

For my project, I wanted to explore personal items and the psychological attachments we have to them—the natural human desire to create emotional connections with inanimate objects. Throughout my life, I've noticed, the objects I've gained personal attachments to, and how I choose to keep or display them, have reflected my own ideas of comfort. I've discovered that the things we choose to collect often reflect our emotional desires. The cluttered yet organized atmosphere of my room reflects my desire to recreate childhood comfort. I find that I lean into maximalism because it evokes a childlike, sentimental, and individualized living space.

I decided to do an oil painting depicting me in my room surrounded by my objects. Through the ever-growing number of objects surrounding me in the composition, I tried to capture the cluttered comfort of being swallowed by my own things. The vibrant variety of colors emphasizes the feeling of playfulness and innocence.

The process has helped me reflect on my own attachments, zoning in on specific details of objects I live among every day. Making me notice the things I value and hold close to me. I've come to realize that every person collects and holds certain accessories, clothes, and objects close to them in order to make meaning of their own identity and place in the world.

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Tallulah H.

New York, New York