The Artist Behind the Cover Art: An Interview with Tiffany Day

Tiffany Day

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Conducted by Kaitlyn Clary

As an artist, how could having your work featured as cover art affect your career?

Having art featured as cover art feels like the first step in my photography career. My goal with photography is to be a part time nature photographer for magazines. Having my work as your Steeplechase’s cover art makes me feel like my dream isn’t just a dream; it is a goal I can achieve.

What art forms does this cover art feature?

This cover art is some of my photography work. I love photographing nature and the natural beauty nature displays. Both of the featured pictures happen to be in the Southern Illinois area. “Night Time Surreal” was taken on the back roads of Illinois around September of 2018. The other, “Love and Nature”, was taken in March of 2018 and is from Garden of the Gods in the Shawnee National Forest, one of my favorite hiking and photography spots.

What other art forms interest you?

I am majoring in Art Education so I have a strong love for many artistic forms, but my passion for photography and painting are the strongest. I love finding and photographing the beauty of nature, and I love the dedication and time it takes to perfect a painting. The meticulous layering of paint, mixing of colors, and adding details are so soothing to me. I can spend hours on a painting and not be bothered to stop.

What techniques are you most invested in?

I just recently returned to painting, so right now I seem to be investing a lot of my time in learning and practicing my techniques to strengthen my skills.

Which artist inspires you most?

One artist I am constantly being inspired by is Benjamin Von Wong, a photographer who is invested in subject matter I am passionate about. He is an amazing artist that does a lot of installation art while also actively informing viewers about important issues such as the amount of waste we produce and how it affects ocean life.
What do you want audiences to see in your art?

I hope that my audience sees my art and begins to see nature as a thing of beauty not just something we have to live with. I want my art to be something that actively encourages and informs viewers about issues such as body image and waste pollution.

What are you currently working on?

Currently, I am working with the idea of over production of food and the plastic waste that comes with those food products. I hope to convey the problem of food insecurity in parts of the world and the abundance of food in other parts. I am trying out this idea in different ways with both my film photography and my painting.

Where did your art career begin?

My art career began my senior year of high school in a photography class. I never imagined I would be here at Murray State finishing up a degree in a career I love and am passionate about.

What are your plans after Murray State?

Once I leave Murray State, I plan to be an elementary art teacher and spread my love of art with others. I hope to be a freelance photographer for magazines and eventually get hired on with a magazine. I will teach art and do photography and maybe some painting on the side!