



GET READY // ARTIST PORTFOLIO 2021

ARTIST & ILLUSTRATOR

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## WHAT IS YOUR CREATIVE DRIVE AND WHAT DO YOU HOPE OTHERS WILL TAKE AWAY FROM YOUR ARTWORK?

“It starts with a complex emotion or concept, something that goes beyond words. The kinds of powerful yet inconsolable emotions you feel when you watch a David Lynch film or read a Haruki Murakami novel. We all carry complex and abstract emotions that we cobble together from various memories and pre-conceived analogies. That becomes the artistic narrative, then I can get to work.

From a more technical standpoint, there's a few artistic design elements that I frequently fall back on, usually a person or character surrounded by lively abstraction representing information overload. A decade ago, I was fascinated by technology and its overwhelming impact on society.

A lot of my work has text embedded into it, sometimes it is a report from the US Government on a significant event, other times it's biblical pages in another language (mostly Japanese), sometimes it's just advertising. Thematically I like the viewer to feel that all kinds of information is surrounding us, influencing us and nudging us even if we can't see it or realize it's happening.”

2021



*Switching On Offline* (2021)

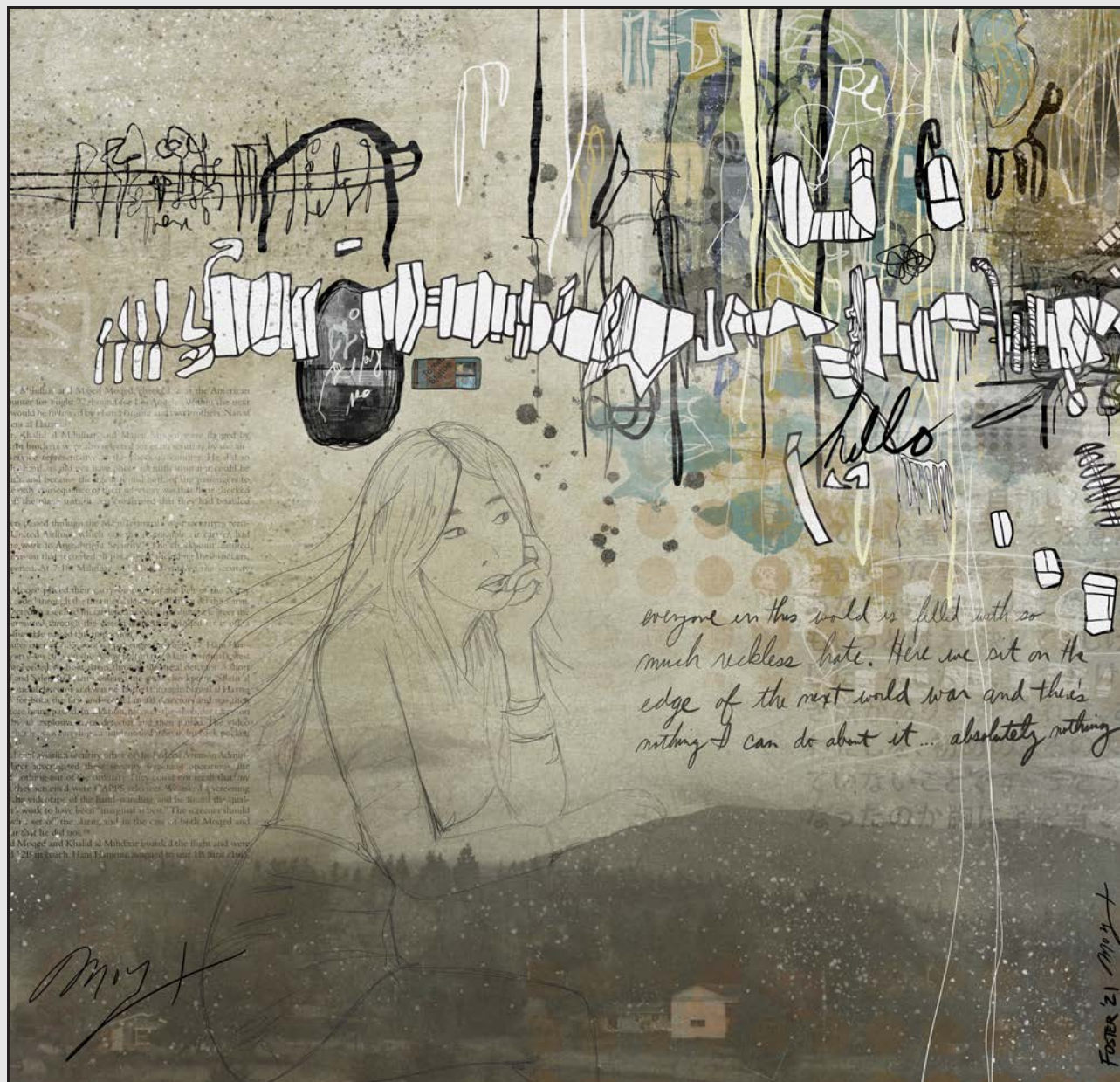
digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*Longing For A Sunday Afternoon a Few Years Ago* (2021)  
 digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*I Think the Kids Are In Trouble...* (2021)

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*Learning to Live With My Undying Uncertainties* (2021)  
digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio

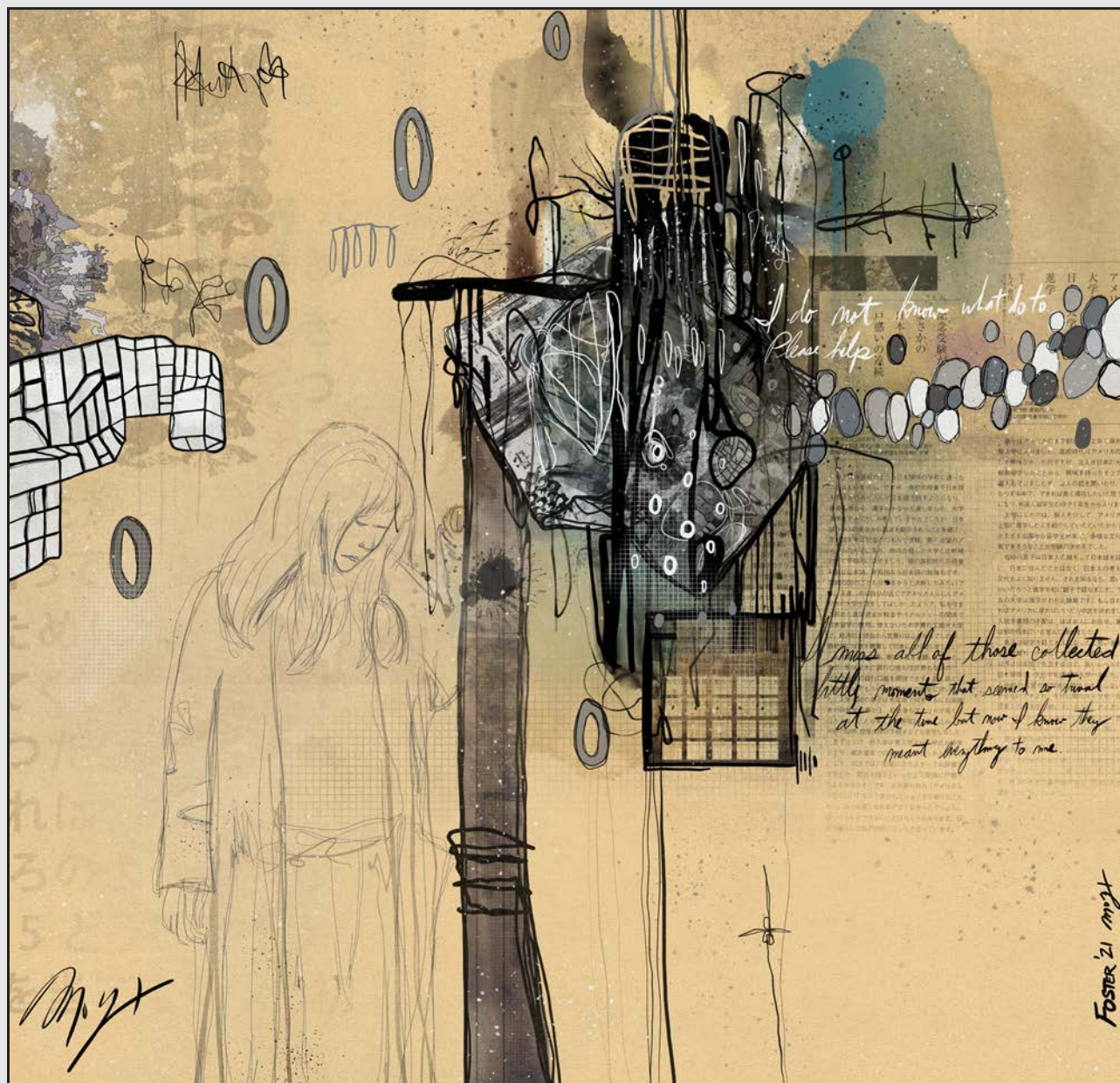




*And If You Complain Once More... (2021)*

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*Gingerberry Breadbasket* (2021)

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*It Could Be Better* (2021) digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio

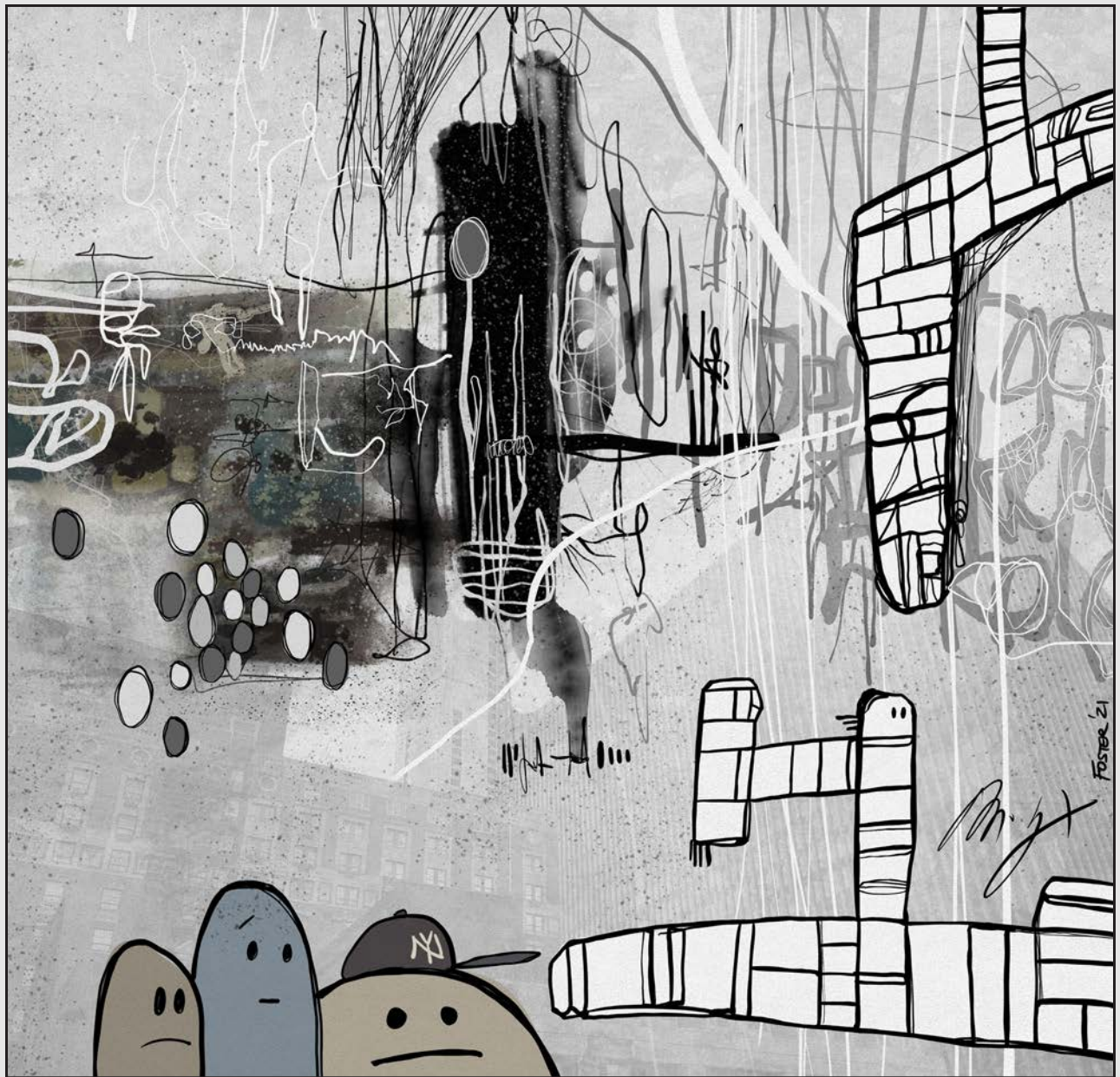




*Your True Past Lives* (2021)

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*Something For the Tourists* (2021)

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





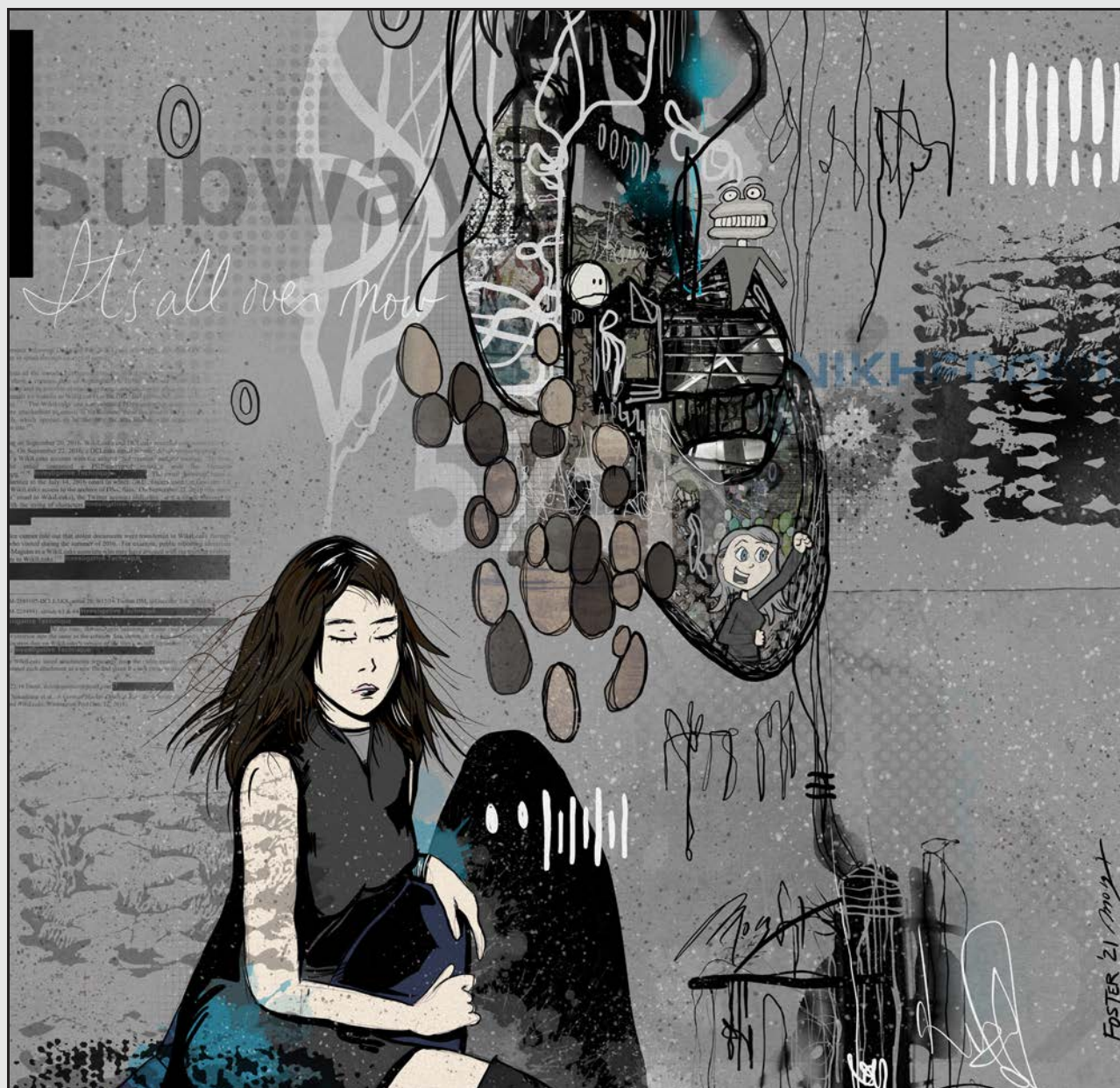
*May I Interest You in Some Hors d'oeuvres?* (2021)  
digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*It's Not Over Yet...* (2021) digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*Just One More, Before Everything's Gone* (2021)  
digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio

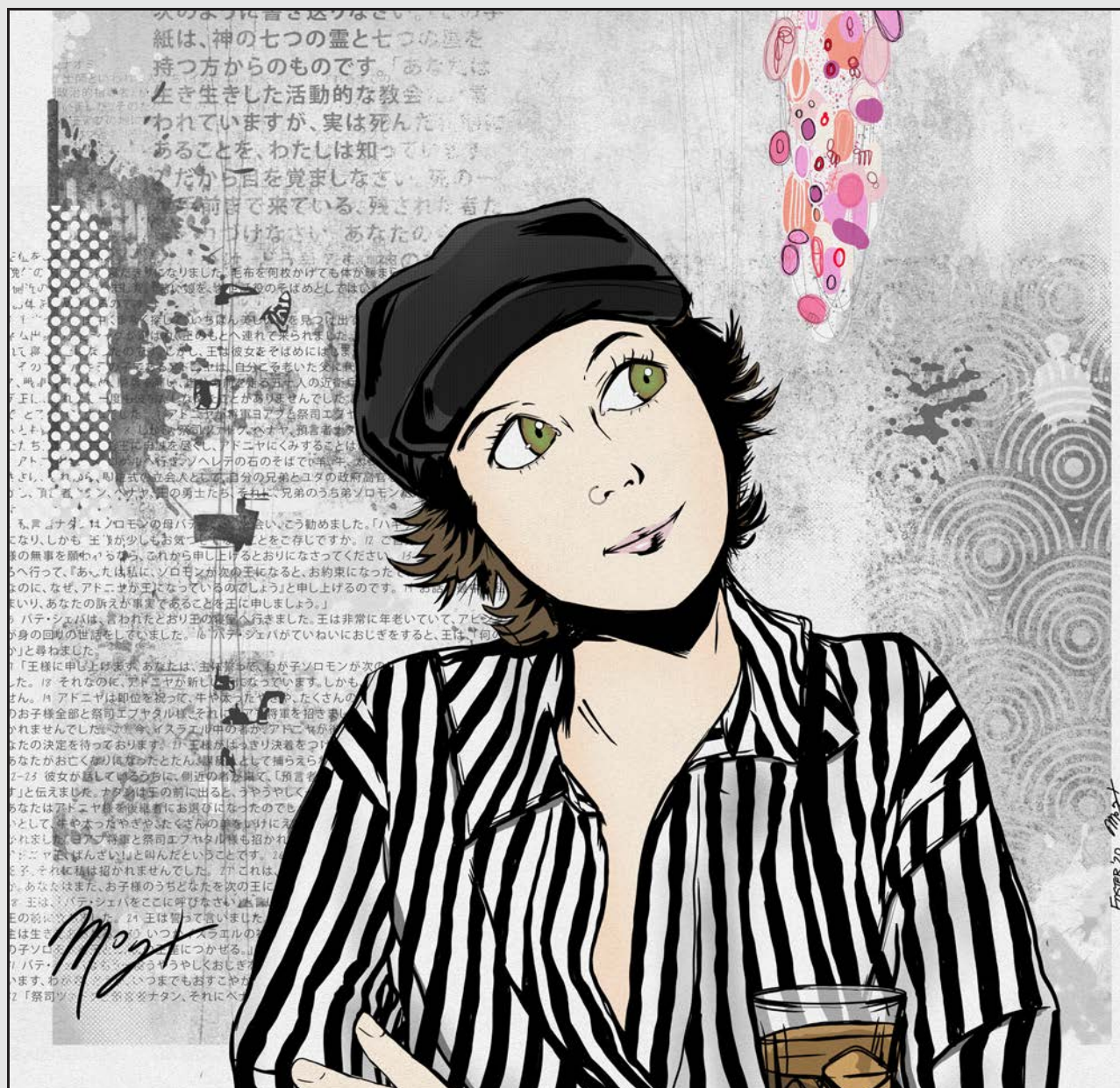




*It's Going To Be All Right (2020)*

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*You Know, I Know (2020)*

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*All Dressed Up & Nowhere to Go (2020)*

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*This is the Last Time* (2021)

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*Domesticated Station* (2020)

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*On the Cusp of an Unstoppable Downward Spiral* (2021)  
digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio

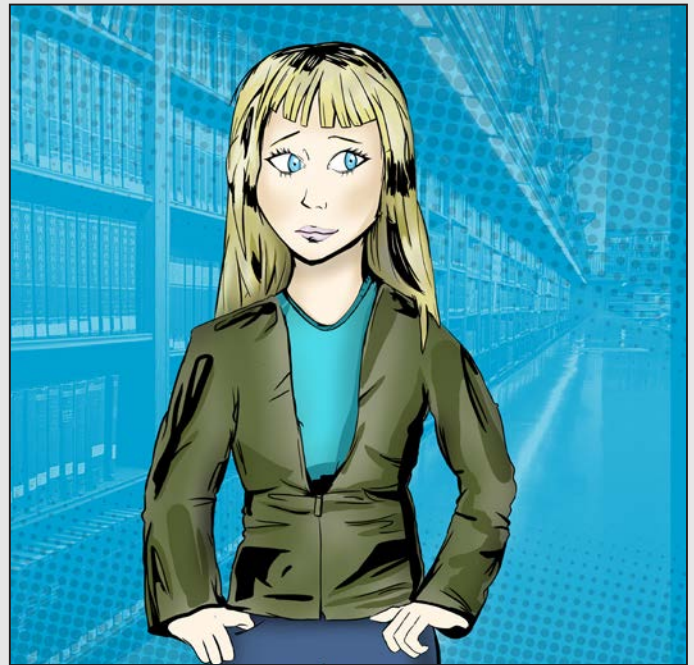
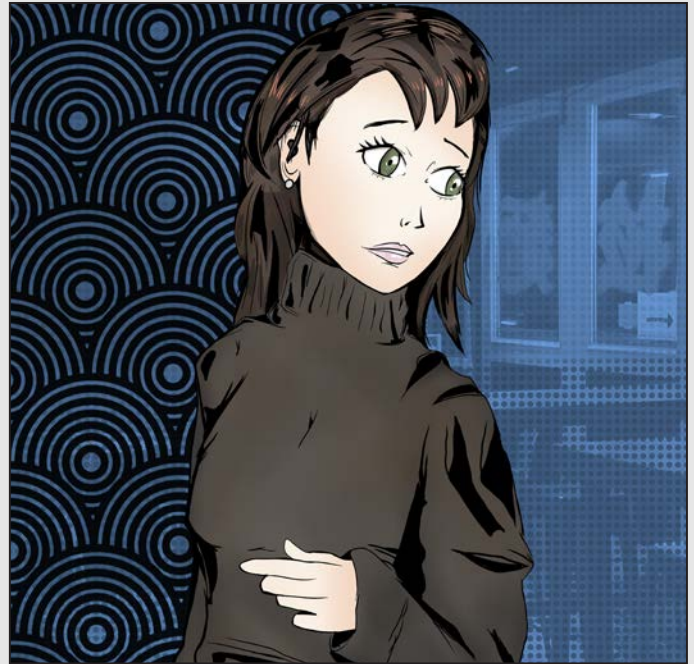




*This Country is Killing Me* (2020)

digital illustration // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio





*Various Sketches: The Gang's All Here (2020)*

digital illustrations // can be printed at any size with a 1:1 ratio



## NOTABLE EXHIBITIONS - GROUP AND SOLO

- 2020  
"Retrospective" – Aria, Woodridge, IL
- 2019  
"12 x 12 10th Anniversary Show" – Elephant Room Gallery, Chicago, IL  
Featured Artist – Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, IL
- 2018  
"24 x 24" – Kindred, West Chicago, IL  
"Emotion and Matter" – 116 Gallery, St. Charles, IL
- 2017  
River Town Film Festival & Art Expo – Clinton, NJ  
"Inspire & Create" Hosted by Tree of Life – Aurora, IL  
Wirehouse Co Art Show Series #7: Struggle – Chicago, IL
- 2015  
Genesis Show – Chicago, IL  
'BJAM' Collaboration Show – White Ripple Gallery, Indiana  
Schoenherr Gallery at the Wentz Concert Hall – Naperville, IL  
"Psychoterratica" – NYCH Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2014  
"Blue November" – NYCH Gallery, Chicago, IL  
"Seven Deadly Sins" – Hermann Audrey Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2013  
"Manipulations" – Side Street Studios, Elgin, IL  
"Relic" – Batavia Fine Arts Center, Batavia, IL
- 2012  
"3rd Anniversary Show" – Water Street Studios, Batavia, IL  
"Winter Show" – Water Street Studios, Batavia, IL  
Village Ballroom, Portland, OR
- 2011  
Phinney Art Series – Seattle, WA  
The Loft Gallery, Pioneer Square - Seattle, WA
- 2010  
Anniversary: Obmu – Edmonds, WA  
"This Modern Love" – Artisans on Taylor Gallery, Port Townsend, WA
- 2009  
Art FX Gallery, Fremont, Seattle, WA  
Kick It – Seattle, WA  
Open Art Studios – Seattle, WA
- 2008  
The Industry – Seattle, WA
- 2007  
The White Street Gallery – Frankfort, IL  
Anam Art Gallery (Featured Artist) – Naperville, IL

# 2021





## ABOUT THE WORK

Painting for almost two decades, much of Michael's work involves coming to terms with the abundance of technology-driven information overload we casually experience in modern day society. He uses acrylics and india ink on canvas (or wood panels) to create a post-modern world that visually represents data in its raw form, existing within multiple theoretical dimensions of spacetime. The thematic visual focus rests on the intricacies of the direct and indirect interaction between the viewer and the abstraction of this data-driven internal conflict which forces us, as a society, towards rapid self-actualization.

Michael's current work starting in 2014 continues the visual analogy of civilization coping with Moore's Law through the lens of the subconscious. Distorted handwritten notes and encrypted keyword ciphers are interwoven throughout mysterious structures and various abstractions including comic illustrations and other non-specific futuristic forms. The result is a data-landscape of today's anxious subconscious mind, presenting how we remember life events and interpret the kinetic surfaces and essences of the environment and emotions that we are sometimes reluctantly embedded within.