
Auj Ruffin

BIO

AgoraphobicAlien's works weave expressive narratives through vibrant tapestries of color and form for their audience to unravel. Through a raw, intense style, they represent life's emotional depths and ethereal dreamscape. AgoraphobicAlien invites viewers to explore the mysterious spaces between reality and the subconscious. Through strongly contrasting colors, nebulously shaped voids, clashes of jagged hands and curvy, distorted figures emerge from these atmospheric realms.

CREATIVE EXPERIENCE

Goodwill Columbus, Ohio — *Art Studio Program Manager*

Jan 2025 - August 2026

- Operated and managed a dedicated team to facilitate an adult day service program centered on art creation and community engagement.
- Managed daily operations of an art studio, gallery and adult day service organizing events and shows to promote inclusivity and community building.

Black Indie Comix Club, Hybrid - *Cofounder and President*

December 2023 - December 2025

- Co-founded and led the Black Indie Comix Club, a nonprofit collective promoting Black and Brown storytellers and artists across the Midwest, the US and online.
- Coordinated monthly community events and workshops across the Midwest, fostering connections among creatives.
- Served as a community liaison, helping members sell their works across the US at independent comic conventions
- Facilitated community through social media, resources and creative daily prompts both on and offline.

Joseph Clark Gallery, Cincinnati OH - *Gallery Assistant*

August 2018 - November 2018

- Developed and maintained an inventory database using Microsoft Excel to track art and artifacts at Joseph Clark Gallery.
- Advised on the creation of the gallery's website and photography, utilizing graphic design skills.

EDUCATION

Columbus College of Art & Design (CCAD), Ohio - *Bachelor's of Fine Arts (Comics & Narrative Practice)*

August 2019 - May 2023

EXHIBITS

Queer Craft Society Pop Up Gallery 2026 - All People Arts

Fat Babes of Columbus 2026 - 934 Gallery

March Madness 2024 - 83 Gallery

Studio 18 x 83 Gallery Opening 2024 - Studio 18/83 Gallery

People in Color 2020 - Beeler Gallery

SHOWS

Ink Drop II - October '25 - Black Indie Comix Club

Ink Drop I - September '25 - Black Indie Comix Club

Chicago Alternative Comics Expo (CAKE) '25

Columbus Cartoon Crossroads '25

Pittsburgh Indie Comics Expo (PIE) '25

Small Press and Comics Expo (SPACE) '23, '24, '25

Columbus Community Pride '23, '24, '25

Zinecinnati '23, '25

Flavortown Zinefest '23

CCAD CHROMA '23

A2CAF: Small & Indie Press '23

Black Fashion Expo '20

WORKSHOPS & PANELS

Flow: A Meditative Painting Workshop | Pussy Willow Lotus Healing Retreat
August 2025

The Craft of Comics | SPACE (Small Press And Comics Expo) May 2025

Cartooning While Black: DEI Is Under Attack & How To Fight Back | PIE
(Pittsburgh Indie Comics Expo) March 2025

AWARDS

Certificate of Recognition, December 2021 - *BQIC (Black Queer Intersectional Collective)*