

My composites capture my conflicting emotions about my future through shared visual motifs of hands and silhouettes of myself. The first composite showcases the “external” landscape I envision in my future—I want to work as an artist in the countryside, leading a simple, nature-centric lifestyle. I centered my silhouette against a series of rising treelines that never reach the sky, symbolizing the lifelong nature of my journey. Each treeline is brighter than the one before, reflecting my optimism about my future as I use my art to rise from the tribulations that I have faced and will continue to face throughout life. The two mirrors on each side of my face were inspired by the line “That pride so dear to some/She learned to overcome” from the song “Lucky Sue” by Men I Trust. I want to lead a life guided by my ideas rather than by pride, and that is why a forest is reflected in the mirrors instead of my face. My second composite—my “internal” landscape—offers a more pessimistic perspective on my future: no matter how hard I work toward building my life, I am always subjected to the randomness of the hand of fate. Each day, my life falls into place against my will, like dominoes falling one by one in a row. The red color scheme reflects the immediacy and urgency of my fate, which is being shaped by this very moment.