



Vincent Zhu

2026 Spring

Capstone – Graphic Design

Department of Art and Art History

Artist Statement:

As an illustrator and graphic designer, I use the Adobe Creative Suite for my graphic design work and Corel Painter for most of my illustration and digital paintings. I'm inspired by a wide variety of subjects, from other contemporary digital painters, to tv shows, and even experimental music. Portraits are my usual comfort zone in painting, but I'm always learning to paint a wide variety of subjects. I like dark fantasy subjects, but I try to branch out into different moods and themes often. I use painting, along with sketching in my sketchbook, to conceptualize visual designs and as a means of expression. Thumbnails and sketching are very important for my process in both painting and graphic design, letting me go through many different ideas quickly. I appreciate bolder aesthetics—like large, bold text, and bright colors—but also more muted color palettes and simpler type when appropriate.

Title**Original Format**

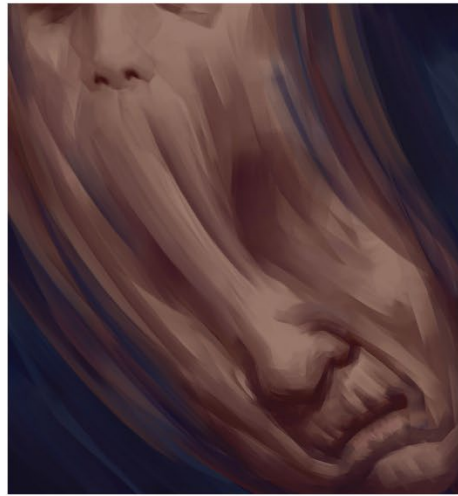
Figure 1: 3 Penguin Classics Book Covers	Corel Painter, Illustrator, 11 in x 17 in
Figure 2: Synth Punk Vinyl Record Album Cover	Corel Painter, Illustrator, 4000 px x 2848 px
Figure 3: Fictional Travel Poster and Tourism Brochure	Corel Painter, Illustrator, 11 in x 17 in
Figure 4: Fantasy Book Cover and Spread	Corel Painter, Illustrator, 11 in x 17 in
Figure 5: Avant Vibrations Magazine	Illustrator, InDesign, 11 in x 17 in
Figure 6: "Right to Play" Poster	Illustrator, 100 cm x 70 cm
Figure 7: Science Magazine Spread	Corel Painter, InDesign, 11 in x 17 in
Figure 8: NOISE Room Record Company Brand Logo	Illustrator, 11 in x 17 in
Figure 9: Experimental Folk Vinyl Album Cover and Spread	Corel Painter, Illustrator, InDesign, 11 in x 17 in



PENGUIN CLASSICS

BRAM STOKER

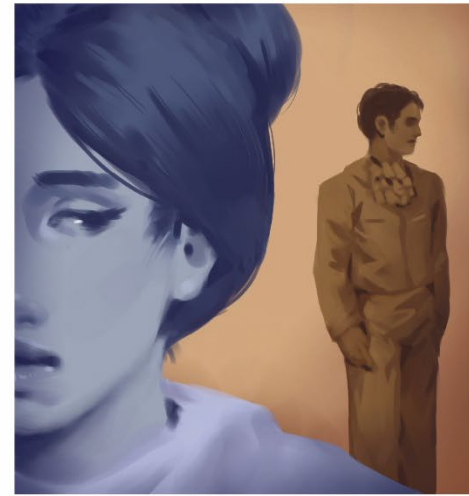
Dracula



PENGUIN CLASSICS

OSCAR WILDE

The Picture of Dorian Gray



PENGUIN CLASSICS

JANE AUSTEN

Pride and Prejudice

Figure 1: 3 Penguin Classics Book Covers



Figure 2: Synth Punk Vinyl Record Album Cover

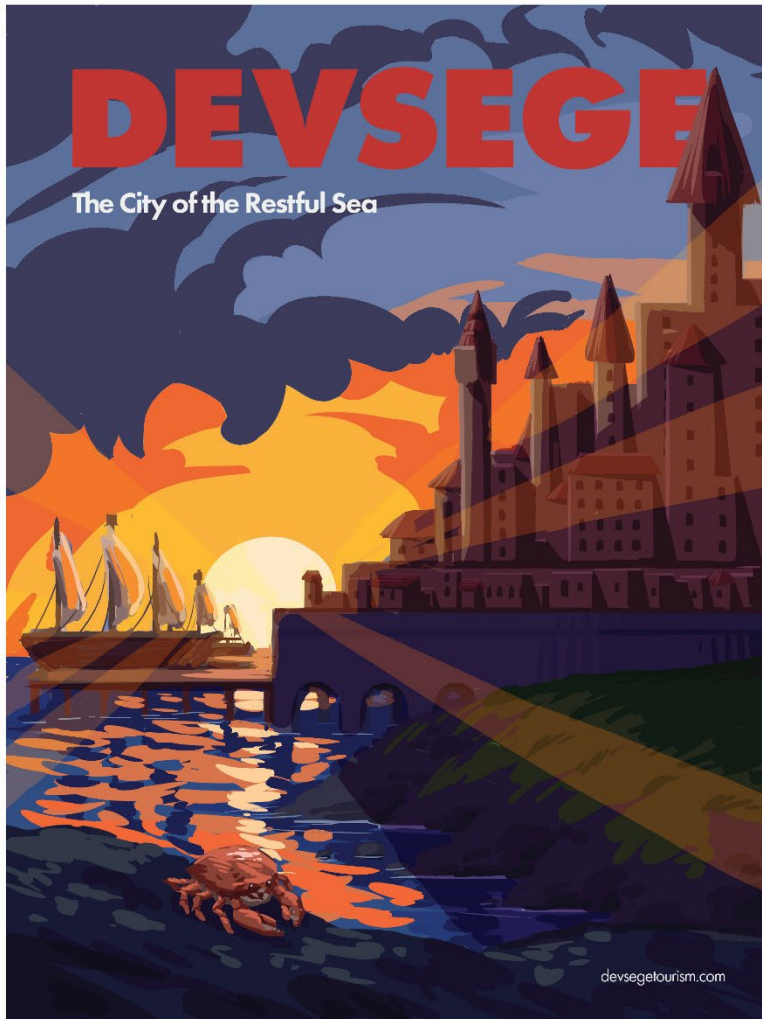
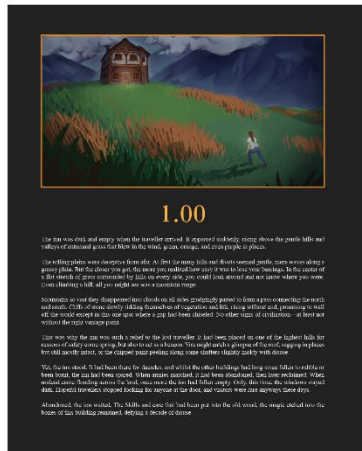
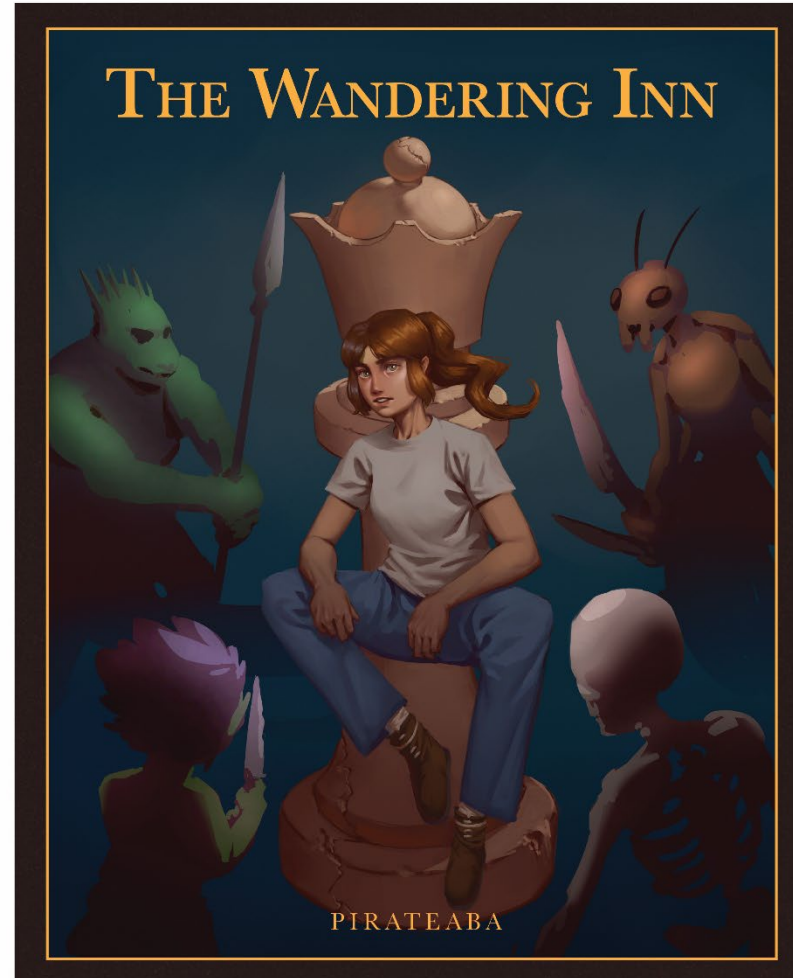
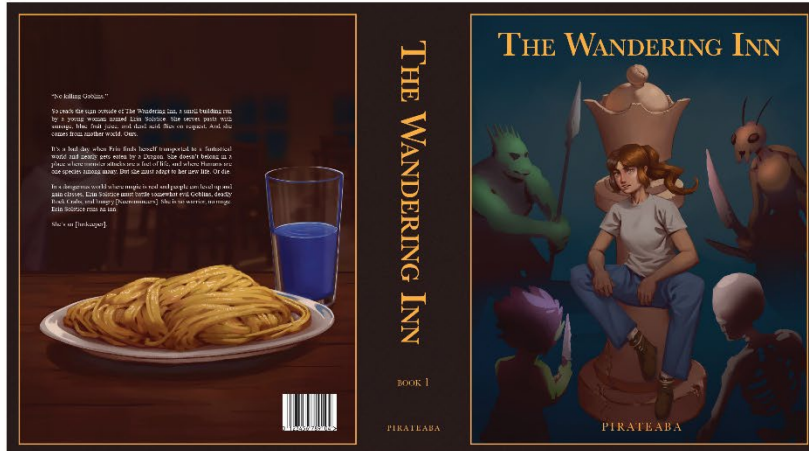


Figure 3: Fictional Travel Poster and Tourism Brochure



That was why the young woman was drawn to it. Not just because it was the first building she'd seen since coming to this world. Because of what it represented.

She stumbled through the dark paths, looking over her shoulder with every five paces, but her desperate efforts did little to ease her mind. In every direction she went, all she could see was... The young woman sniffed at the air and hissed. She checked at her right side, and to her relief the way was cleared. It was her own.

The girl checked the hill, even though there was no light in the shadows, not knowing who she might find. The inn. In every world, the inn was a comforting place. Sometimes to meet people, to rest. A place where your friends, sometimes as simple as a good night's sleep, or when the money ran out, could at least find a warm fire.

A cold place. But this inn was dark, and the large ladder to the inn's tower, close to the roof of the hill.

"Ladder?" she inquired. ...

She walked over to the ladder at the dark building. The door was closed, and nothing stirred at her voice. The young woman looked over her shoulder and hissed.

Was it that old tower? She checked the place and saw the only, but the inn was not built and the inn's appearance... The young woman sniffed at the air and hissed. She checked at her right side, and to her relief the way was cleared. It was her own.

The idea of meeting someone with the same good things, or the inn was not built and the inn's appearance... The young woman looked over her shoulder and hissed.

"Anyone here? RIGHT? RIGHT?"

She knew the inn was empty. The moment she opened the door. The result was the... The young woman sniffed at the air and hissed. She checked at her right side, and to her relief the way was cleared. It was her own.

"Yes. That is, of course, it's empty."

All at once, the inn's light and ladder against the darkness. Her thought was out of her at the sight of the... The young woman sniffed at the air and hissed. She checked at her right side, and to her relief the way was cleared. It was her own.

She had not to say. The young woman had known, known she had probably died when she came to this... She'd known, but happy.

"I've met you. You're the young woman I've seen in this world, everything's been going wrong."

Talking helped. Talking made her feel like she wasn't alone. The girl looked around.

The inn was a comfort, a building meant to hold many people. But she was alone in it, and that was terrible. Like a... The young woman sniffed at the air and hissed. She checked at her right side, and to her relief the way was cleared. It was her own.

Inside was darkness, but while it was empty and the inn like an inn, the young woman looked over her...

Figure 4: Fantasy Book Cover and Spread

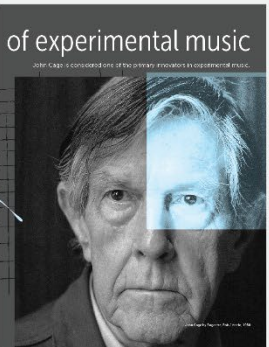
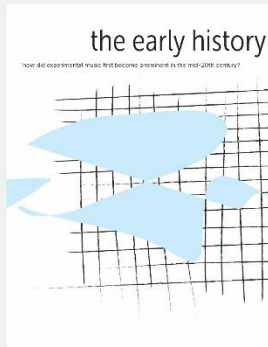
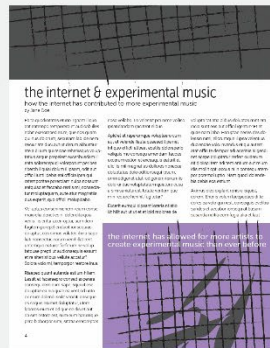
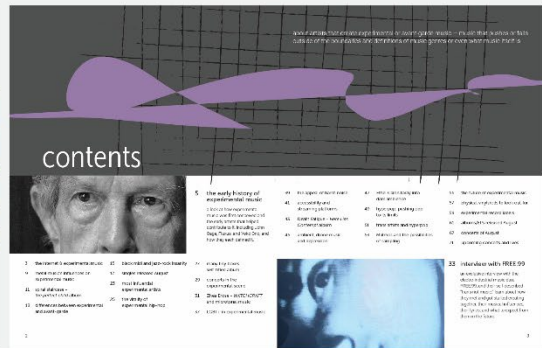
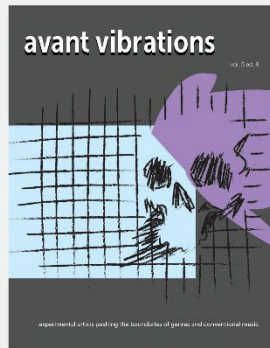
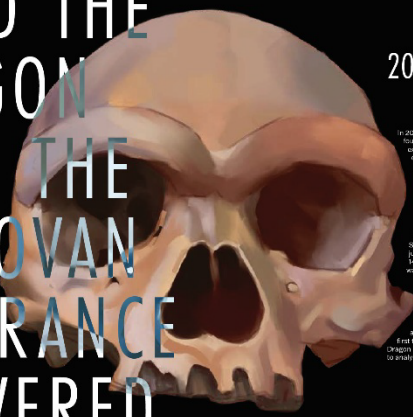


Figure 5: Avant Vibrations Magazine



Figure 6: "Right to Play" Poster

CALLED THE "DRAGON MAN," THE DENISOVAN APPEARANCE UNCOVERED



2010 DISCOVERY

In 2010, DNA from a previously unrecognized fossil in Siberia's Denisova cave revealed the existence of a new archaic human that shared a common ancestor with both "modernized" and modern humans. Researchers dubbed this mysterious human species "Denisovans."

But while scientists have since identified other fossilized remains, it's never clear enough to fully put a face to the name—despite the fact that Denisovans passed on some of their genes to modern-day humans as people.

Now, two studies published last week in *Science* and *Cell* have potentially narrowed that just one Denisovan bone, but a nearly complete 160,000-year-old skull. The fossil in question was found in the city of Hebei in northeastern China and nicknamed the Dragon Man. Scientists previously identified it as representative of a rare ancient human species, Homo longi.

But Qiaomei Fan—a paleogeneticist at the Institute of Botany, Palaeontology and Paleoanthropology in Beijing—who was the first to study the remains in 2010—suspects the Dragon Man to be a Denisovan as well. He decided to analyze the skull.

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CALLING THE "DRAGON MAN," THE DENISOVAN APPEARANCE UNCOVERED



PUTTING THE DENISOVAN'S FINGER FLESH BACK ONTO BONE

The Dragon Man was a huge male with flat cheeks and prominent facial bones, a large nose, and a big, toothy grin. According to the two new papers—both led by Fan—genetic evidence suggests the skull indeed belonged to a Denisovan, giving researchers an unprecedented glimpse into how these early humans looked.

"After 10 years, we give the Denisovan a face," says paleoanthropologist Qiaomei Fan of Hebei GEO University in China, who was a co-author of both new papers and the original *Nature* paper. "It's a milestone."

Agreement exists: the researchers cut facial proteins and DNA from the fossil, both of which they were incorporated with Denisovan genetics. They first analyzed a bone in their quest to see if it contained genetic material, which they are looking for.

95 proteins—which showed connections to proteins found in other Denisovan remains—they had to dig harder for the DNA. Ultimately, they discovered more preserved ancient DNA in plaque on the skull's teeth, among a significant amount of external contamination.

The ancient mitochondrial DNA recovered from the plaque matched that of other known Denisovan fossils, indicating the skull belonged to a Denisovan, according to the research.

The University of Toronto paleoanthropologist Daniel Slom, who was also not involved in the new studies, says the evidence is compelling. "Taking the two studies together, it's pretty clear this is a Denisovan individual," says Slom's Science's Andrew Curry. "This evidence will make us feel the next cases, because we can compare specimens on the skull, and just fragments are useful."

In other words, if the Dragon Man really is a Denisovan, the fossil's many fragments could help researchers identify other fossils as belonging to Denisovans. It would also indicate that the Denisovan distribution spread from Siberia all the way to northeast China, per a statement from the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

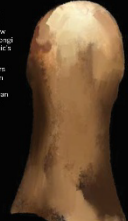


Figure 7: Science Magazine Spread

NOISE **ro**om 
r e c o r d s



NOISE **ro**om 
r e c o r d s



Figure 8: NOISE Room Record Company Brand Logo

