

PROJECT 1 WORKSHOP: ANTHOLOGY PROFILE + AVATAR

Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You.

—Dr. Seuss

Description:

The goal of this exercise is to craft a biographic profile text, and self-portrait avatar to include in the final index of the printed anthology.

Stage 1: The Primary Ingredients

Take another 30 minutes to write out some other notes about your experience as an illustrator and interesting human being that will help inform a written biography. Start with notes in your sketchbook on the following:

1. Complete the following statement: “When I’m not working on amazing artwork, you can usually find me doing _____.” What are the hobbies you have that fill your time around work?
2. What are 2 or 3 big accomplishments (personal and/or artistic) you’ve made during your time at Emily Carr, or elsewhere?
3. What are 5 verbs of things you like to do? (example: Surfing, baking, singing, nail-biting)
4. Where did you grow up? How did you get here? Where do you want to go?
5. What are some of your hobbies? What do you like to do with your friends?
6. What’s your favourite kind of food? Movie genre?
7. What social or cultural movements are you passionate about?
8. Do you have any pets? What are their names?
9. What’s something important that most people don’t know about you?
10. What are your professional aspirations?

Share your answers for the questions above in your breakout group, and see if anyone has other qualities to add.

Stage 2: The 100-Word Biography

Using the information above (in no particular order, and only what you choose), start to craft a biography about who you are as an artist and overall spectacular person. This first draft may be as long as you’d like, to fit all of the information you are inspired to write. Refer to the profiles of artists on sites like [Directory of Illustration](#) and [Folio Planet](#) to see what the pros are writing. Most of the profiles on these sites are around 100 words in length.

- Try to be concise and intentional about your biography, and slowly narrow yours down into a length that is around 100 words.
- Complete a profile text that is written in third-person narrative. (example: “Sonja grew up in London, and after being visited by the ghost of Cleopatra, decided to...”)
- Include a website URL, as well as an Instagram or Twitter @ handle at the end (this is not part of your word count).

Stage 3: The Avatar in Action

For the last portion of this workshop, you will be creating a small self-portrait to include with your biography in the index of the printed Anthology. It’s not so simple as drawing yourself, though. You’ve got to use at least 2 of the VERBS from Stage 1 Question 3 in the illustration. SO... you like skydiving and eating donuts? Your avatar should show you doing those two things!

1. Your pick of the verbs from Stage 1 Question 3, or expand on those, but you must depict yourself in the action of two of them in your profile avatar.
2. Sketch out some combinations that make sense or feel the most like “you” before continuing to a final. You may want to fit a full figure into the frame, or just part of the figure. Your choice.
3. Dimensions for your final avatar illustrations must be 1080 x 1080 pixels. Media and palette are your choice, but keep in mind the type work you are including in your spread of the book.

Bio/Avatar Deliverables for Week 5:

1. A PDF with the following:
 - a. A biography that is 90-120 words in length, written in the third-person
 - b. Your website URL and an @ handle
2. A TIFF image: 1080 x 1080 pixel illustrated self-portrait that shows you in action

Upload the files above to the Moodle site by the night before Week 5’s class meeting.