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Rayhons says he's interested in repetitive images because of humans' natural eye for patterns.



Japanese images have become a big part of Rayhons' work.

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LOOK & LISTEN: ARTIST PROFILE

Finding patterns in images around us

WHO: Kevin Rayhons, 32

MEDIA: Mixed

BEST KNOWN FOR: Glossy, layered patterns on wooden panels. Rayhons builds wooden panels as the base for his constructions. From there, he prints his images and gives it a heavy coating of clear acrylic paint. Sometimes he layers the images on the panels or plays with tape for texture. The result is a tactile, patterned image.

Rayhons said he is attracted to images such as fractals — irregular geometric shapes found in things from celestial bodies to human bodies — and their repetitious character. “We are designed to find patterns,” Rayhons said. “Back when we were hunters and gatherers, we looked for patterns to find food.”

Rayhons said he's mainly drawn to create from what's around him. Sometimes the result is a heavily Photoshopped portrait or an up-close image of a plant. “I take in what I experience and what I see and throw it back out in a different way,” he said.

CURRENTLY: Rayhon's recent trip to Japan is a strong influence on his latest works. “It's as far away from our culture as you can get while staying on our planet,” Rayhons said.

After visiting in 2007, Rayhons has been playing with pages of Manga comics, layering them underneath images to create backdrop patterns for his main subjects. Some involve Japanese lettering, others cutesy cartoony images found around Tokyo.

“If I don't understand it, then most of the people looking at it aren't going to,” Rayhons said about the Manga pages and Japanese text. “It's not there to be read, but to give it an aesthetic.”

BACKGROUND: Rayhons moved to San Antonio in 1996 and earned a



bachelor's of fine art with a concentration in photography from the University of Texas San Antonio in 2000. He's been a multimedia specialist at San

Antonio College for about two years.

WEB SITE: Autoshoes.deviantart.com

CHECK HIM OUT: Rayhons' image “One Piece Construction” along with works from roughly 40 other artists will be on view at the Bihl Haus Arts on 2803 Fredericksburg Road from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 13. The exhibition opens the On and Off Fredericksburg Road Studio Tour, in which people can tour artist studios and galleries around Fredericksburg Road. The tour will take place from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, and from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15. Rayhons' studio is at 817 West Magnolia St.

Catalogues of the works on display are also available for \$10 at Vee's Hair and Spa, 1022 Donaldson Ave., the San Antonio Visitor's Center, 317 Alamo Plaza, and the International Academy of Music and Art Coffee House, 131 Babcock Road. For more information on the tour, call (210) 383-9723 or visit onandoffred.org.

» EMILY MESSER | ZIOSA CONTRIBUTOR



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