

The most memorable days of my youth were spent walking the hallowed halls of the Dayton Art Institute with my grandma. I was mesmerized by Jacob Willemsz Delff's portrait of "Machteld van der Graeff," captivated by Jean-Léon Gérôme's "L'Almée," and moved by William-Adolphe Bouguereau's "Le Chant du Rossignol."

My work is expressed in a variety of subjects and media - figurative, abstracts, landscapes, still life, oil, acrylic, watercolor, gouache, ink, graphite, color pencil, soft and oil pastels, and charcoal. I do not believe in the old tropes of sticking to one thing. I believe growth is best expressed when it is not confined to one medium or subject.

The piece submitted to the Pure Paint Exhibition is one in a series of oil painting portraits of boxers that blend abstract and figurative. In this piece, the subject is caught in a contemplative moment (in between the blur of punches), while the background conveys the violence and energy ingrained in the sport.

-Wes Motschmann

Fairfield, California

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