



Kristen Cooney Artist Profile 2021

1. **Major and minor, graduation year:** My name is Kristen Cooney, and I am part of the class of 2022, with a double major in visual arts and environmental studies, and minor in museum studies.
2. **What kind of media you work in:** I work in many mediums, but most often work with organic materials like plants, as well as watercolors, pen, and ink.
3. **Why do you make art:** I make art because it has always been an intuitive mode for me to express myself with. I have a passion for creating and thinking critically with a creative lens.
4. **The artists who you find most influential and why:** Some artists that heavily influence me include the printmakers of the Edo period, such as Katsushika Hokusai and Utagawa Hiroshige. There is something very satisfying about landscape prints from that period, the color palettes strike a balance between vibrant and natural that I really appreciate. The printmakers from this period also have a distinctive style, they often use a minimal that indicate a lot about the landscape. I don't work with printmaking often, but I recognize hints of their style in some of my own work sometimes.

Another artist I hold in high regard is Olafur Eliasson, he has a massive portfolio, but his works that play with light, environment, interaction, and color are very powerful and inspiring to me.

5. **Briefly describe a recent art-related "Aha!" moment:** Lately I've been stretching out and using a lot of different mediums in tandem and I'm finding that experimenting with a combination of them leads to my best projects.

