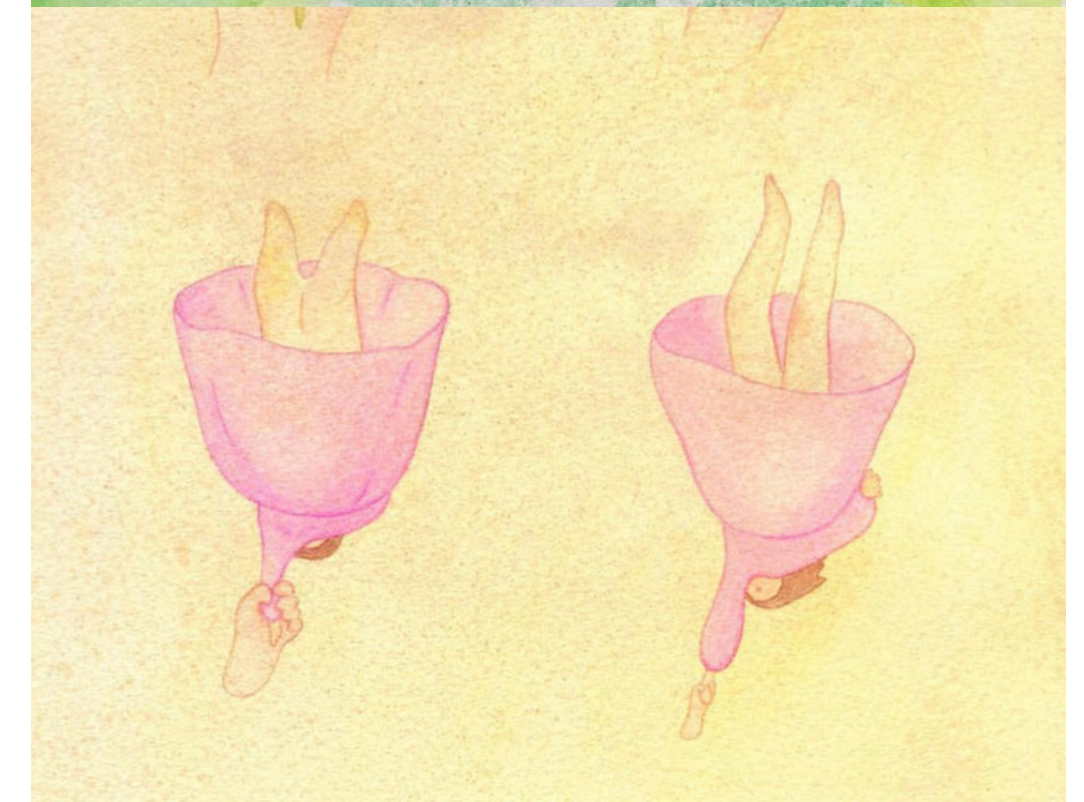


Assessing the medium

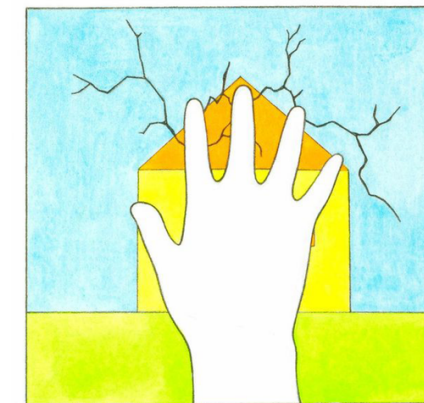
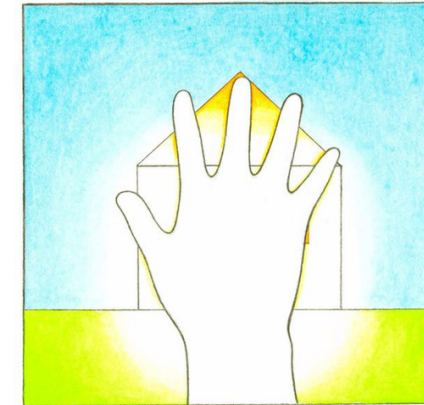
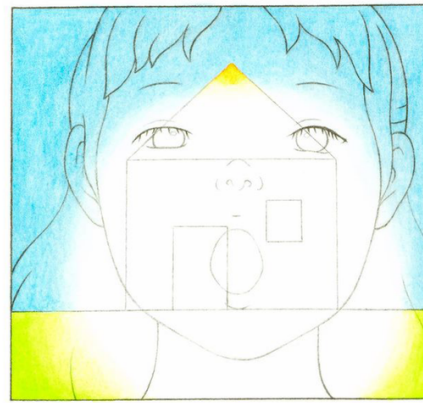
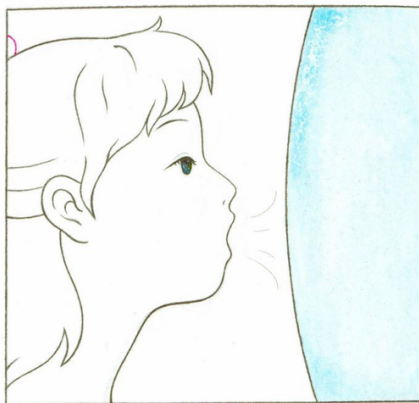
During this phase, I explored various mediums such as watercolor and colored pencil to determine which would best suit my project. I distinctly enjoyed both, as they conveyed a softness that starkly contrasted with the technological sharpness of most of my mecha-inspired 3D works. Additionally, I sculpted early iterations of my character using digital 3D programs like ZBrush and Blender to grasp a better sense of depth and dimension. Ultimately, I chose to work with Procreate due to its unparalleled creative freedom, offering an array of brushes and tools.

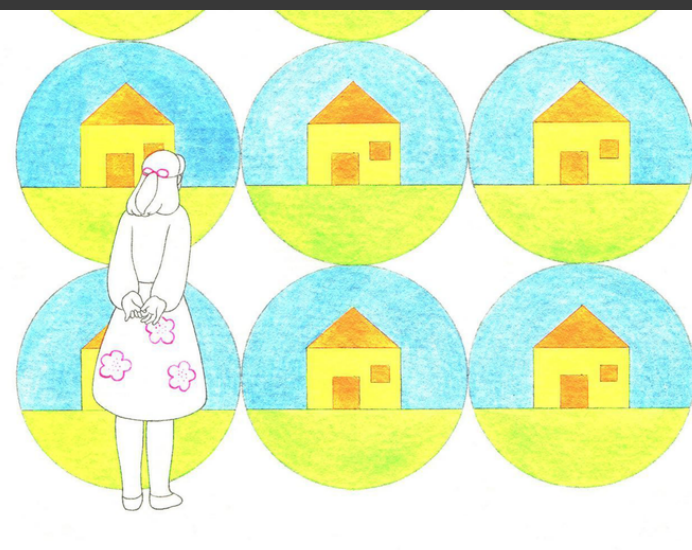


Character Studies ↗

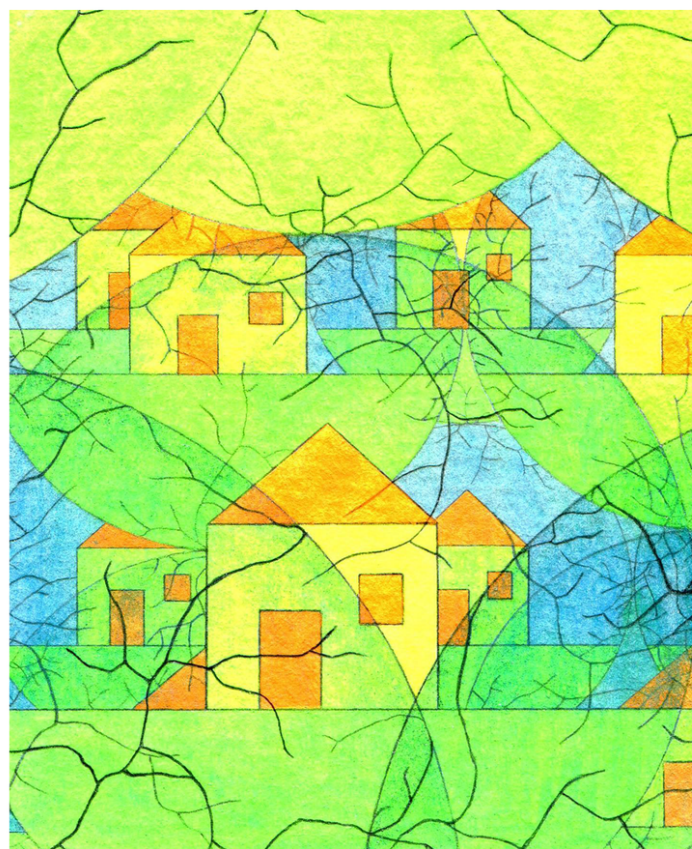
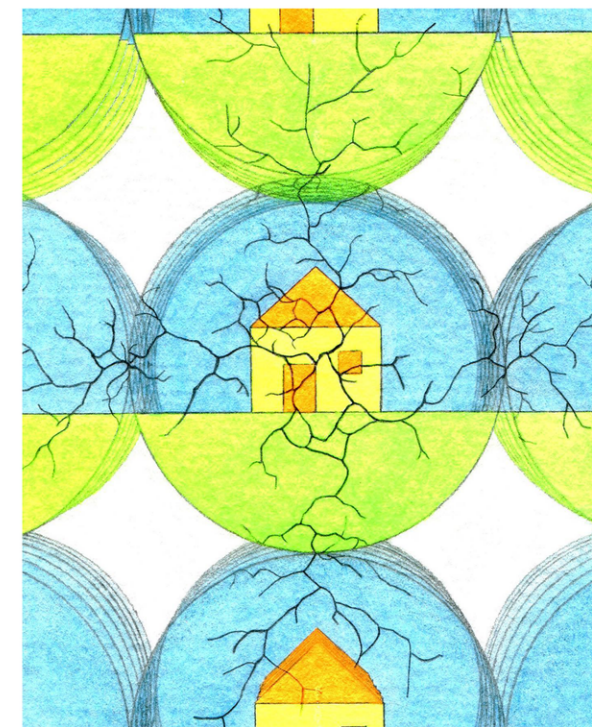
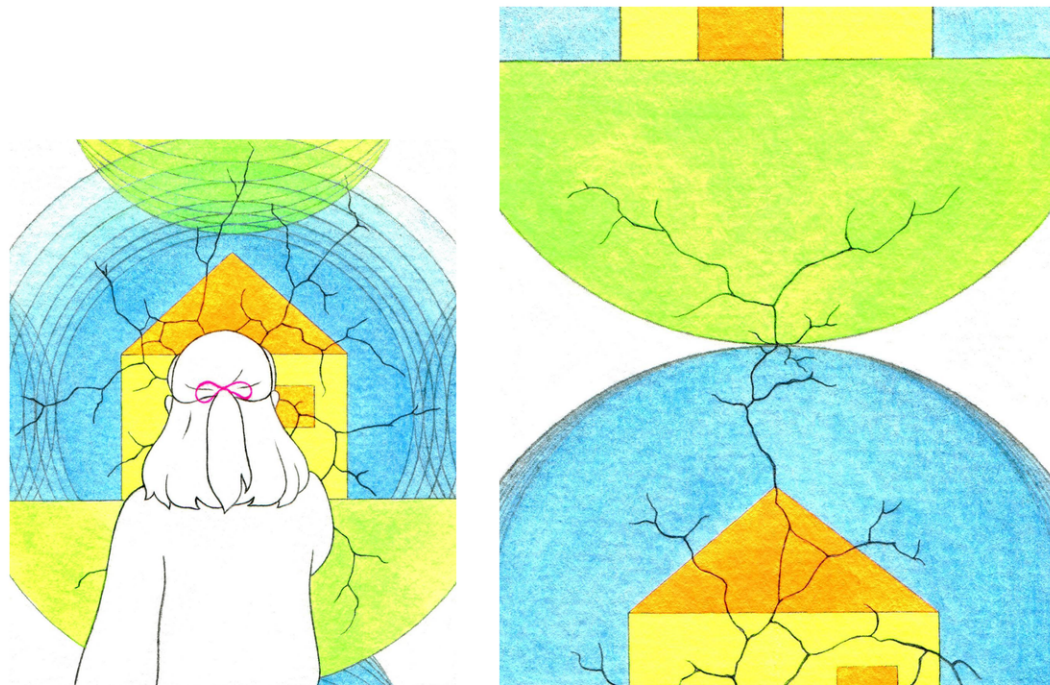


bubble home like sandy, november 2023
digital drawing on cardstock
11"x17"

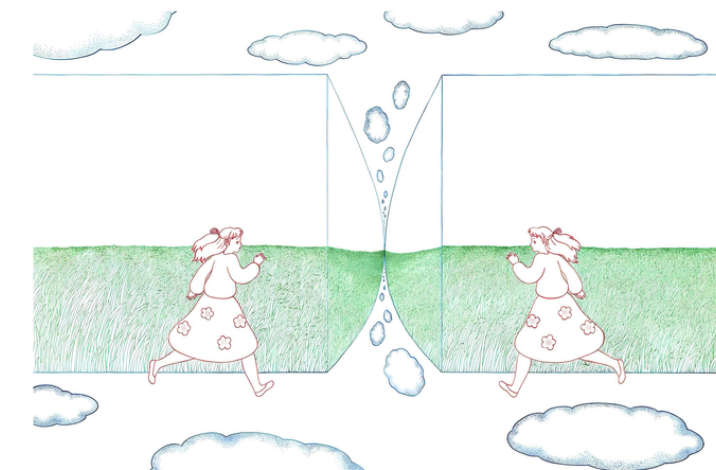
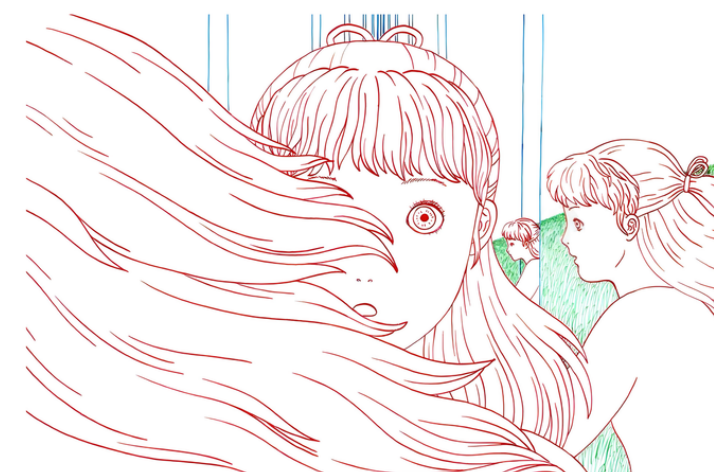
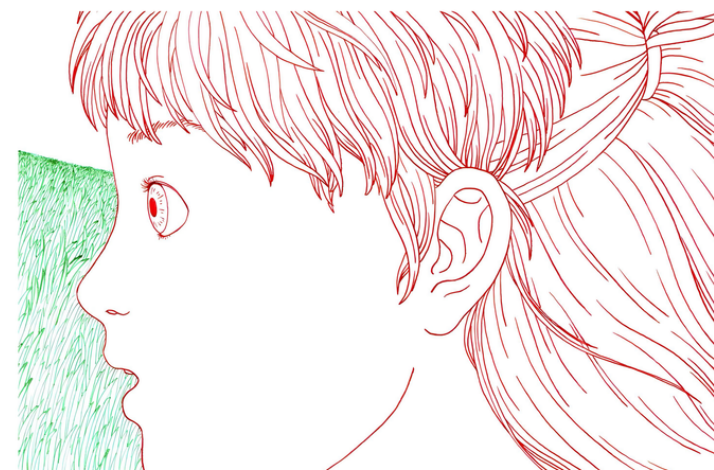
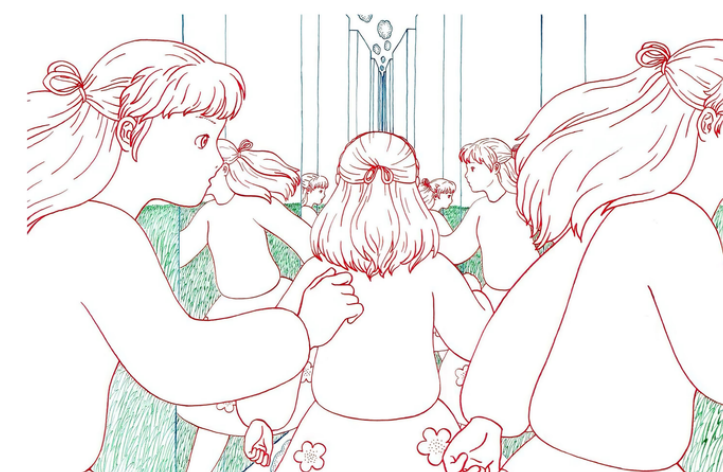
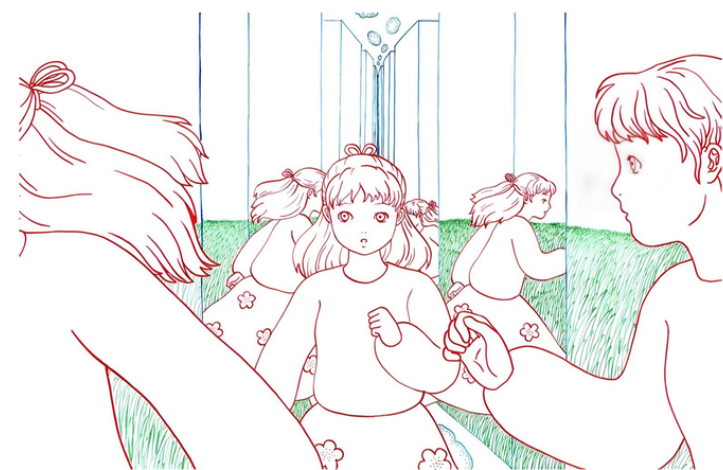




untitled 2, november 2023
digital drawing on cardstock
11"x17"



untitled 3, november 2023
digital drawing on cardstock
11"x17"



untitled 4, november 2023
digital drawing on cardstock
11"x17"

*neopolitan sisterhood squad gang,
november 2023
digital drawing and iPhone photo on
cardstock
11"x17"*





Final Presentation ↗



Final Presentation ↗



Final Presentation ↗