Artist Statement:
Steven Osika

I've learned that everything that exists in this world has gone through some form of design. It is a fundamental base for everything that is created and is existential to the world that surrounds us. Our minds are adapted to the way in which we interpret our physical realm and influences the decisions that we later make. My work strives to take hold of this opportunity in order to communicate messages through multiple avenues. Ideas of quality, cleanliness, and organization shine through the pieces that I have created and exemplify an illustrative nature.
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Alternative Recourses.
What positive benefits arise from hemp production?

- **Substitute**: Hemp can replace cotton and can be used to make all types of clothing.
- **Building Materials**: Hemp-like building materials can be derived from hemp and are stronger and cheaper than wood.
- **Fuel**: Hemp-derived biomass can be converted to fuel in the future.
- **Nourishment**: The hemp plant can be processed to produce tea, foods, fibers, and other products.
- **Renewable**: Hemp derived products are natural, biodegradable, and renewable.
- **Medicinal**: Hemp's fiber can be processed to provide numerous medicinal alternatives for patients in need.

- 1 acre of hemp
- 4x more paper

U.S. Presidents and founding fathers George Washington and Thomas Jefferson grew hemp, used hemp products, and were hemp advocates. Hemp was not banned because it was a harmful drug. Hemp was illegal because it was a competitive threat to the wood products industry and nobody developed synthetic fibers that were patentable.

Hemp can be grown on most farmland throughout the U.S. where corn is grown, requiring less water and less land available in few locations.

- 4 months
- 50 ft
- 20 - 50 years

**Less Pollution**: Fewer chemical herbicides and pesticides are used to grow hemp compared to cotton. Hemp growth rarely needs herbicides and has few insect enemies.

**Save forests & wildlife habitats.**

Designed by Steven Osiko.