



**Visual Artist |
Psychology Ph.D.**

Experience

LEE CUI

Portfolio: <https://lee-cui.github.io>

Email: lee.qianqian.cui@gmail.com

Linkedin: [linkedin.com/in/lee-qianqian-cui](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lee-qianqian-cui)

Independent Art Director & Animator/ EEL ICU STUDIO

SEPTEMBER 2022 - PRESENT, SANTA BARBARA

MIRROR

- Created and directed a short animated film with themes of escapism and free will, featuring a surreal narrative.
- Designed unique characters and developed toon shaders to establish a distinctive visual style.
- Modeled intricate environments using Blender to enhance the film's dreamlike quality.
- Solely managed all aspects of production, including visual developing, character designing, animating, directing, and editing.
- Utilized After Effects for final edits and crafted custom sound effects to complement the animation.
- Invited Speaker, Blender Conference 2025, The Netherlands (presentation on the making of Mirror)
- Finalist, International Students Creative Award 2025, Japan (winner to be announced December 2025)

Psych & Brain Sciences Doctoral Researcher/UC Santa Barbara

SEPTEMBER 2021 - PRESENT, Santa Barbara;

- Explored the impact of stereotypes on reward processing using fMRI techniques, translating complex neural data into visually accessible formats for presentations
- Examined public attitudes towards biased AI versus biased human behavior, utilizing findings to inform ethical narratives and character development in animation and storytelling.

Illustrator/The Bottom Line Newspaper

SEPTEMBER 2022 - AUGUST 2023, Santa Barbara;

- Created weekly illustrations with Procreate and Clip Studio Paint.
- Developed unique brushes that enhance visual communication and reader engagement.
- Consistently delivered high-quality artwork on tight deadlines.

Cat City Project

- Illustrated cats in various campus settings to document student life with a whimsical touch.
- Added creative and engaging visuals to portray university experiences.

Skills

Education

Blender • Maya • Zbrush • Clip Studio Paint • Procreate • Adobe suite: Animate, Photoshop, After Effects, Premiere Pro • LaTeX • Python • JavaScript • HTML/CSS

University of California, Santa Barbara / Ph.D., Psych & Brain Sciences

2021 - 2026 (EXPECTED), SANTA BARBARA, CA

New York University / M.A., Psychology / 2019 - 2021, NEW YORK, NY

Rutgers University / B.A., Psychology / 2015 - 2019, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ

