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The Totally Amazing Assassination Adventures of Jack and Jackie

Laura Cavett
University of Mississippi

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Staff Creative Residencies Summer 2024 Self-Assessment

The Totally Amazing Assassination Adventures of Jack and Jackie

Laura Cavett, Project Coordinator in Biology, *created a series of paintings combining an absurd narrative with iconic images in cartoon format.*



This is a fictitious comic strip based on historic figures and events, inspired by the idea of false narratives presented as historic fact. My preferred method of communicating the irony is through the use of iconic imagery along with an absurd story line. My style is heavily influenced by Roy Lichtenstein, who coincidentally, was a prominent artist around this particular era, but also was stylistically ideal for this series. While he used mostly primary colors, but my color pallet is heavily inspired by contemporary street art.

This project was initially inspired by a 1980 version of Trivial Pursuit I was playing with friends, in which one of the questions surrounding the Kennedy assassination was so out of touch with the current assassination story that it made us laugh. This brought to mind the evolution of his death since the moment it occurred. This word "history" insinuates truth, but often truth seems to be replaced with conspiracies and

urban legends according to what agenda it suited. The question in my mind is at what point does it reach ridiculous? I don't think this is the only example of history being skewed, but it could be called the grandfather of modern-day conspiracy theories, so why not add one more and make it ridiculous?

My main obstacle while working during my residency week was my workspace. Working at home was almost as much of a challenge as the painting itself. I had to put everything away at night and either re-set or move to a different spot the next day due to our daily needs and our large number of pets. I spent more time cleaning paint out of my kitchen sink than cleaning the brushes, and I had to use every flat surface in the house including the top of the dog kennel, and supplies are everywhere! This really hinders creative flow.

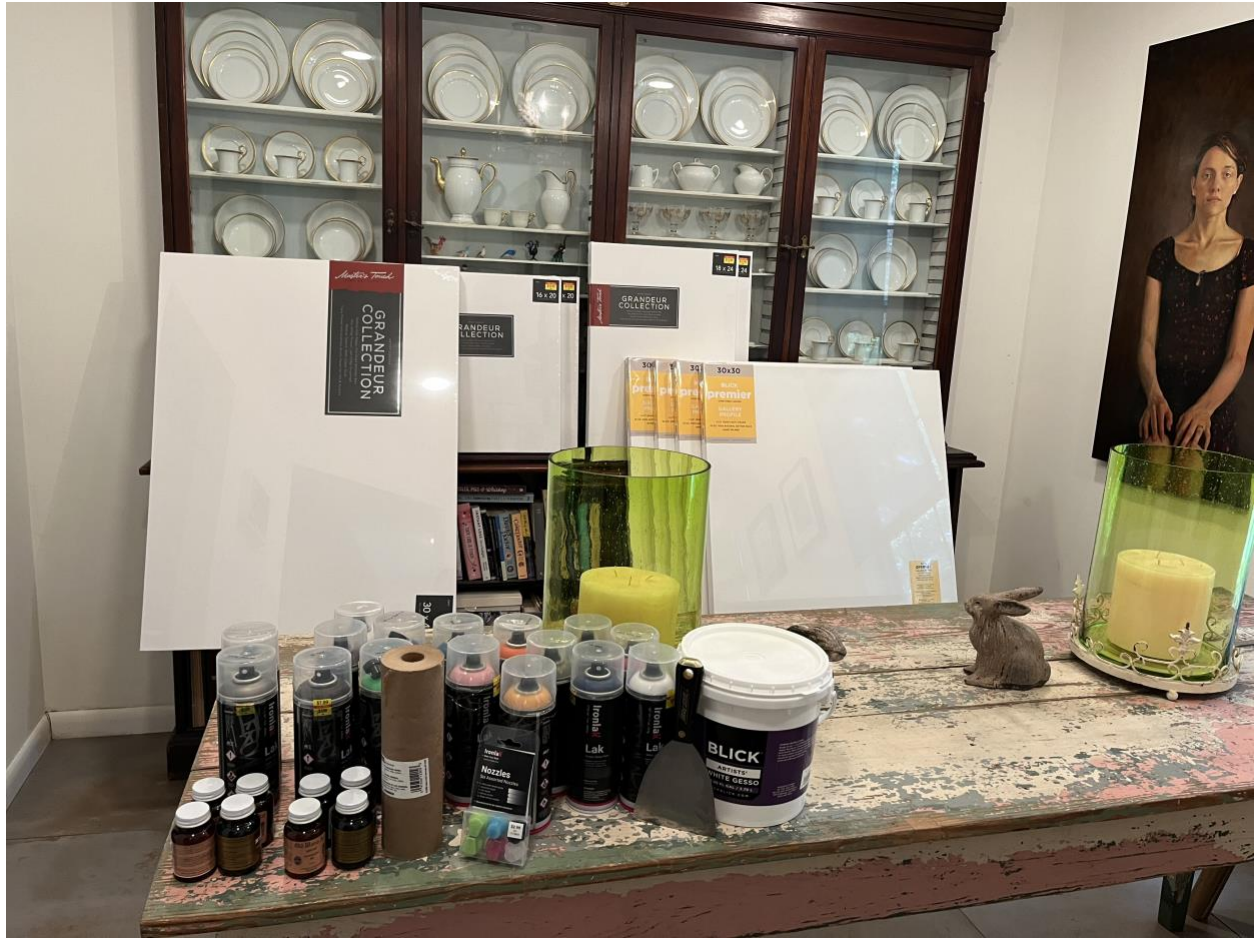
My stipend was used to purchase seven canvases, a gallon bucket of gesso, 16 cans of cheap acrylic spray paint, four bottles of leafing compound, four bottles of leafing sealant, gloss medium, a large compound knife, and several bottles of acrylic paint and a projector.

During my week I got one painting very close to completion, began two other paintings and did the preliminary drawings for four others not including the ones I began. These are in addition to the six I finished prior to this, and I am well on my way to completing my list of eighteen total paintings to finish my absurd narrative!

Note: Cavett was a Guest Service Agent with the Inn at Ole Miss when the residency began.

A painting series depicting a fictional version of history in a cartoon format utilizing a street art inspired palette.





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BLICK
WHITE GESSO
PRIMAVERA

Nozzles

Lak

Lak