

I started with great ambition to create and submit it to my first juried show. It was the first large piece. It was a celestial themed show at my local center. How could I pass that up? I spent some time thinking of what I would create. I knew I wanted to do something with the moon and I wanted to try something new. That led me to the phases of the moon.

This started as a colorful background. I spent hours getting the circles in the right spots. I did start with diagonal lines of color that mirrored top to bottom with my favorite color, purple, meeting it all in the center. My friend bought me new paints for my birthday so I was excited to try them. I started with the gold trip just creating spikes in the paint all around the thickness of the canvas. I had to put the project on hold for a while when my family got sick in Arizona.

After the loss of my dad, it was tough to get in the mood to continue my painting. The deadline was approaching and I finally got back in the studio to finish what I had started. I ended up covering up all the cheerful colors with half white and half black. That didn't appeal to me so I used my new metal paints to create bold lines as the base of the painting. I added texture to the lines and used a matte finish for the moon phases. I like the idea of the phases but I didn't want to do them in a line or circle. I liked the S shape but I liked it better backwards.

I call the piece "It's just a phase". There are always times in our lives that catch us off guard and change the way we see things. I wanted to create a beautiful piece that would be accepted into the show, which it was not by the way. I ended up creating a piece that helped me get through some tough times so that didn't matter. What mattered was that I finished it.

