

The focus of the research that led into my art piece was centered around finding a connection between music and how it can be visually represented. With that in mind, my goal was to find a way to force the viewer to experience the idea of sound and music without actually hearing any literal noise. The sub-categories that I researched are: color theory, rhythm and repetition. Josef Albers is an artist whose focus is color theory and applies this by using solid colors, usually in the shape of a square, to cause one's mind to question themes like depth and shade. Moving on from color theory, rhythm is the main ingredient in music that keeps the flow, beat, and layers of a track moving along. Rhythm is comprised of both sounds and silences. So, when I thought of how to visually represent the concept of rhythm, I envisioned patterns, lines, and levels that reference the starting and stopping of sound. Thinking about how repetition could be visually displayed, while keeping in mind the idea of using patterns, lines, and levels, I came to the visual of a fire escape. This topic covers the idea of pattern and lines through the levels of the building and the repetition of stairs, railings, and lines.

I chose to turn my painting into an illusion of a musical instrument. In order to do this, I cut a hole into my painting and attached a frame-like structure on the back to create a resonant chamber. I mounted strings to the panel and tuned them so that they would be able to make sound. This aspect is to tempt the audience into wanting to touch and hear the sound that the piece could make. Since the strings are not meant to be played, the desire for sound is heightened.

Mitchell