

Whistlegraph Essay

By Perry



hey, i'm perry, just another flying orange salty zippo lighter on a cassette tape that doesn't like valentine's day or hard microphones with a headband.

on some cold day in late 2020, i was brought into the whistlegraph community when one day i was lying in bed, mentally recovering from watching children of the corn and watching tiktok when i came across a video of some guy next to a candle singing whilst drawing a flower with a blowpen.

in my head i was like "holy shit this is weird, but i like it". i had clicked on their page and then discovered whistlegraphs. A few months later, I had made an account where I tried doing a whistlegraph, and out of nowhere they saw the video. i was so fucking exited.

jeffrey, alex, camille, and just whistlegraphs in general really influenced the way that i think about art, and made me feel more validated with the way i dress and doing more childish vivid art.

my friend and I were on an instagram live the other day and they were talking about how it influenced them. i had also interviewed the whistlegraphers a while back on zoom, and we got to know each other a little bit.

i also remember how jeffrey said he would just turn on a metronome to some random tempo and just draw to it for inspiration, which also quickly became one of my coping mechanisms that i used when i was going through psychotic episodes.

it was a very cool interview but that was back when i wasn't really philosophically and socially on the same level as i am now. i was rewatching the interview today and i wish i had a chance to re-do it, because a lot about me has changed and i'm very... lets just say i'm different and more understanding now.

i really hope they don't think of me the way that i was back then. so if i had to explain whistlegraphing, i would say it is the product of failing to cease art supplies from the hands of a few oregonian adults, but in a really good way. they've also done some pretty cool art projects besides whistlegraphing, with nopaint dot art and their nft collection being a few examples.

i love their art, both digital and physical and i just really like their whole aesthetic, it just gives me a certain sense of nostalgia.

they remind me of certain artists such as cecelia condit, simon the magpie, sophie xeon, caroline konstnar, jack ferver, laura les, the books, and xwoog. i group these artists and the whistlegraphers all into an art genre that i made up called korska, because they all give off a certain vibe or feeling that is unable to be explained with terms that already exist. (that's why i made up korska).

that sadly was really all i had to say, have a nice day, and remember to dash dash dash and dot dot dot.(and to start a cult with three people).