

Flowers of the Bible

By
Kyle
Harvey

For me, art is as much about the process as it is about the final product. I am a relief printer, screen printer, digital artist, and software engineer. Art is usually a break for me from the occasional monotony of computer science classes. My art has been inspired from a variety of sources: everything from nature to religion, from pop culture to mathematics.

As an artist and a software engineer, I am always looking for ways to combine my two fields of expertise and create innovative art that utilizes modern software practices like neural networks and machine learning. Beyond photography, there are few examples of mixed media works that employ both traditional art mediums and machine learning algorithms. Since the machine learning algorithms require software expertise to create, these works of arts are often created by computer scientists instead of traditional artists. This leads to a very technical interpretation of the definition of art that focuses on logic and methodology instead of emotion and feeling that often results in an albeit interesting but seemingly uninspired piece. My work focuses on the emotional impact derived from traditional mediums while still experimenting with how art can evolve as technologies evolve.

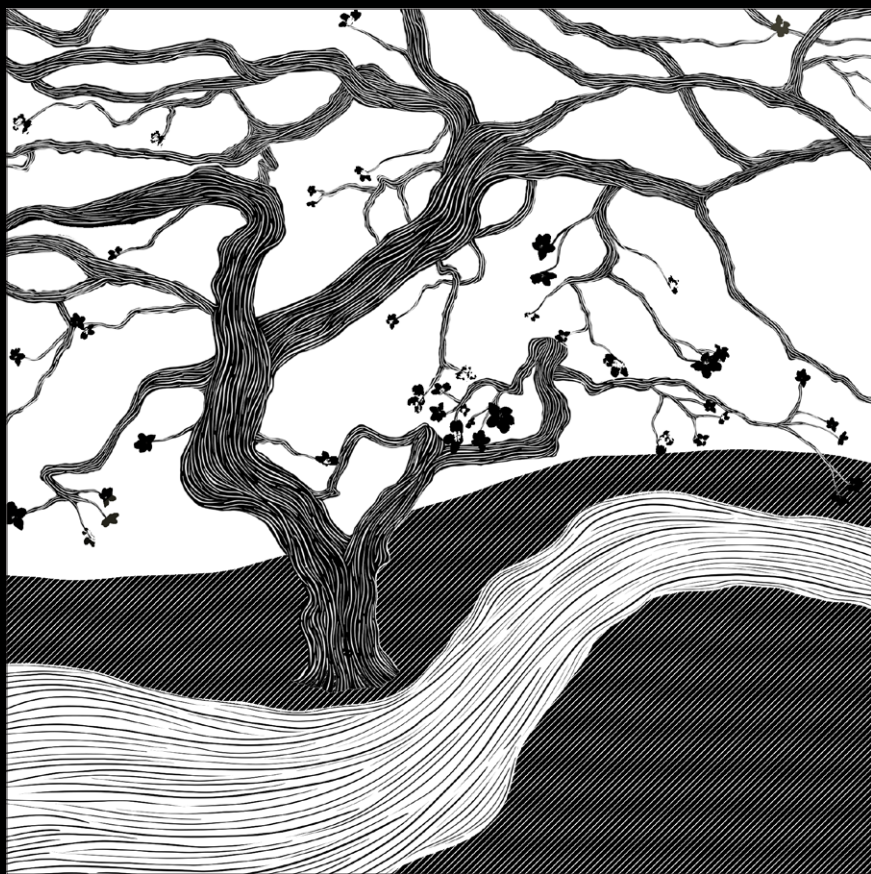
Artist

Statement

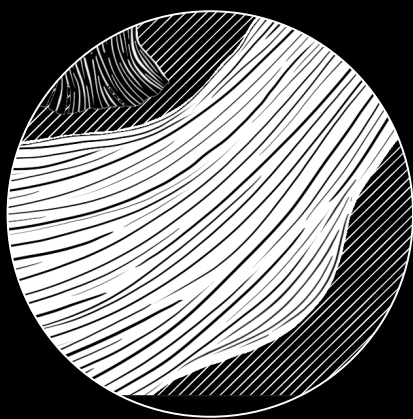
Project Statement

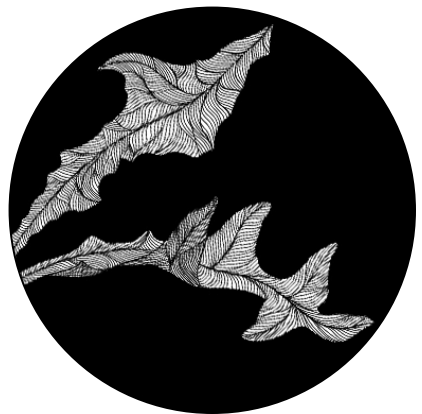
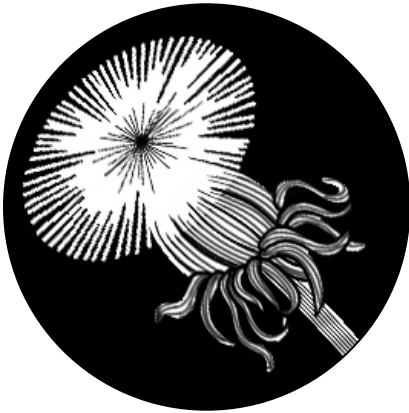
Biblical scenes

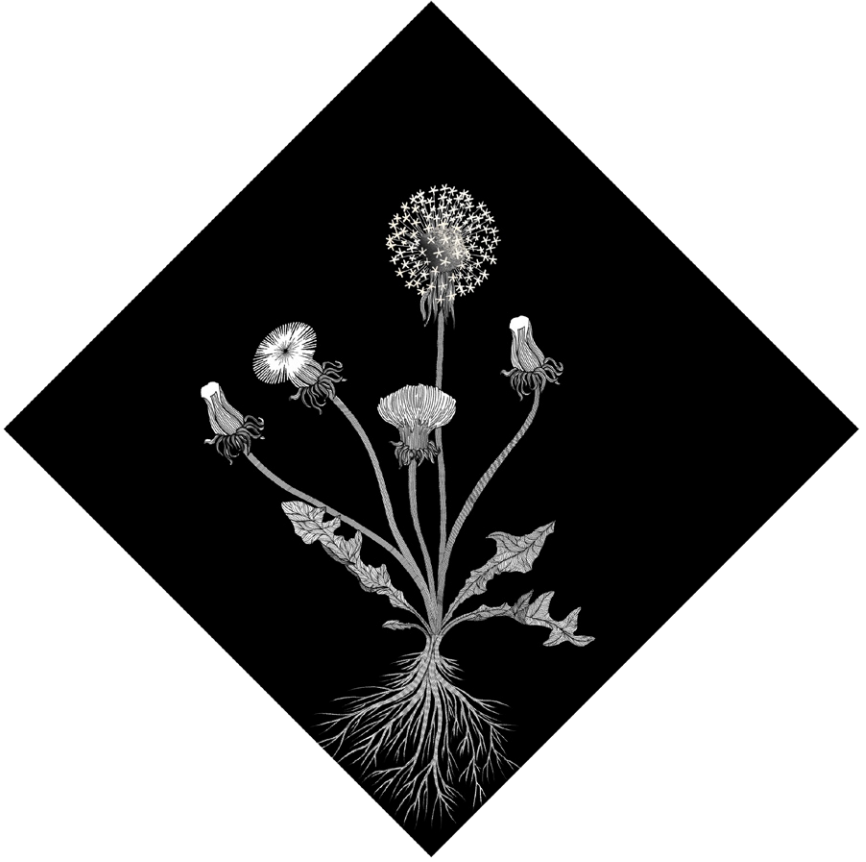
have been the subject of many paintings and other pieces throughout history; however, in recent times these scenes have become less and less common. Biblical scenes were powerful subject matters because of the ubiquity of the Bible and the inherent emotion of the scenes. Although the popularity of Christianity has ebbed and flowed throughout history, the scenes never lose the emotional tension that makes many of these paintings so special. Further, symbolism is ubiquitous in both the Bible and in visual art. The Bible contains a broad swath of symbols, from rainbows to stairs to doves. Flowers are referenced throughout the Bible, often used as metaphors for the human condition. For example, the verses from Luke 12:27-28 describe the beauty of flowers and draw an analogy between the beauty of the flower and the amount of love God has for an individual. The innate beauty and intricacy of flowers and of nature in general has been a topic of interest for people since the beginning of time. Through well-known works of symbolism, including the Bible, individual flowers have gained general symbolic meaning in modern culture. This project will explore the power of symbolism through flowers and the depiction of Bible scenes.



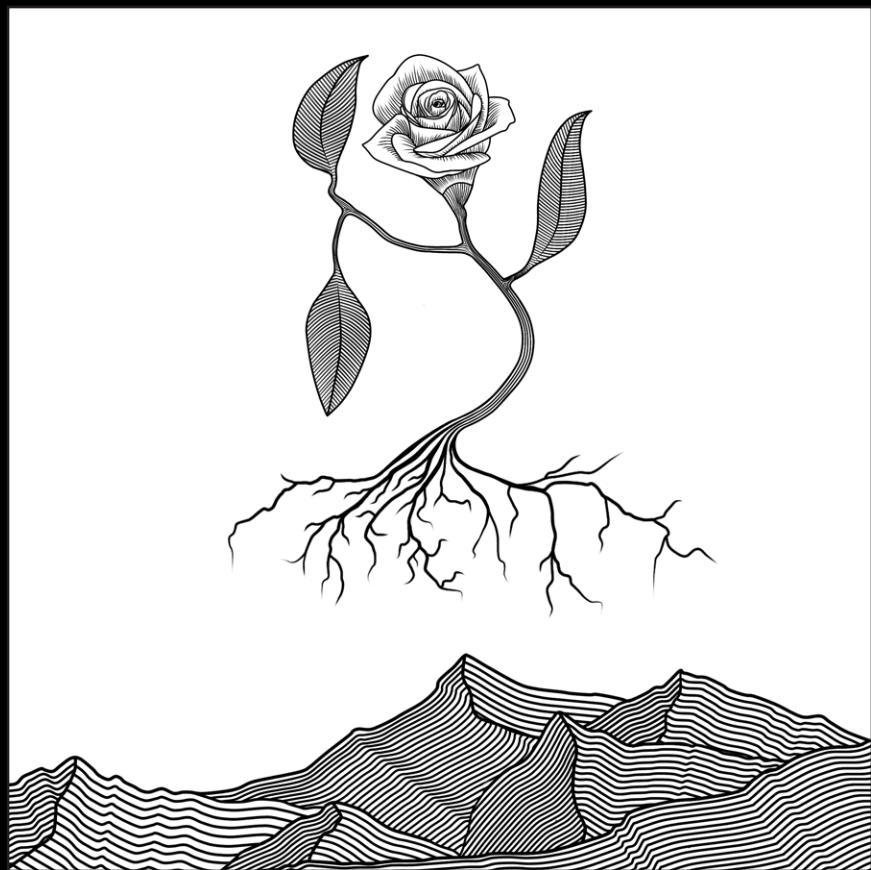
The Tree of Life





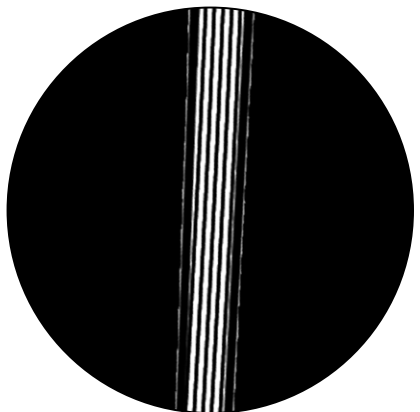


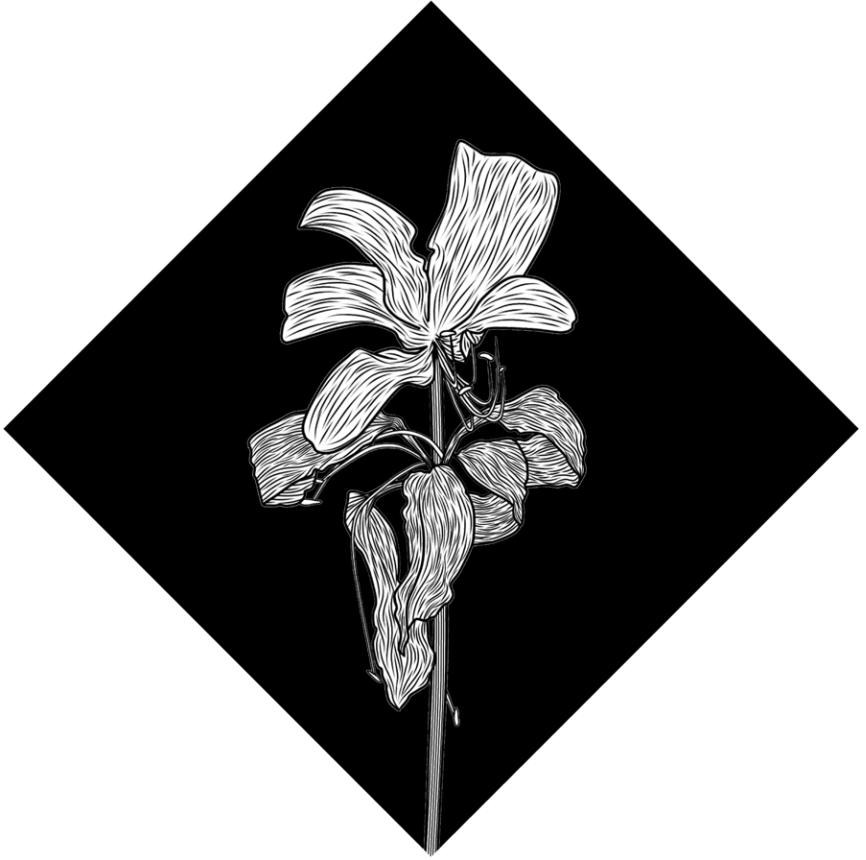
**Abraham &
His Many
Sons**



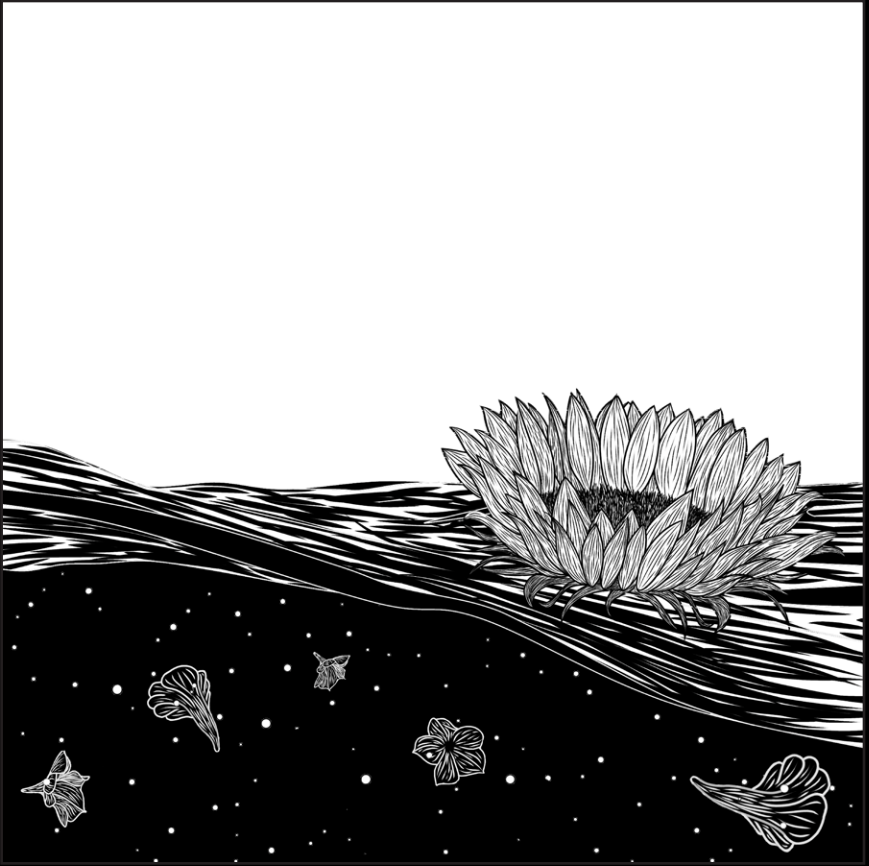
The Ascension







The
Raising
of Lazarus



The Flood



Acknowledgement:

In the development of this project, many people have helped and supported me along the way. I would like to use this space to thank them:

First, I want to thank God as he was the inspiration for this project.

Second, I want to thank the Duke faculty for supporting me throughout my artistic journey at Duke. Specifically I want to thank my senior capstone professors: Raquel Salvatella De Prada and Bill Seamen. I also want to thank Bill Fick for introducing me to the art of printmaking and allowing me to use his studio throughout the life of this project.

Lastly, I want to thank my mother, all of which would be impossible without her undivided support throughout my educational journey.