

DESIGN DECODED 2021 : ART EXHIBITION



*Decrypt your
visual creativity*

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Lee Mendoza

Wall of Reflections



I look at myself as a house that is under construction; never fully done and is in an ongoing process of breaking down walls and building them back up again. Along these distressed walls are mirrors that reflect me and other people, with faces that are abstract and unrealistic, from the shape to the colour. Most of my arts are done in this style because of the value or principles that I try to uphold in my life.

As people, there are a lot of factors that differentiate and separate us from one another, like our history, culture, social status, gender, and external differences such as our facial features. Such factors cause adversities that stem from opposing views and opinions. Part of my creative process is looking through the world from a different perspective by transforming and attaching new meanings to simple objects and diverting despondency into something beautiful. I look at diversity and I see shapes and colours that are different, not one shape or colour is above or more beautiful than the other, no beauty standards, no gender inequality, not one race superior to the other. They are all just shapes that are, although different, are also equal. I see adversity as a way to practice empathy, and to embrace the different forms of diversity. These are the underlying principles behind my art, and so that is why my art style mostly consists of two faces divided in the middle with different shapes and colours as facial features. This is to show that not one person is the same and should not be the same, because people are multi-faceted. We should not confine them to only one trait, because a person can do good or bad but this does not change that he or she is still the same person.

Art for me is not only a form of catharsis, it is also a vital tool to discovering one's self. It helps me to decode and understand my experiences. By being aware of myself and my actions, I am also able to understand others. The mirrors in my art piece represent not only the literal reflection of myself and other people, but it is also a representation of the internal reflection that I have when it comes to how I view myself and others. I tend to see the good in everybody but myself and I also see the bad in everybody but myself, hence the mirrors showing the reflection of other people.

By transforming these intangible thoughts into something tangible such as artwork, I am more aware and able to accept myself and others. It also allows me to see the world openly and creatively. And much like a house that is under construction, our creative process and our visual creativity are ever-changing. We are an ongoing masterpiece and putting ourselves in others' shoes and learning to accept and love ourselves is a never-ending process, it does not start overnight, and it certainly does not end in one act of kindness.



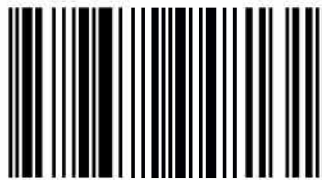
THALIA JEAN P. MENDOZA
Wall of Reflections

Acrylic on canvas
24"x30"
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