

I have always dreamed to be a Disney animator and profess a deep love of the cute and colorful. The colors in my piece, the hand that stings, reflect this love and dream. Disney movies always find a way to pull at the viewer's emotions even in the midst of a what could be seen as just a children's movie. I tried to do the same in my piece. The colors may be bright, but that is what fish are meant to be. The ocean is a beautiful place, full of rich corals and vibrant life and we are destroying it. The corals are bleaching and the fish are dying. The sea turtles are caught in netting and on hooks, the birds ingest plastic, and the fish get caught in the debris. I depicted a jellyfish-like plastic bag entrapping the fish because I felt that would be an interesting visual play on life. I had fishing wire coming out from the plastic bag and hooking on to the defenseless fish. I wanted the netting at the edges to emerge from the inky blackness to act as a monster to enclose its jaws around the fish. I wanted the viewer to feel sympathy for the poor fish who have done nothing to warrant their demise. I would hope this sympathy would initiate a desire for change because even the little steps matter in cleaning up our oceans.