

## Curtis Anderson

Often we find that through our sorrow lies an ultimate truth that could only be found through the depths of our pain. Curtis Anderson's works focus on the very quintessence of this human emotion, his compassion revealed with every stroke of the brush. The rebellious beauties inked with tattoos and untamed hair, express an attitude of strength and personal power. Curtis Anderson's personal hero and friend, Chuck Close once quoted, "the face is a road map to a person's life," which explains why it is the melancholy expressed in his model's eyes that draw your attention. Taking just 5 -18 hours from start to finish on most of his pieces, a week if it's a larger piece, Curtis uses his weekends for painting at his parents or in his own apartment both containing studios. He refers to this particular creative outlet as therapy, "It makes the pain go away. I can show the world how I feel instead of keeping it inside, cause then it just hurts." Possibly his most therapeutic creation and his reason for painting, an exception to the rule taking 4 months on a 10 ft. masterpiece of his muse, Xochielt (pronounced so-cha), titled "I Miss You So." She reminds him of himself and other people he's known, and he feels that by painting her, maybe he can heal her broken heart. "It's like something bad happened, but she is trying to persevere. I want this one in a museum someday, and let her be remembered for that."

Curtis Anderson grew up in the small town Needles California, but other than occasionally watching his mother, who mainly paints landscapes and Cassat inspired figures, Curtis has had no formal training yet he exudes multiple creative talents. His strongest influences are Mark Rothko, Jackson Pollack, Franz Kline, John Curin and the before mentioned Chuck Close whom he was able to meet after doing a documentary on and who now uses two of Curtis' models after viewing his portfolio. Curtis fondly remarks, "It was like the main artist that influenced me, I influenced." Other than recently being the Featured Artist Profile on MyArtSpace, he currently keeps himself busy being a double major at IS/IT Project Management and Network Administration as well as filmmaking at the Academy of Art in the San Francisco Bay area. He has directed music videos and documentaries for film festivals, and owner and CEO of Urban-Muse.com and Atomica Undead Clothing, two small but expanding companies.

Despite his extremely busy lifestyle, Curtis finds purpose through art. Through his passion, we remember the heartbreaking innocence if even for a brief moment, of the trials and tribulations of love and loss and it is through this ultimate pain that we begin to experience the world differently and realize, perhaps there is beauty in sorrow.

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