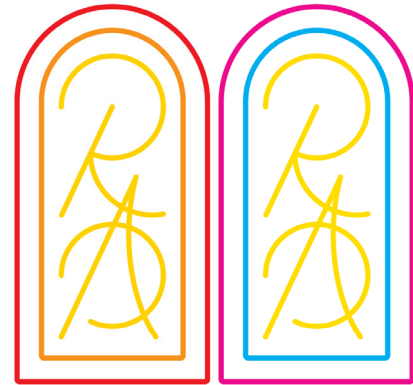


I've been starting to pack on a few extra expert hours a week. I usually get about eight from class, five or six from working for Alex, an hour from following up on design blogs, and I spend about three or four hours a week designing things for myself. That's about eighteen to twenty hours a week. I enjoy practice time and usually spend it trying to better figure out any new tool that has been shown to us. I like pushing tools to their limits. I'll usually finish any project that we get on my own time.



I feel that my work can be perceived as very aimless at first. I do however try to conceptualize and refine my work after reaching an "end" point. I displayed this by giving my final symbol designs a new cohesive fresh face. I also don't feel like a project is ever really done, there's always more to be done. Finding a stopping point is usually very difficult for me.

I wish we could get more feedback to work with. I feel like I really don't have much to work with when we have critiques. I suppose that's something the entire class could work on. I feel like critique where we passed around each other's iterations was the best one we've had.

Using the plotter to cut vinyl made me want to die. Every time I attempted to plot my designs had terribly jagged edges and off cuts. I continued to plot because I felt that it was expected of me. I think that might count for something. Also I feel as if the colored vinyl is of a far higher quality and cuts cleaner. I think working for Alex counts as gaining expert experience.

I had to let go of a few friends who weren't doing anything productive with their lives and were holding me back. I've even had to stop talking to a few family members for the same reasons. I sometimes feel homeless because my entire house was in the middle of being renovated my first year. When I returned home I felt like it wasn't the same place that I had grown up in. My mother decided to have the house repainted and the floors resurfaced after I left for this year. I recently visited and I am starting to have these feelings again. I am fine though. I used to have terrible anxiety, but I feel as if the college experience has cleansed me of all anxiety. I no longer feel anxious at all because I know that somehow, whatever needs to be done is going to get done eventually. I realized that I spent most of my time worrying and it consumed the time I could have taken to actually accomplish things.

I feel as though my contribution to the classroom climate is overshadowed by Christy. I believe that she overshadows everyone with her complaining. Whenever a single person tries to speak she'll mutter something and complain about how everything is too difficult for her. She and Hiba weren't there in the last class and it flowed beautifully. No one noticed that they were gone and I felt that my input was valid and heard. I don't know how you deal Tuan.