

Katharine Seto

Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life...most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary. —Steve Jobs

Art is like a person—organic, complex, and emotional. Art's differences cannot be defined by intellectual labels that only loosely describe what a viewer sees or feels in a piece of art. Only the artist has a full understanding of how a piece came to be, from the inception to the fully finished product. Once it leaves the artist's hands, all the labels and analysis may stretch its meaning far from its original intention.

So here I am, trying to blur the lines between the labels—specifically between art and fashion. Where does the art end and the design begin? Do I need to plan from start to finish, or can I create through a series of spontaneous actions and unconscious decisions? Why is a person drawn to something, and how can I become part of the creation of that product?

Part of my process with art is tossing aside any process. I feel that I need only time to create a product: given enough time, I will have something to show for it. I know what I want in the end: to define a brand that is uniquely me. Whether that involves creative license over an existing label, or creating my own, it does not matter. To manage that, however, I need to find my process; understanding fashion construction requires working with the materials over a long time.

For the moment, let us define my art as fantastical and romantic—slightly altered and cropped versions of reality. My images are emotions and colors on canvas; they are nothing more, nothing less. Others may try to define them, force meaning upon them. For now, while they are in my hands, why define them?

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