

After spending three years in a fine arts class, I've become accustomed to what is considered "fine art". But I've realized I disagree with the restraints of that term. The common misconception is that art is defined by a frame or a price tag, which falls along traditional conceptions that have lasted through time. However, it leads to skepticism and scorn against a less conventional form: street art.

Many consider street art to be a form of vandalism while others, such as myself, find it to be entrancing in nature. A lot of people believe it is just some delinquent tagging a dirty word on a wall, when in reality, that's what gives street art a bad reputation. In my opinion, it captures the true purpose of art, which is to document life and to reach out to people. Street art restores the freedom of speech through techniques such as stenciling, placing posters, and using the environment to create pieces of genius and most often, are manifestations of pure honesty.

It was this inspiring element of street art and forward rebels such as Banksy and Robbie Conal, that made me gravitate to this concept for my concentration. I was tired of cookie cutter photography, and the spirit of rebellion really connected with my core personality. I started out photographing pieces of street art, enraptured with the colours and expression. It got to the point where I no longer wanted to be an outsider taking pictures of other people's work, and wanted to develop my own pieces to spread and hopefully inspire others as much as I was. I used my skills in Corel Paintshop to create my own posters that would come to join the ranks of other influential art revolutionaries, while documenting my experience through a camera lens.