

COLLABORATE WITH YOURSELF

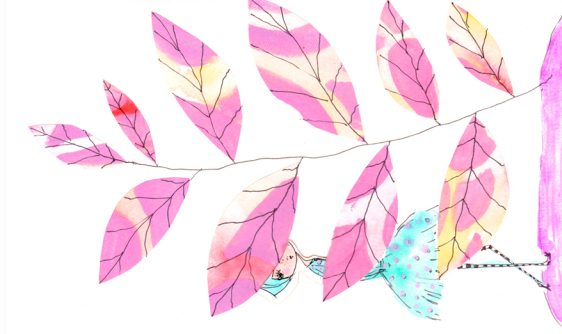
A CREATIVE EXERCISE

Below are the 5 pieces from the “Collaborate With Yourself” video in order of creation. Seeing them next to each other I can clearly see a through line with the inspiration and how each previous piece showed up in the next. It’s hilarious to me that *piece I* eventually led to *piece V*! I am really pleased with the exercise and I think I would totally try it again. It was helpful to start each new page with a little something pre-determined to work with. I think this collaboration with yourself could also work well to renovate ideas from older journal pages into new and exciting works. All in all, a creative exercise worth trying, I think.



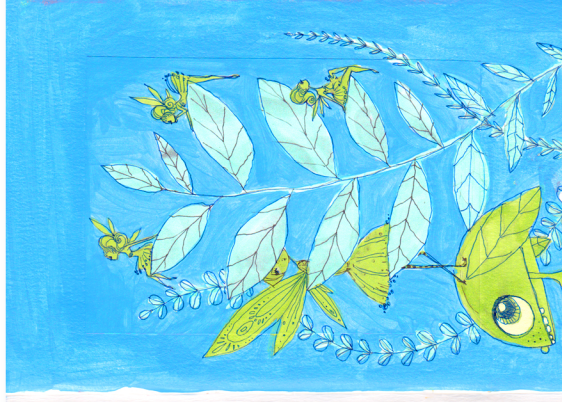
PIECE I

I took a heavy handed collage approach, honestly, in an attempt to use all the ephemera I pulled out for the session! haha. Not a great approach and I think the results show why. I didn’t love this and it went from worse to worst, tempting me to delete the video and start all over again. Then I remembered why I was doing this and it only made sense to photocopy, pull out what I DID like and move forward with a new take.



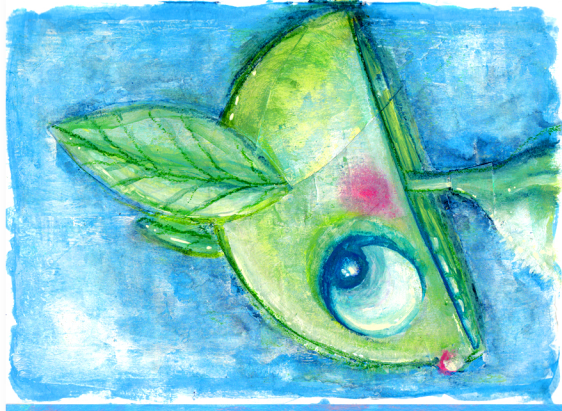
PIECE II

I liked the loops from *piece I* so I painted them in with watercolor and filled the negative space with gouache. It was a simple and effective background to place my vine on top of, which I decided to add my newly-headed lady to. The cat seemed to want to be the flower on this vine and I chose to bolden everything up with POSCA paint markers. I grabbed a brush pen and detailed my climbing kween and ended up liking this page a LOT more than the first.



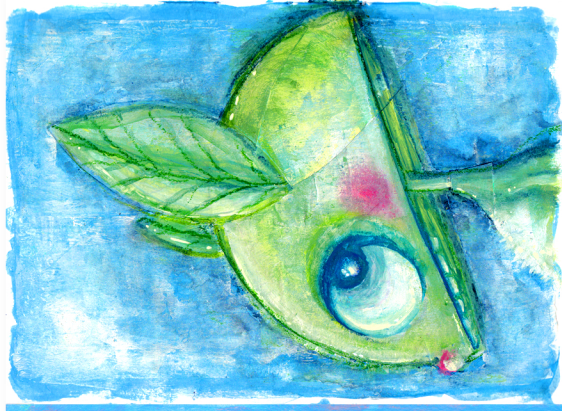
PIECE III

I felt like taking too much of the obvious imagery from *piece II* and putting it on the page was going to look very same same, so I cut the background up into leaves and made a simple collage of a new vine. I replaced my teal lady with a new one, hidden behind the collage. I loved how simple this was and how the color palette and texture is still there but it’s a lot less hectic to look at. I would like to explore this simple collage style again.



PIECE IV

This time I photocopied the previous page at 70% and in black & white. I wanted to leave the collage and get into some drawing, so I glued the copy down and illustrated over the top of it, working with the existing motifs and imagery. I stamped my “corner pieces” dolls onto the vine and added wings to everyone for a full fairy fantasy. I added my favorite new little character under my larger fairy and colored in Copic marker with an acrylic background. Love!



PIECE V

For my final page I copied my little leaf guy at 200% and flipped his ears up (you can still see the cut line in the final piece.), I layered multiple textured mediums over the photocopy, brayering in between layers to add more texture and blend everything together. I’m absolutely obsessed with this and can’t believe this is where I ended up, considering I was so ready to give up after *piece I*. I consider this collaboration with myself a big success and I’m super happy!