

Entering My New Era - 2023

Rev. 2025.

This open series of collaged paintings/graphic scores are inspired by Sterling Ruby's DRFTRS series in which he uses a dense archive of imagery referencing prisons, archaeology, and even album covers. The images float across these expressionistic and abstract landscapes, hence the name of the series being an acronym for Drifters. Ruby has called collage an "illicit merger," highlighting the transgressive nature of the medium. Similarly, this work will explore the transgressive nature of the internet as a collaged space.

The collage elements of this series are from a niche, positive, anti-nihilistic meme that abruptly brings the viewer into a plushy tender space. We are welcomed with open arms into poetic and philosophical contemplation that indulges in a hope for a better future. Particularly on TikTok, among the often deeply nihilistic content shared on the platform, these memes populate the algorithm and often serve as breaks in your scrolling journey, seeking to soothe an inner dread that we face in response to the qualms of living in cultures that value invented modernity projects and boundless consumption. Often, with explicit references to said system, and in many different formats, these memes express themes of self-healing, mental health awareness, being silly, and having fun.

Often presented in slideshows (collections of images), you are meant to scroll across these often large collections of images in various memetic formats. The background music in these collections is usually contemplative ambient music or minimalist rhythmic film scores.

By placing these images in the context of abstract expressionistic landscapes, they evoke the physical experience of 'surfing the web', our eyes darting between the images, often not entirely comprehending the material in front of us,

These graphic scores are open to interpretation and instrumentation and can be as long as you want them to be. However, when performing them, please consider the context provided in these notes.

Before beginning, choose a key among all members and then play. Here, the purpose of the key is to agree on a starting point for the work, but nobody truly will know where it ends. Stay in key or don't. Performers are free to choose.

Consider things like texture, dimensionality, material, color, text, feelings, line shape, and anything else. Maybe even quote some of your favorite 'meme songs.' PLEASE have fun (๖ ̎ ๖)



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