

Public Abstract

First Name:Jeffrey

Middle Name:Lynn

Last Name:Markworth

Adviser's First Name:Matthew

Adviser's Last Name:Ballou

Co-Adviser's First Name:James

Co-Adviser's Last Name:Calvin

Graduation Term:SP 2016

Department:Art

Degree:MFA

Title:Supremus

My work is an example of how humans create resurrection mythologies as a response to death. Resurrection is a memorial, which not only functions as a remembrance of a person, but also serves as a process of understanding the obscure meaning of life and death. This understanding is demonstrated through the use of comic book imagery, the hero archetype, and my father acting as the central figure in the narrative. My work is comprised of digital paintings and sculptures, which operate as a visualization of how our responses to death mythologizes a person and transforms them into an idealized figure. I display my father in conjunction with an aesthetic found in the fantasy media that I consumed around the time of his passing in order to showcase a personal process of understanding death. I am asking the viewer to think about the importance of the relationship between human life and the symbolic resurrection of the deceased. This modified concept of resurrection is not literal, but it represents the idea by which the deceased lives on in the minds of those closest to them. Furthermore, this understanding is represented through the display, power, and fantasy of my father becoming the superhero, Supremus.