

## **Research Week**

### **Inquire**

#### **3D Category Proposal**

##### **Research Problem Statement**

The research problem for this project was combining aspects of a toad and a man. The concept is similar to the nature of a centaur, but I wanted to combine a human figure with an unconventional creature in a way that had not been done before. I also wanted to combine the figures in a way that made it appear natural and real from every angle. Translating the concept of combining a toad and a man in a 3D form presented many difficulties. Deciding what parts of each creature to include vs replace was a challenge. Decisions such as how many human/toad arms the creature would have were considered.

##### **Communication Objective**

My communication objective was to create a seamless combination of a man's torso and a toad in a way that made it look like a real and functional creature. I also hoped to create an amalgamation that looked real enough to be able to disturb people. Taking the familiar forms of a human and a toad, I wanted to make something that people would be able to recognize and understand the familiar parts, but also be made uncomfortable. I hoped that people would have a meaningful reaction to it whether it be interest or abhorrence. When I was starting the project, I knew that I wanted to create a centaur like creature with a human and some other animal. I settled on a toad because I thought it would have a more disturbing and grotesque feel than a centaur. Centaurs are generally viewed positively as heroes or an

attractive form. I wanted to highlight different human features than the classic attractive features seen in centaurs.

### **Visual Solution**

For my visual solution I combined the torso of a man with the body of a toad. I decided to place the torso on the toad body where the toad's head would have been. I decided to keep all four of the toad's limbs in a sitting position with the mans torso standing up. Because of the form of a toad, I decided to make the human figure chubby to make it blend well with the toad.

### **How It Was Produced**

It was produced with mainly Sculpey clay. I first created a wire form to serve as the skeleton and nailed it into a wooden base. I then wrapped this skeleton with tin foil to give the rough shape of the sculpture. I then covered this base with clay and sculpted the creature gradually. I used a variety of tools to help in the process such as pliers for the skeleton, Xacto knives, and a set of sculpting tools.

## Worldview

My worldview is centered in the Bible. I believe in the whole Bible and this belief is the foundation of my life. I believe that Jesus Christ came and died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins. We cannot be sinless on our own. Because God loved us, he provided the gift of salvation through Jesus. The love and creations of God effect how I see the world. Because I believe God created everything, I am constantly in awe of creation and its intricacies. I am inspired by what I see around me in the world. I know that I cannot create anything better than what God has created, but I strive to imitate God's creativity and combine things in unique ways. My Biblical worldview and relationship with Christ influences every aspect of my life.

- Presenter's name
  - Haley Gafford
- Address
  - 1971 University Blvd MSC 145575 Lynchburg, VA 24515
- Phone number
  - 678-761-2173
- Title
  - "Centoad"
- Medium of the artwork
  - Sculpture





