



2025 AP[®] 2-D Art and Design

Sustained Investigation

Analytic Scoring Rubric and Score Rationale

Row B—Score 3

Written Evidence

Sustained Investigation

Identify the inquiry that guided your sustained investigation.

Response:

How can I depict myself as a musician with optical art? For my portfolio I wanted to explore art using a pattern I created years ago to express my experiences surrounding music. I used color and pattern changes to influence the way my optical illusions were perceived, and challenged myself to use the meaning of colors and shapes to represent the art of music visually. Through this journey I became fascinated with representation through other forms of art not only just realism and pure abstraction. This process allowed me to make the connections between my biggest passions: music and art.

Describe ways your sustained investigation developed through practice, experimentation, and revision.

Response:

I started by practicing with different colors to represent my experiences (1,3,9,11,13). I use colors to symbolize my emotions and describe the music I was representing (3,9). I experimented with different angles and vanishing points, representing different feelings, ideas and impressions of music I heard and played (5,6,13,14,15). Revision is shown in my portfolio through manipulating the physical direction of lines to create a sense of chaos or calm (4,6,8,14). I showed synthesis by creating pieces based off of the music I listen to and create, developing a deeper connection to myself.

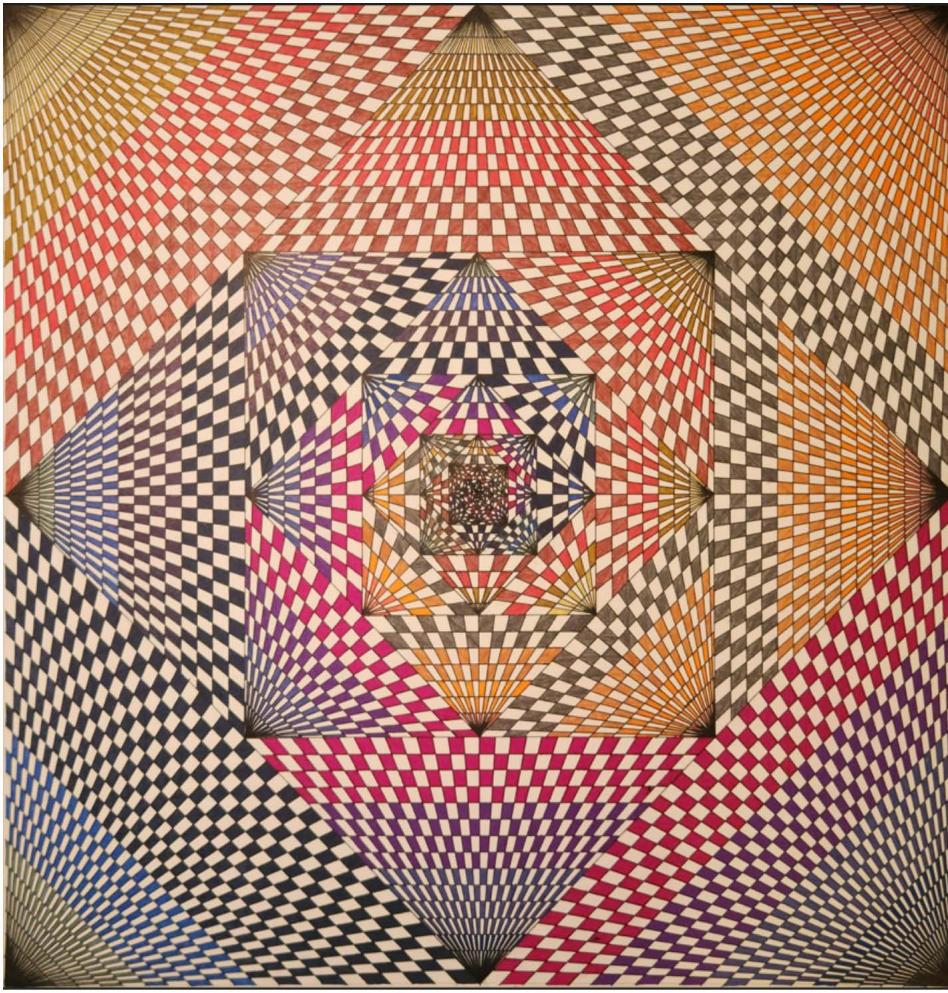


Image 1

Sustained Investigation

Height: 15

Width: 15

Materials:

Black pen, I also used colored pens
inspired by four of my favorite albums by
The Crane Wives.

Process(es):

I experimented with color and spiral
design to show the Crane Wives music
and how it all connects.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Beyond Beyond Beyond, Coyote
Stories, Fox Lore, and Fool in Her
Wedding Gown By The Crane Wives



Image 2

Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Sketchbook- Black and colored pens,
pencil

Process(es):

Experimented with different color
patterns and color palettes to match the
Crane Wives album covers.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Beyond Beyond Beyond, Coyote
Stories, Fox Lore, and Fool in Her
Wedding Gown By The Crane Wives

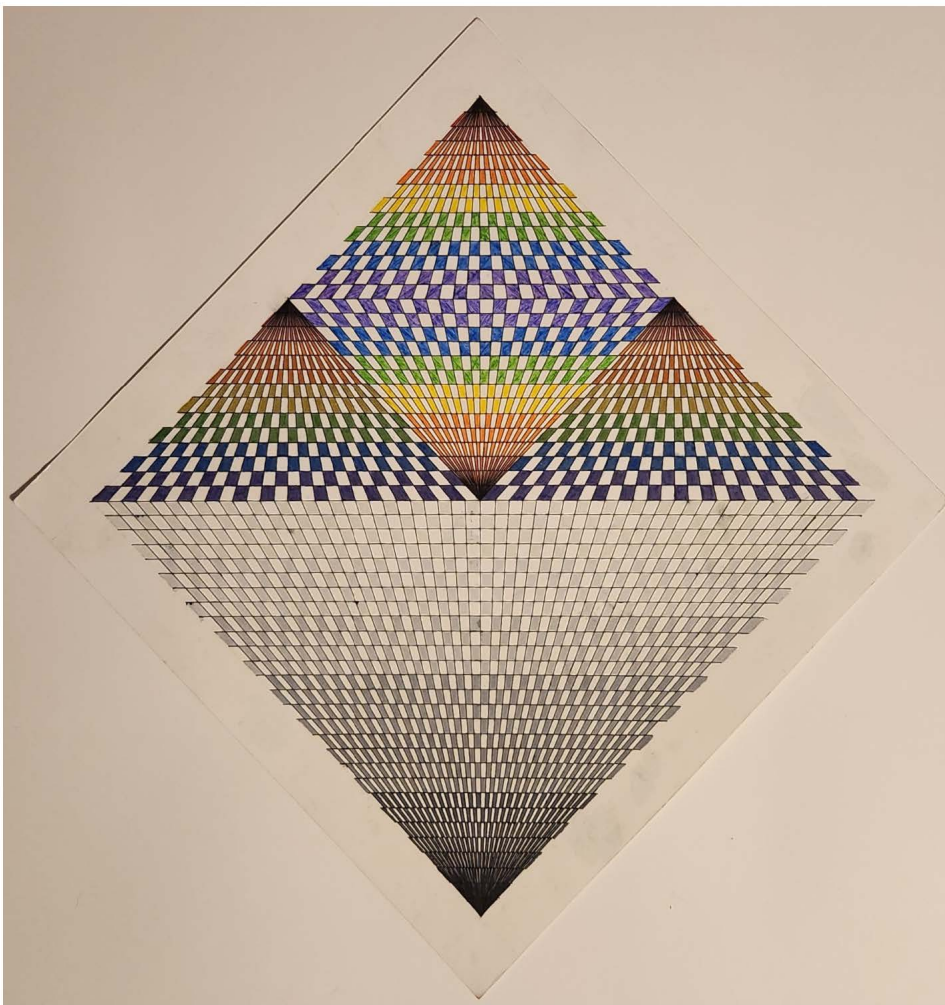


Image 3

Sustained Investigation

Height: 17

Width: 17

Materials:

Black pen. I used colored pen for depicting celebration, and gray markers for falling into shadow.

Process(es):

Expressing celebratory songs and joy turning into music of reflection and realization of aging.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Colors and ideas inspired by "Happy Birthday" song.

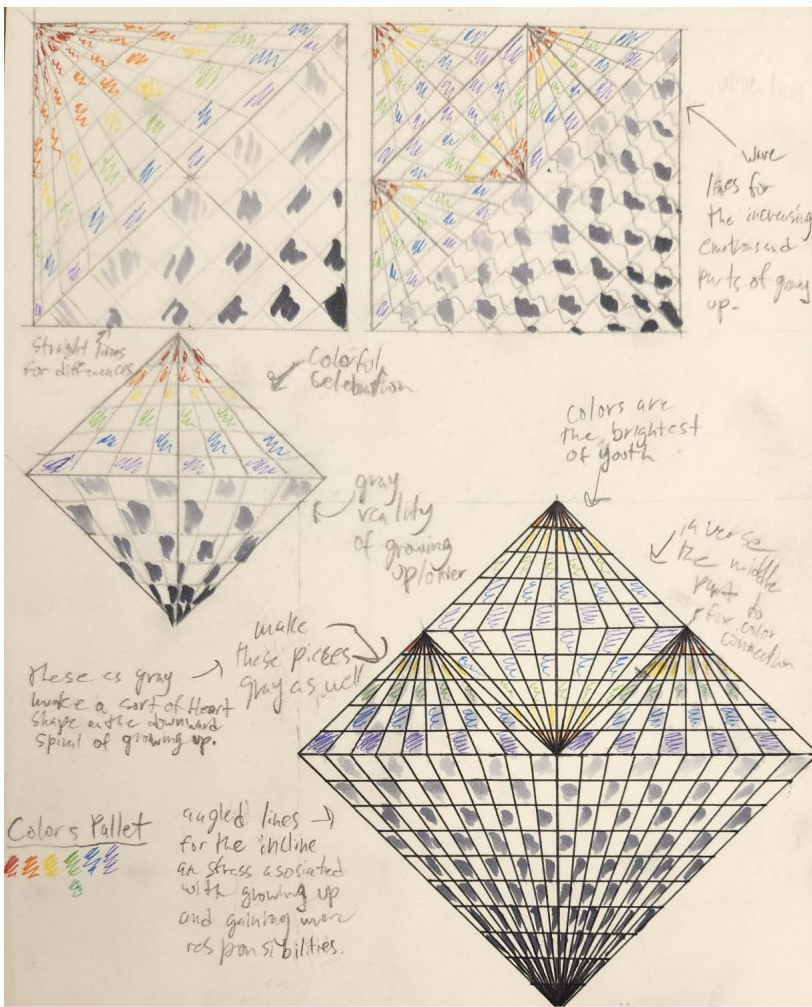


Image 4

Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Sketchbook- Black and colored pens, gray markers, pencil

Process(es):

I revised the angle and pattern of the piece to show a decline into melancholy over aging.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Colors and ideas inspired by "Happy Birthday" song.

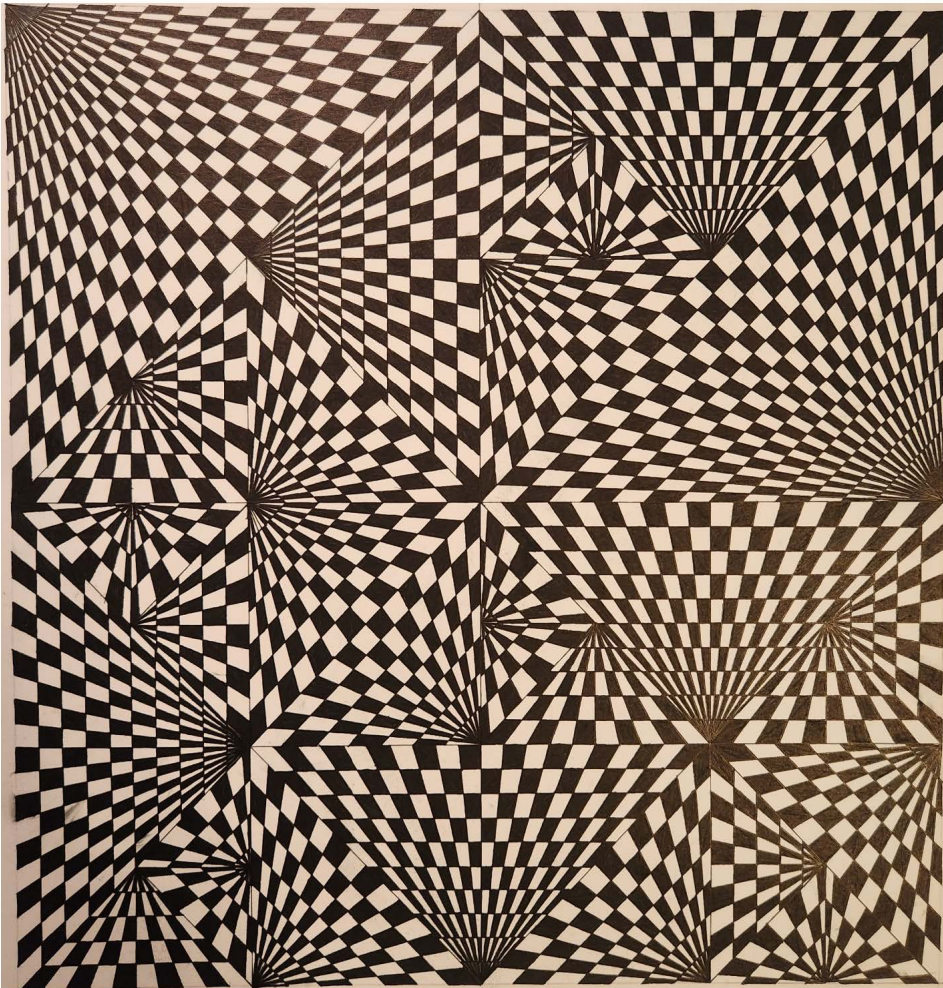


Image 5

Sustained Investigation

Height: 10

Width: 10

Materials:

Black pen only to create emphasis on the chaotic rhythm and pattern.

Process(es):

Explored multiple angles and directions to convey chaotic musical environments that are too much.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I worked from my imagination.

Image 6

Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials: Sketchbook- Black pen, pencil

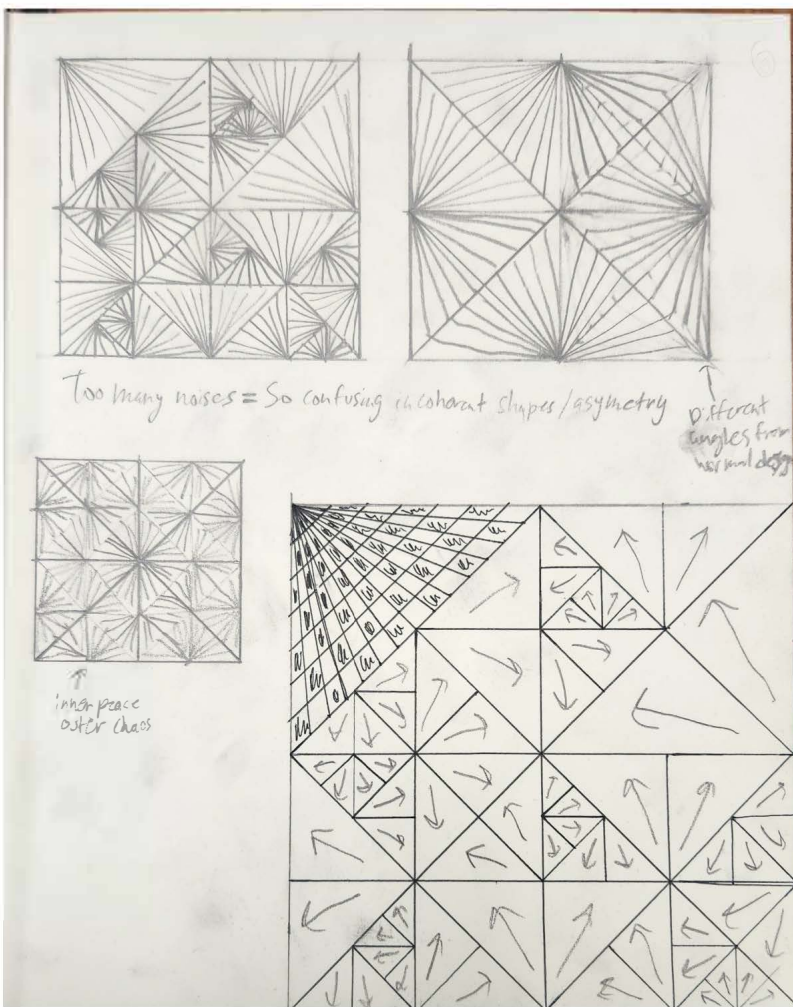
Process(es):

Experimented with
symmetrical/asymmetrical compositions
to evoke chaos/confusion.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I worked from my imagination.



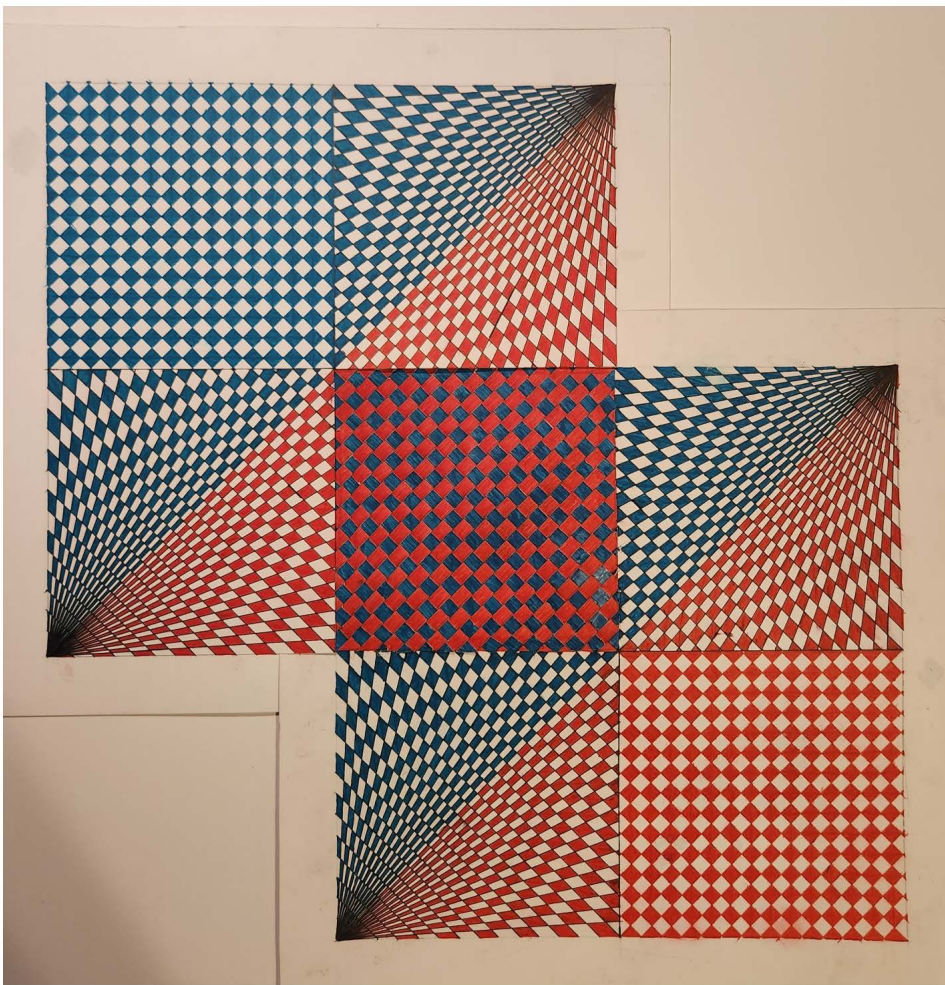


Image 7

Sustained Investigation

Height: 15

Width: 15

Materials:

Black pen. Red for fire, blue for ice.

Process(es):

Symbolizes my band's marching show--
opposing ideas: fire and ice. How
opposites can connect.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Colors inspired by concepts in Song of
Fire and Ice LEE Marching Band Show
2024.

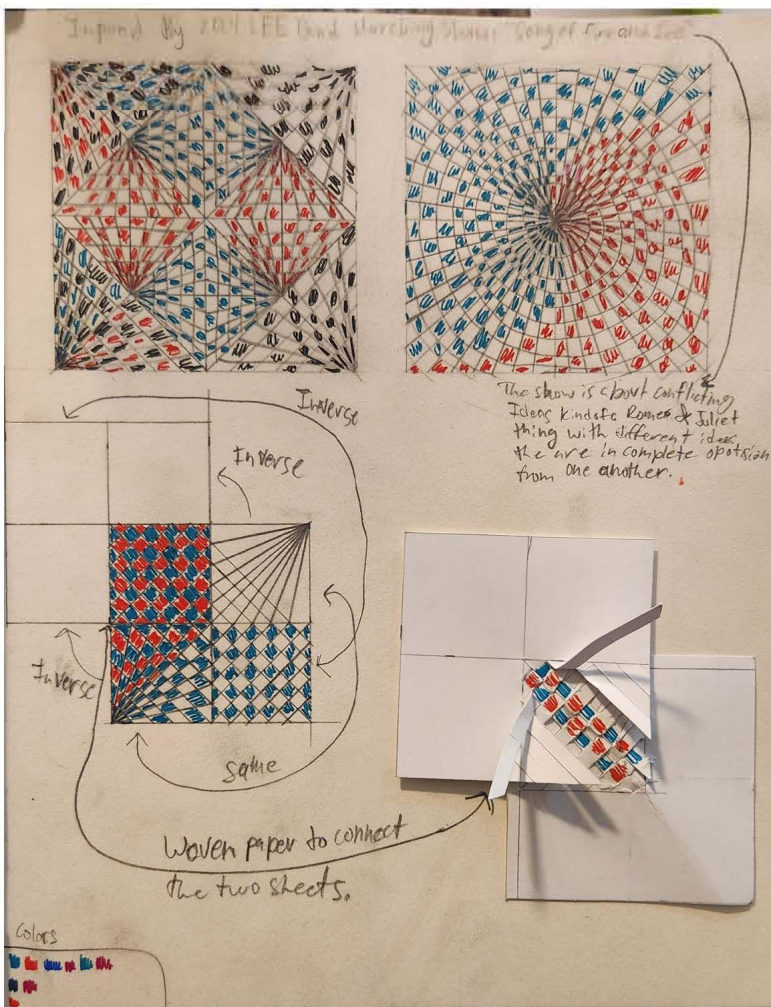


Image 8

Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Sketchbook- Black and colored pens, pencil

Process(es):

Practiced weaving paper and experimented with different design to physically connect music and art.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Colors inspired by concepts in Song of Fire and Ice LEE Marching Band Show 2024.

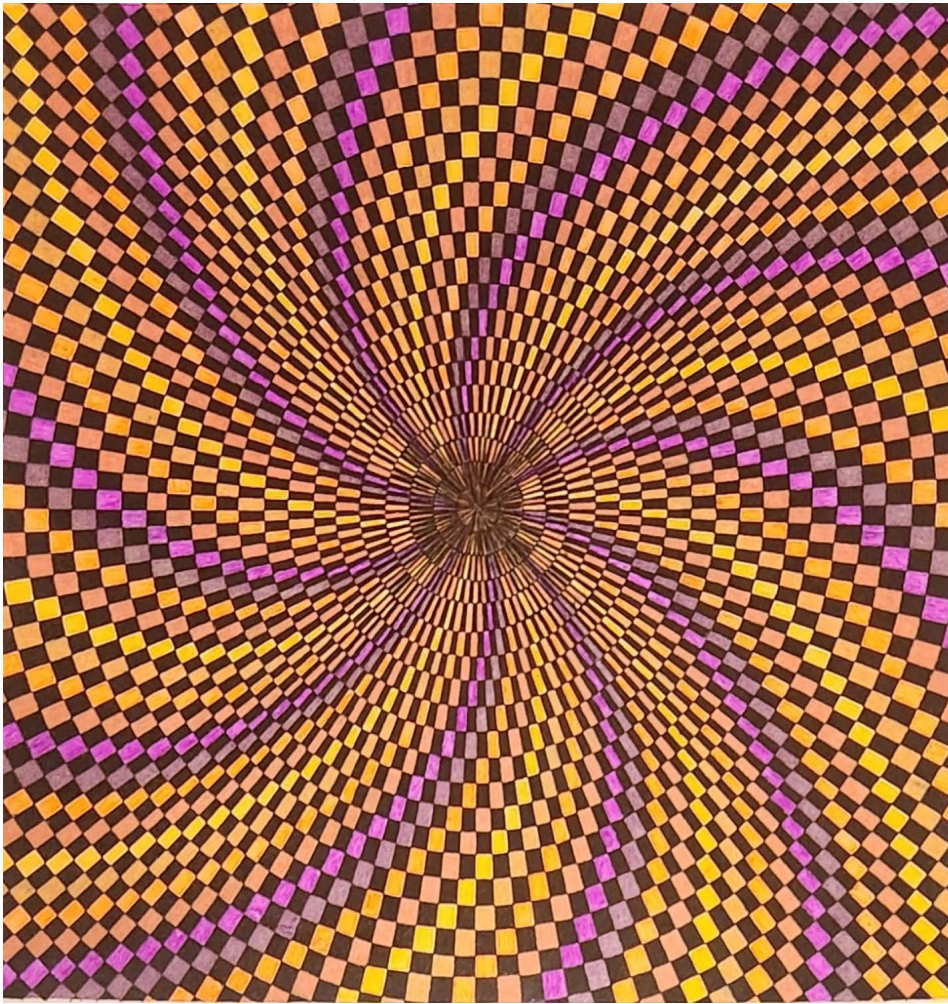


Image 9

Sustained Investigation

Height: 10

Width: 10

Materials:

Black pen. Purple, orange, red, neon pens for feelings of overwhelming ideas and fear of the future.

Process(es):

Expressed uncertainty of my future in music by the spiral's imploding shape and lack of structure.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I worked from my imagination.

Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Sketchbook- Black and colored pens,
pencil.

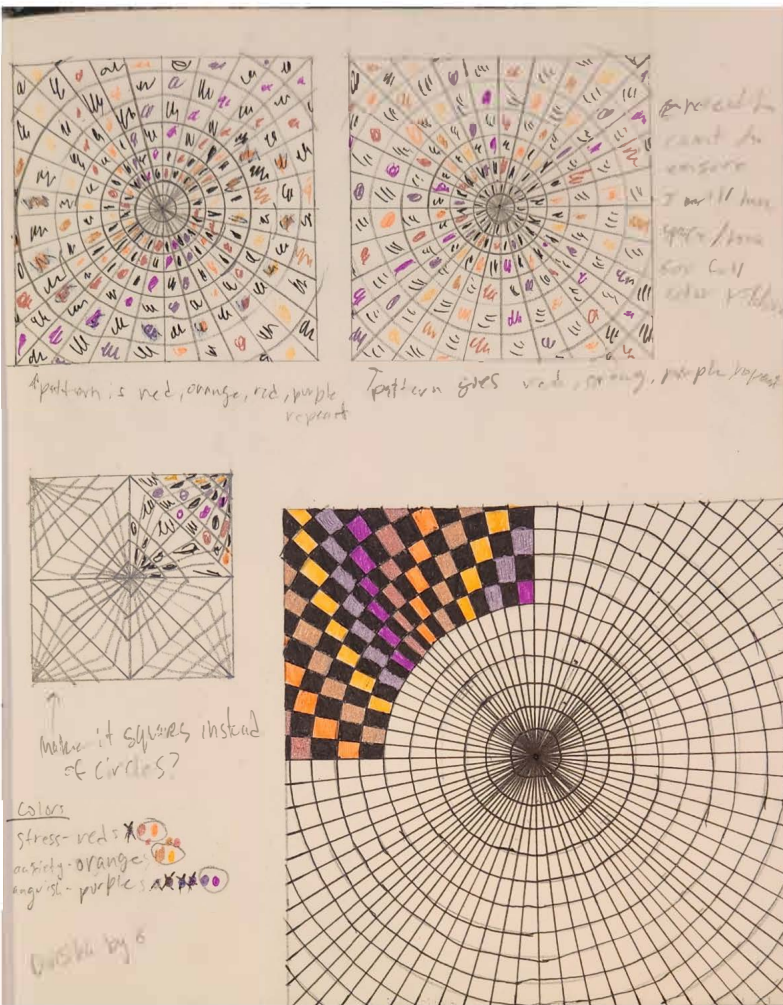
Process(es):

Practiced different patterns for color palette to best convey wavering fears about a future in music

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I worked from my imagination.



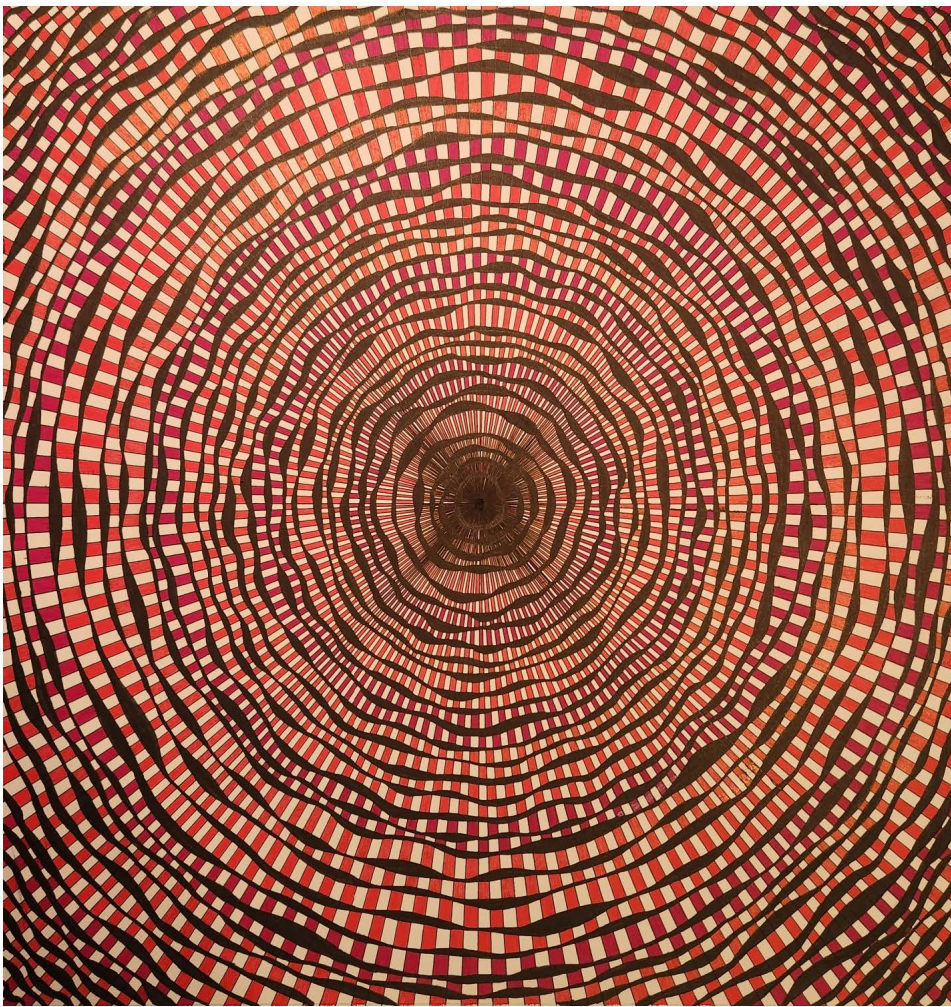


Image 11

Sustained Investigation

Height: 15

Width: 15

Materials:

Black and red pens inspired by the color of the Trinidad and Tobago flag.

Process(es):

Inspired by my love for steel pans. I used organic movement to symbolize the flow and calming sound.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Colors inspired by country flag of Trinidad and Tobago.

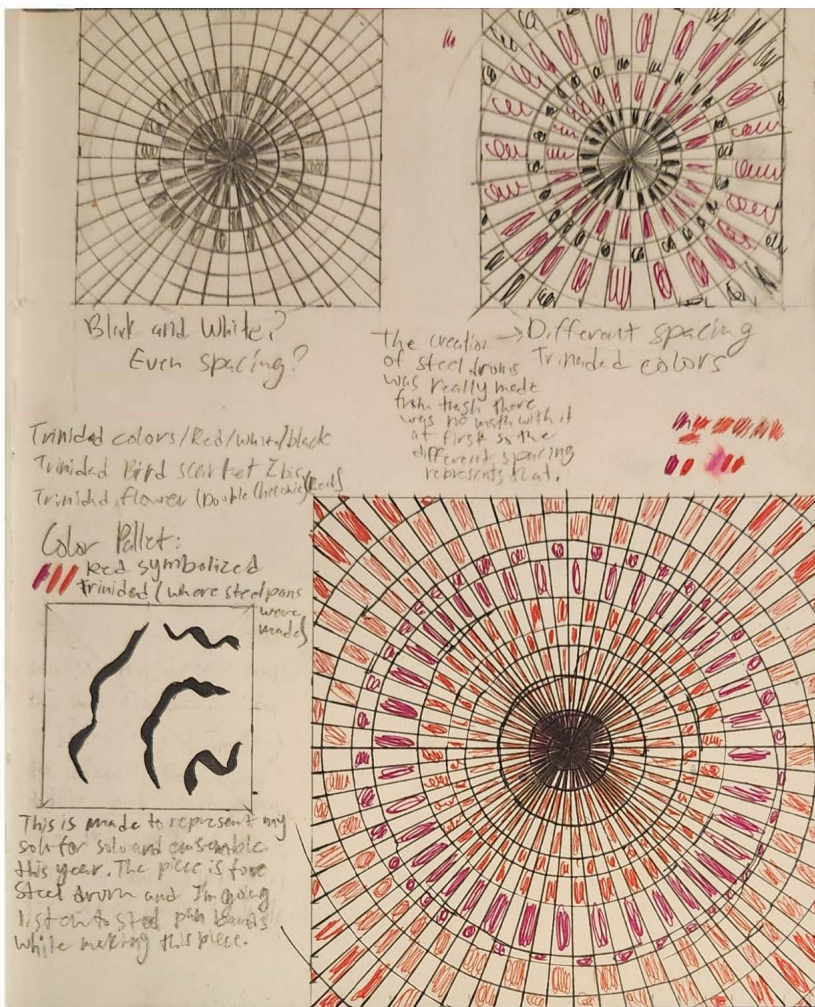


Image 12

Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Sketchbook- Black and red pens, pencil

Process(es):

I practiced using organic lines to show
the connection of handmade steel pans
and this piece.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I worked from my imagination.

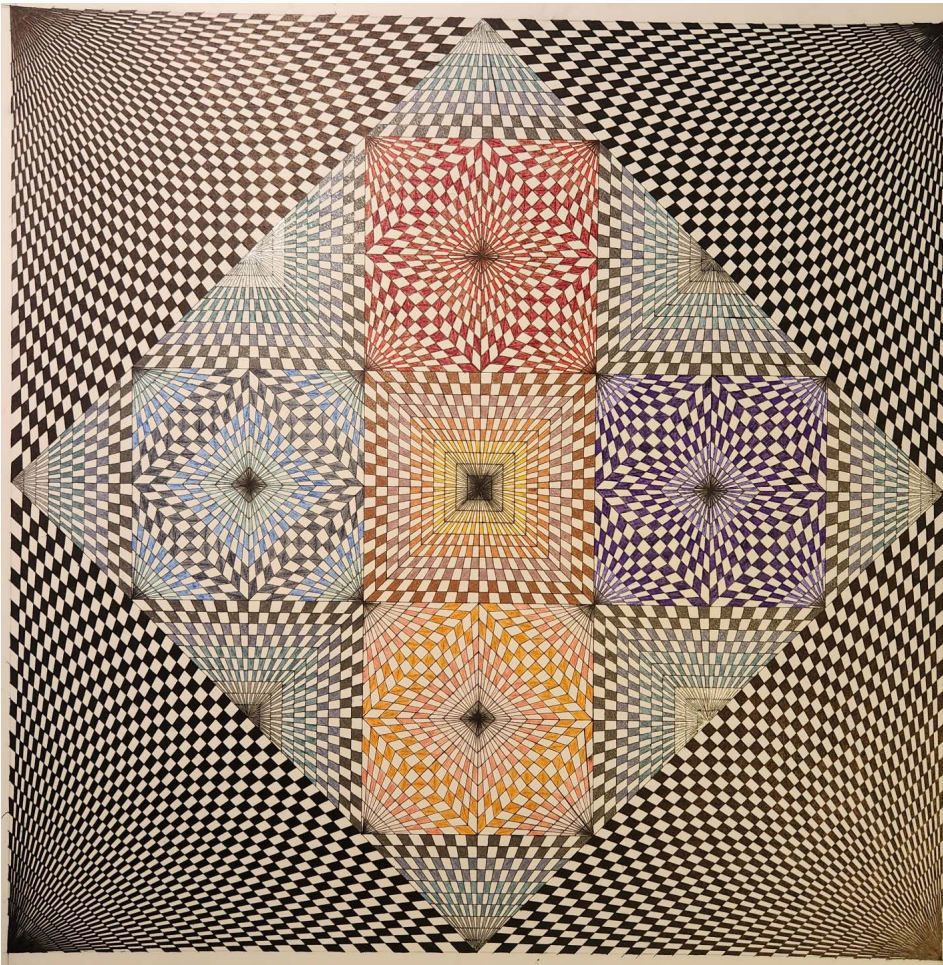


Image 13

Sustained Investigation

Height: 20

Width: 20

Materials:

Black pen represents the darkness outside. Colored pens to show bright lights and colors of music.

Process(es):

I experimented with colors and symmetry to show my first live concert experience and the joy felt.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I worked from my imagination.

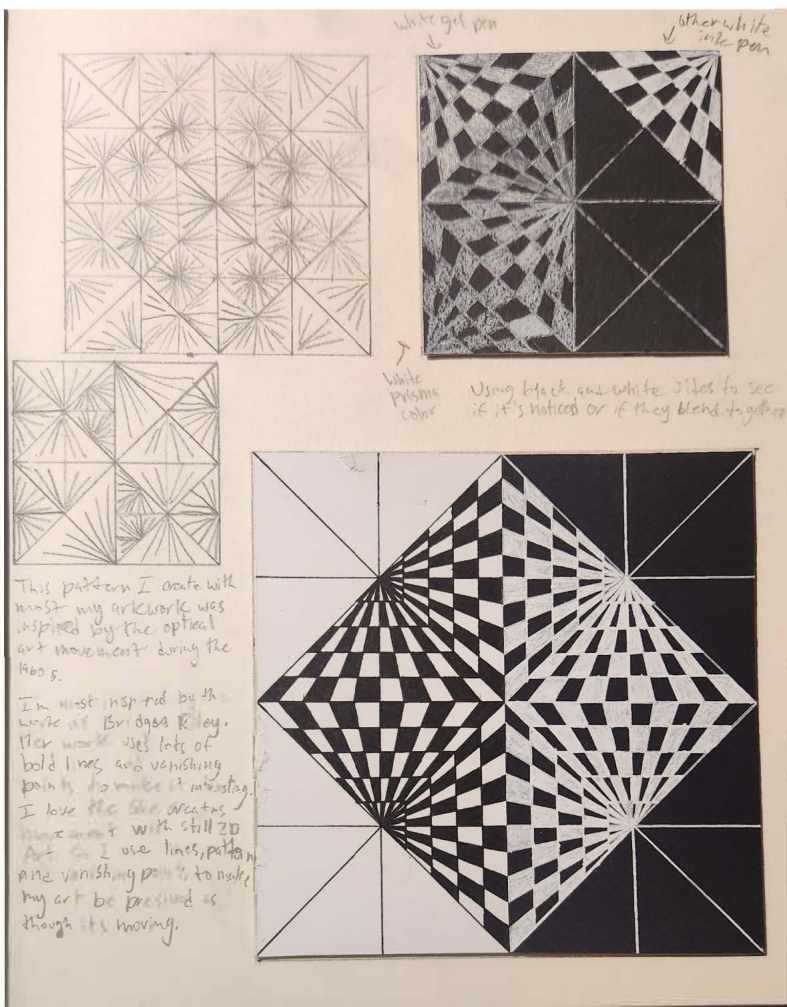


Image 14

Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Sketchbook- Black and white pen, pencil

Process(es):

I practiced different mediums to see what worked on black paper, experimented with design direction.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I worked from my imagination.

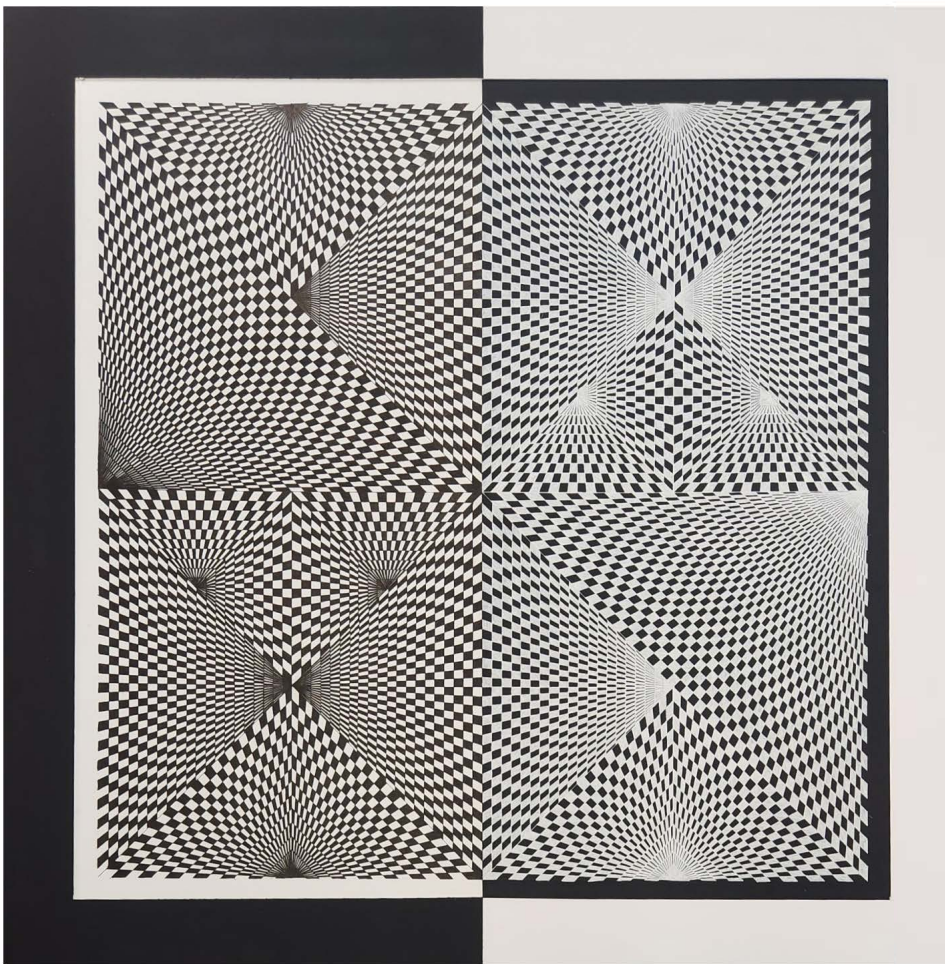


Image 15

Sustained Investigation

Height: 25

Width: 25

Materials:

Black and white pen to show the contrasting ideas.

Process(es):

Contrasting musical phrases, accelerando, ritardando. Opposite ideas but united forming rare music.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I worked from my imagination.

Analytic Scoring Rubric Row B: Practice, Experimentation, and Revision

Writing Prompt 2: *Describe ways your sustained investigation developed practice, experimentation, and revision.*

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|--|
| Visual evidence of practice, experimentation, and revision does not relate to a sustained investigation. | Visual and written evidence of practice, experimentation, and revision relates to a sustained investigation. | Visual evidence of practice, experimentation, and revision demonstrates development of the sustained investigation. AND Written evidence describes ways the sustained investigation developed through practice, experimentation, and revision. |

Score Rationale

This portfolio earns a score of 3 because the visual and written evidence together demonstrate how the sustained investigation developed through practice, experimentation, and revision. Visual evidence in sketchbook pages (Images 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14) documents repeated exploration with pattern, composition, and line direction to express complex musical ideas. For example, in Image 4, the artist revises the angle and design of the composition to visually represent a shift from celebration to melancholy. In Image 5, multiple directions and patterns are used to capture a sense of musical chaos. Image 12 shows visual and written documentation of the artist practicing organic linework in response to handmade steel pans, an idea that develops into the circular movement and rhythm of Image 11.

The written evidence clearly describes how experimentation with "angles and vanishing points" and revision of "the physical direction of lines" contributed to the emotional tone and structure of the works. The artist also explains using specific materials and color combinations to symbolize musical moods and experiences, such as using "black pen to represent the darkness outside" and "colored pens to show bright lights and colors of music" in Image 13. The portfolio demonstrates a sustained investigation shaped by intentional creative decisions made through ongoing reflection and material exploration.

Summary: This portfolio earns a score of 3 because both the visual and written evidence show how the work developed through sustained practice, experimentation, and revision. Changes in pattern, color, line direction, and composition are thoughtfully explored and refined to express the artist's inquiry.

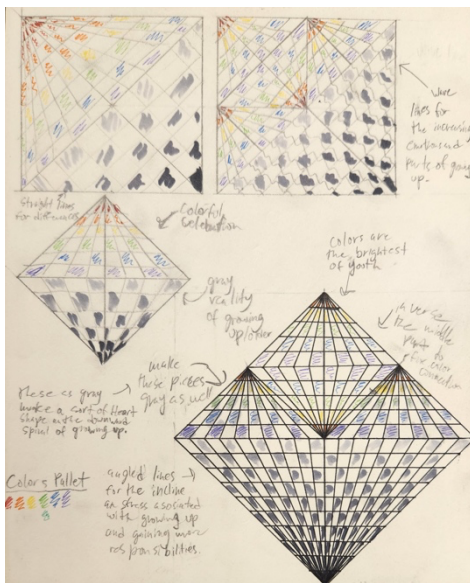


Image 4

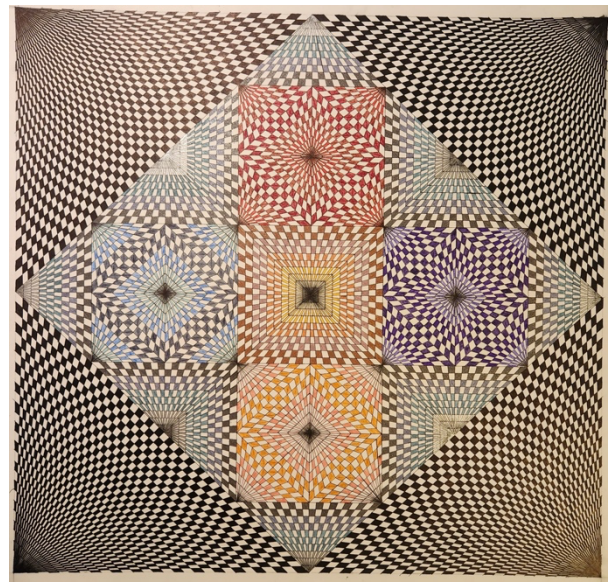


Image 15

Sustained Investigation Score: • Row A: Score: 3 • **Row B: Score: 3** • Row C: Score: 3 • Row D: Score: 3