



# The Movement of Contemporary Life

Van huong Mai

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of Requirements for  
degree of Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts

May 2022

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ลิขสิทธิ์เป็นของมหาวิทยาลัยมหาสารคาม

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The examining committee has unanimously approved this Thesis, submitted by Ms. Van huong Mai , as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Visual Arts at Mahasarakham University

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### ABSTRACT

This visual arts creation thesis, “The Movement of Contemporary Life” consisted of two purposes, which were 1) to study the movement and development of the modern life. and 2) to create the visual arts which was paintings that expressed via form of apartment buildings was used from digital overlapping and acrylic painting on canvas which conveyed the rapid pace of modern life leading to diverse movements in viewer’s feeling. The operation of this creation was collected field data [4], documentary data [7], and influence from creative work [12]. The data analysis was clearly analyzed in order to theme, form, technique, and process to satisfy of concept and specially character for [30] piece.

The result of this creation was found [54 – 60]. And this creation also brought about the new particularly appearance.

Keyword : Movement, Contemporary Life, Acrylic Painting

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

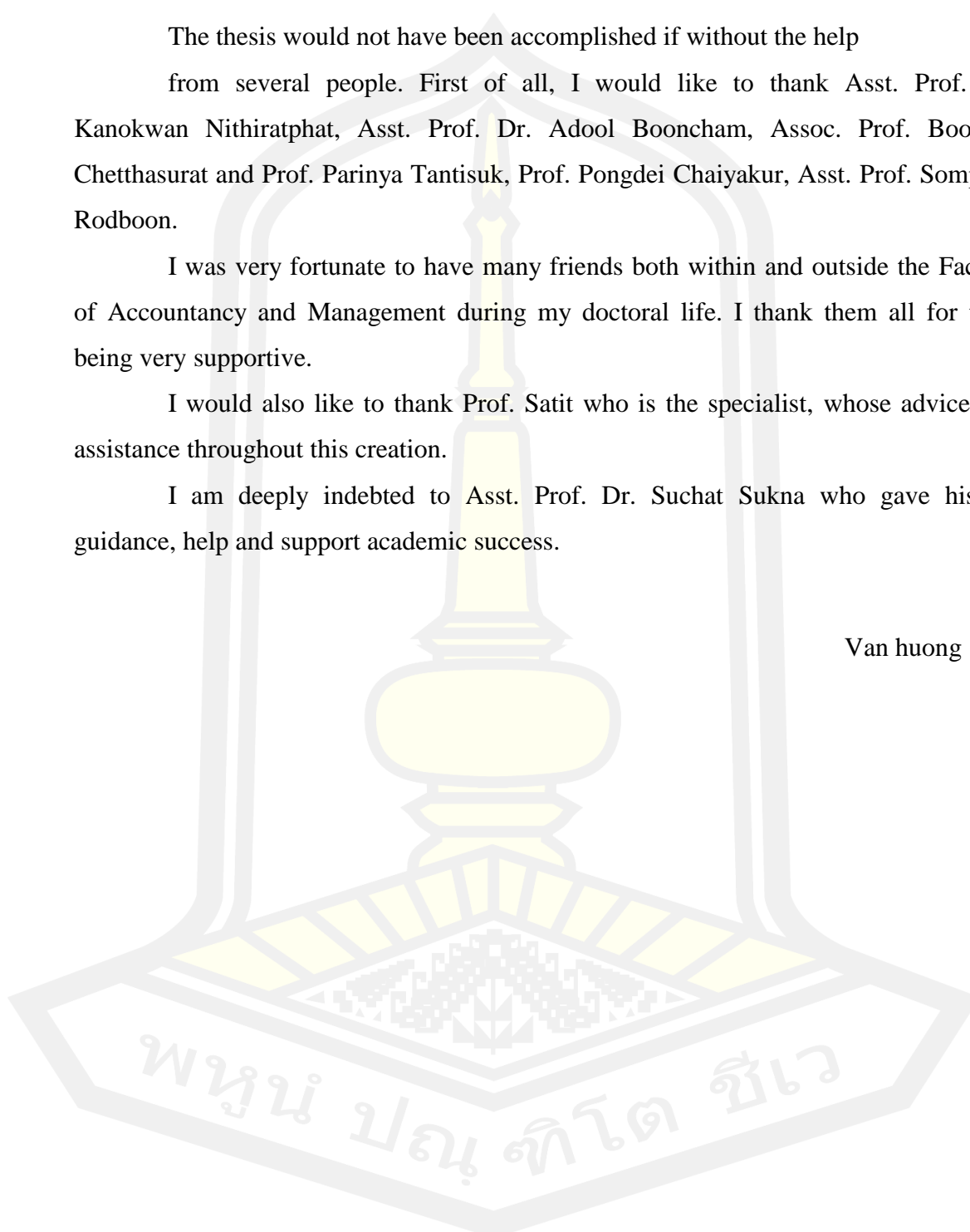
The thesis would not have been accomplished if without the help from several people. First of all, I would like to thank Asst. Prof. Dr. Kanokwan Nithiratphat, Asst. Prof. Dr. Adool Booncham, Assoc. Prof. Boontan Chetthasurat and Prof. Parinya Tantisuk, Prof. Pongdei Chaiyakur, Asst. Prof. Somporn Rodboon.

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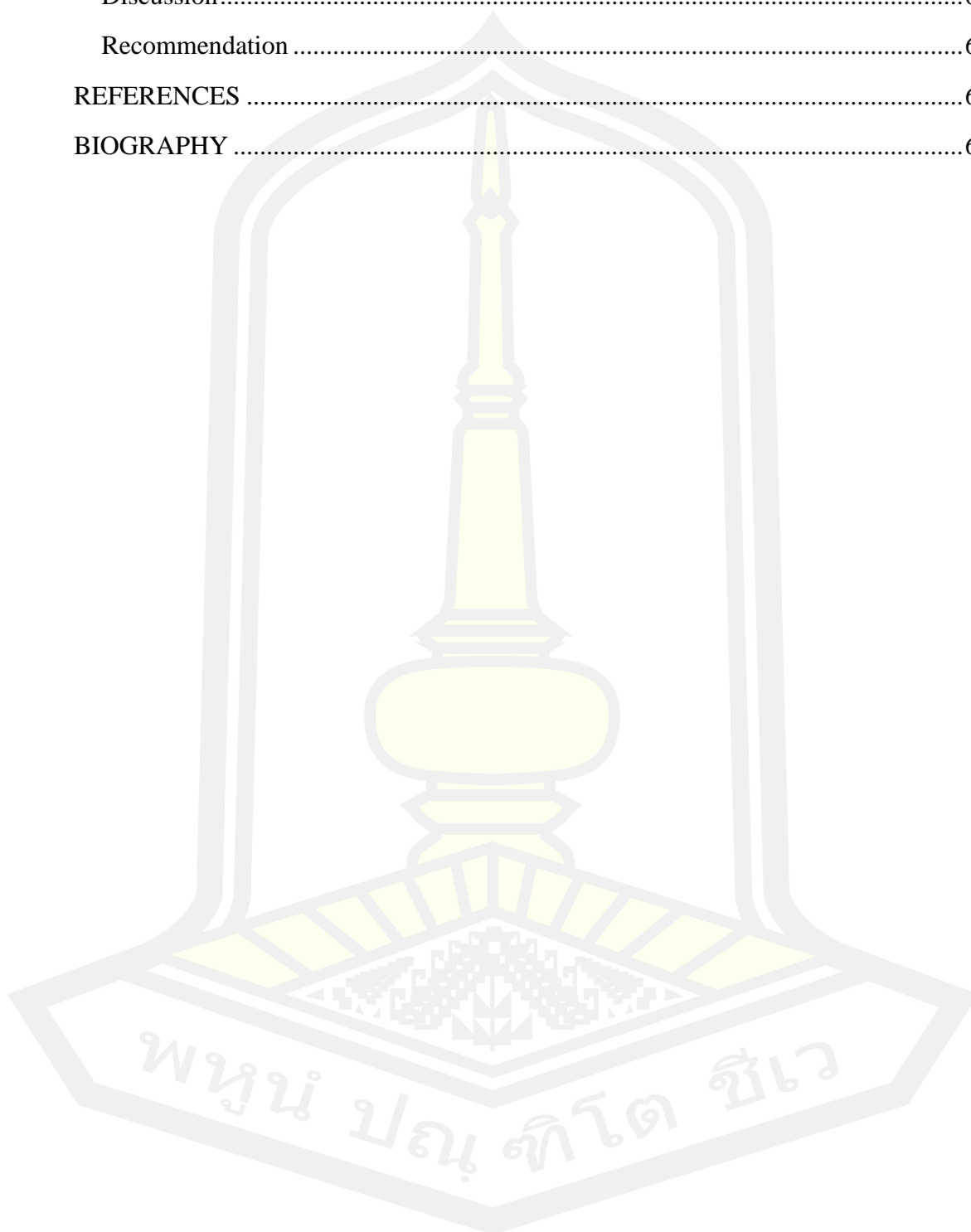
Van huong Mai



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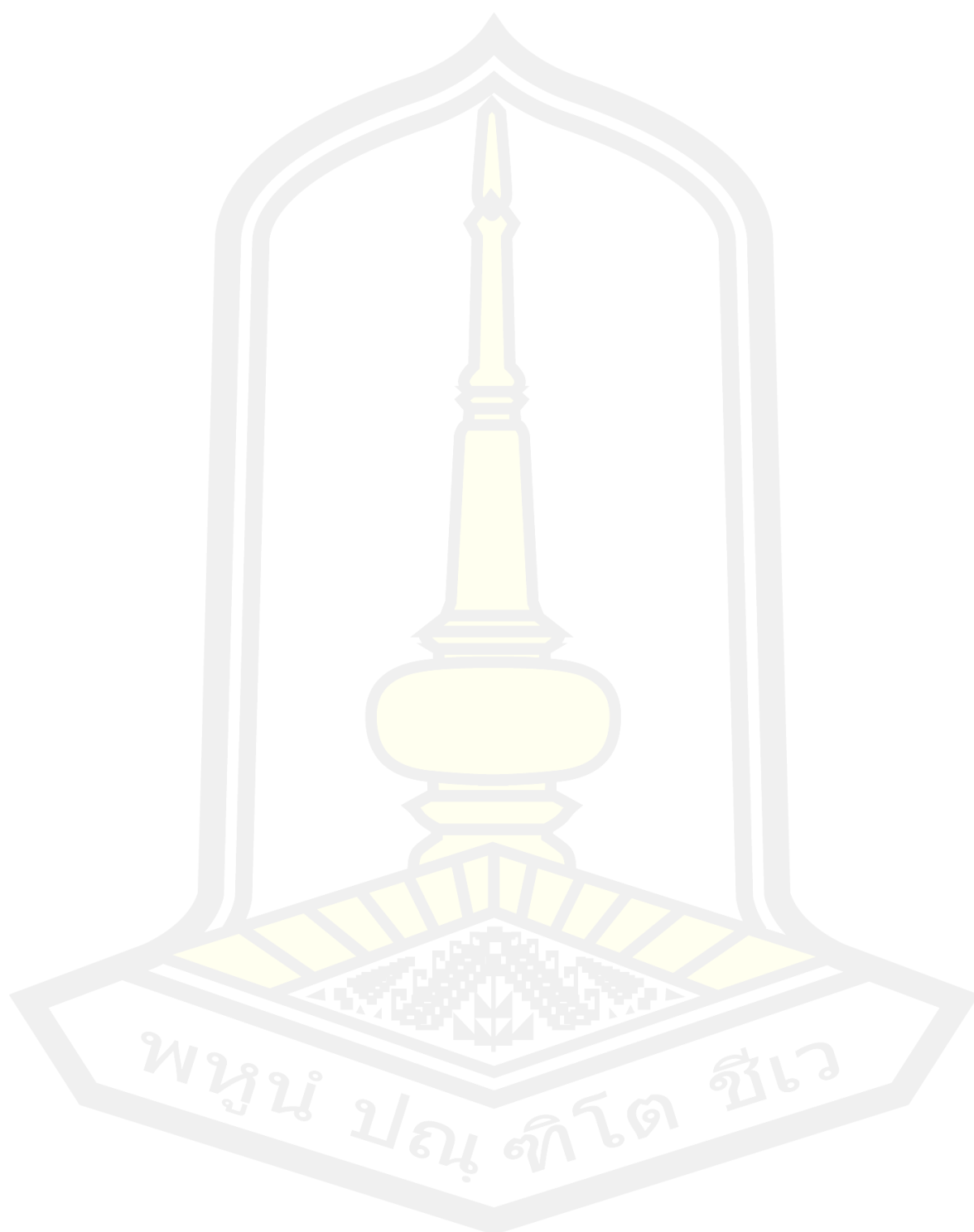


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# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Inspiration**

In the current context, the process of urbanization has a great influence on the development and completion of urban areas in the 21st century. The urban movements will be based on the impact factors of urbanization such as a myriad appearance of buildings, a noisy environment with a fast-paced, volatile life. In Vietnam, the process of urbanization has taken place rapidly, has created in psychology opposite changes and become a significant issue of social development.

The Movement of Contemporary Life is originated from the different stories of humans to adapt the development of modern society. In specifically, the life of urban residents who live in the concrete buildings are suffering changes in the spiritual life.

With the perception of an urban person, I have interested in the movement and transformation of modern life which I am exposing and living in day by day. By experiences in photography, I have collected documents about urban objects like buildings, constructions or urban subjects which are not only inspiring to me about the significant changes of living spaces thanks to the urbanization but also causing the complexing in my feeling when trying to imagine behind windows be other lives, different scenes of life, joys, sorrows, contentment, anticipation or jubilation. These above thinking motivated me to study the aspects of city life in urbanization era and manipulate such topic to creative artworks.

### **Purpose of Creation**

1. To study The Movement of Contemporary Life, the abstract shapes are combined with flexible lines which are inspired from forms of apartment buildings and to describe the movement of personal emotion and activity behind the windows of buildings.

2. To create the visual arts which was acrylic painting on canvas after digital sketching and printing that expressed via form urban objects and virtual lights was used from distorted shapes which conveyed the rapid pace of modern life leading to diverse movements in viewer's feeling.

### **Scope of Creation**

#### **1. Content**

The content focuses on the stories behind the windows in the city with different feelings which includes cramped, loneliness, happiness or noise. Depending on experiences of each viewer, they could imagine the stories seeing the windows. The main idea is the connection of line, shape and color to present views of the artist when looking at windows of buildings which create imaginative stories about the different movement in rapid pace of contemporary life.

#### **2. Form**

The mixing between shapes and lines with colorful theme express the complicate life in big cities. From my art perspective, I want to present windows 's images from high-rise buildings with different views to reflect the stories behind the windows of people living in modern society.

#### **3. Techniques**

By experiences in photography and graphic design, I took pictures about urban objects and manipulate these photos by Photoshop to create digital sketches which was printed on canvas. After that, acrylic color was used to repaint and edit the printed edition. These techniques facilitate me to easy control colors, lights, compositions and create creative works by freestyle brush strokes.

### **Conceptual of Frame Work**

My intention in the artwork “The movement of contemporary life” is to express the significant changes of living spaces thanks to the development of urbanization but also causing the complex in human emotions when trying to adapt the rapid movement of life.

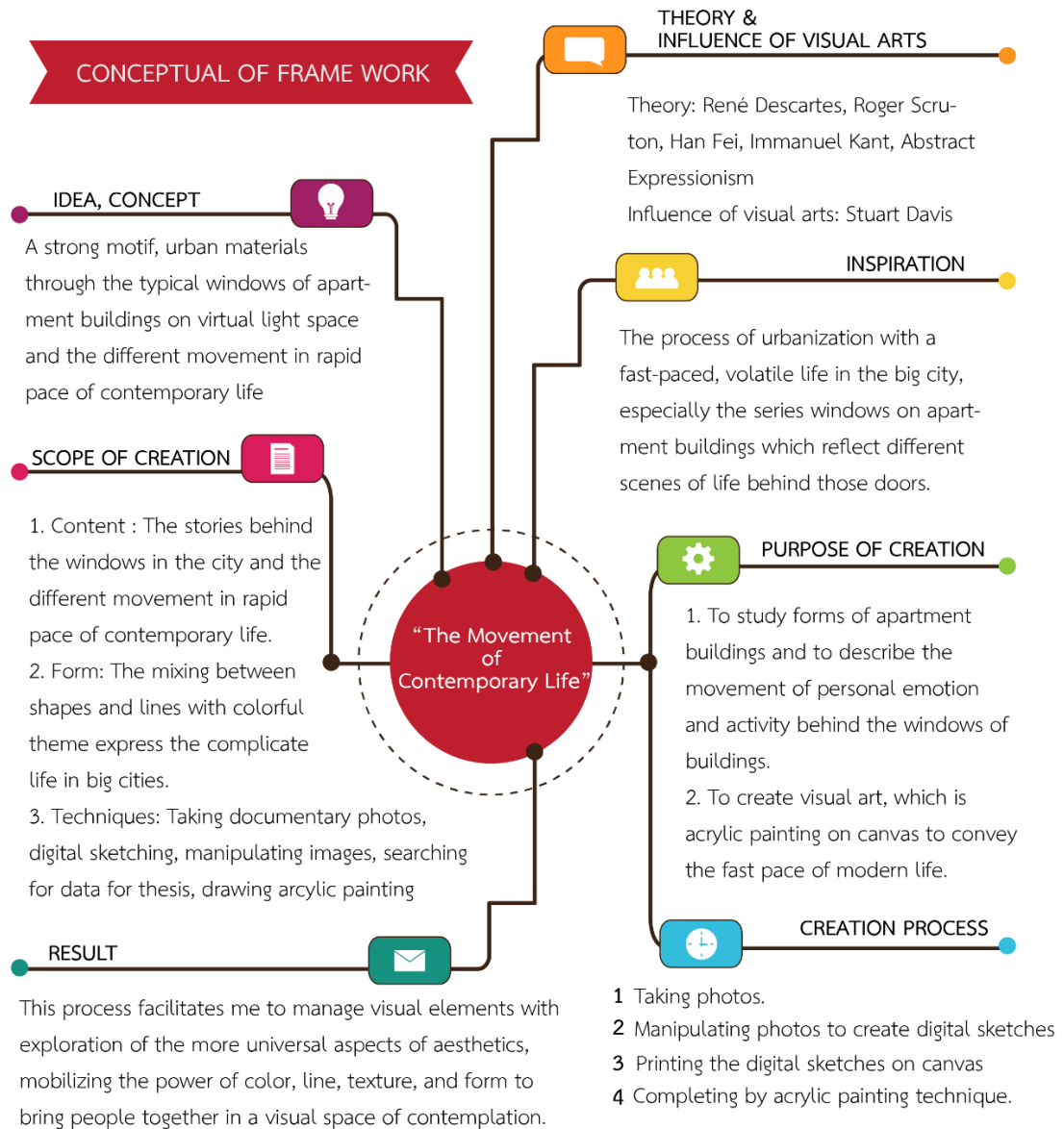


Figure 1 Conceptual of Frame Work

### Definition of Terms

1. Complex feelings: The state of diversity is completely unclear.
2. Contemporary life: Life in the modern era.
3. Movement: The change in one's thoughts and actions to adapt to life

## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

According to the purpose of the creation, this thesis study focuses on *The Movement of Contemporary Life*. To support the study purpose, the framework of process is selected accordingly. This chapter reviews related literature, covering the following topics:

1. Field Data
2. Documentary Data
3. Theory
4. Influences from Visual Arts

#### **Field Data**

The process of urbanization brings many positive effects in the development of each country. For Da Nang where is my hometown, this process happened quickly, especially from 2003 to present. When talking about urbanization, people often think of a civilized and modern lifestyle, people's lives are increasingly improved along with a noisy and bustling life. However, we seem to be only interested in material development and pay little attention to the spiritual life of urban residents.

When it comes to urban areas, I often picture it as a noisy environment with a fast-paced, volatile life. The process of urbanization has taken place rapidly, has created in psychology opposite changes.

During my process of study and completion of this thesis, I select to study the image of windows on buildings which is one of popular objects in urban areas. Some people think that the eyes are the windows to the soul and in my opinion, windows are like the eyes of the house. Every day people look up at the doorways. The doorways are colorful, of many styles, but the same in that they are all narrow and covered with dust. Behind the door, are families, the sound of children laughing and joking, the sound of adults calling each other or arguing, the sound of the elderly, the clanking of pots and pans every afternoon. When people return home, people see

other doorways through the doorways of their homes. In “The movement of contemporary life”, my distinctive abstract works are the result of the artist’s incisive critical look at the effect of urbanization and globalization on contemporary life.

I broke from traditional painting, using distortion and overlapping to make a series of window images of apartment buildings. I want to depict the living space of people with complex emotions. It can be not only the flashy modern civilization which is ideal place to pursuit dream and happiness but also "loneliness in modern society". When the emergence and development of technology has markedly affected people's quality of life. It is the lack of communication "talking and listening" to each other that makes people to feel lonely even when in a bustling and crowded place.

We may never try to see what's inside the doorways. We just think that the door frames are always peaceful. But behind that door are other lives, different scenes of life, joys, sorrows, contentment, anticipation or jubilation. From different stories behind every window, I want to perform the aspects of life to lead diverse movements in viewer’s feeling.



Figure 2 Construction

Photo by Van Huong Date 2021



Figure 3 Golden Bay Hotel  
Photo by Van Huong Date 2017



Figure 4 Apartment  
Photo by Van Huong Date 2020



Figure 5 Apartment  
Photo by Van Huong Date 2020

### Documentary Data

In contemporary society, the process of urbanization is always associated with the process of industrialization and modernization, sustainable urban development and civilized lifestyle. Urban changes in the process of accelerated urbanization have multi-dimensional impacts on the urban lifestyle of Vietnam in general and the lifestyle in large cities in particular. In general, the urban lifestyle in Vietnam is increasingly diversified, changing faster and more complicated in the direction of modernity and integration with the world. It can be said that the essence of the process of urbanization and urban development in Vietnam today lies in the process of changing culture - lifestyle from rural to urban which contains many positive factors but also many negative. (Nguyen, 2020)

Today's world has been taking place at the same time many complex processes, both cooperation and struggle, which have a decisive influence on the development of humanity and each nation, such as: globalization, international integration and the fourth industrial revolution. These processes have been having

unpredictable and uncertain impacts in both directions: advantages and disadvantages on the renovation and development process of Vietnam. Social development in the context of the fourth industrial revolution in Vietnam must take into account the approach and application of the latest achievements of science - technology, especially information technology.

In contemporary society, the movement and change in the new era, the creative era is indispensable to keep up with the development trend of the times, the era of civilization, intelligence and globalization. Vietnamese society needs to absorb advanced cultural values of humanity, technology is a means to change lives, promote strong urban development, and have global connectivity. Urban issues are also changed daily in the direction of modernity, catching up with new trends.

A city is a form of large-scale human settlement within which a series of activities take place, making the city the center of power in relation to the smaller settlements outside. Quite a few early sociologists were interested in cities and urban life; Max Weber even wrote a book titled *The City* (The City, 1921), in which he described the situation that made it possible for modern capitalism in Western cities to return to the Middle Ages. The German sociologist Ferdinand Tönnies (1855-1936) was deeply interested in the influence of urban life on community bonds and social solidarity. He reasoned that the process of urbanization, which coincided with the Industrial Revolution, had irreparable consequences on social life. (Giddens, 2006)

Writers who write about cities are writing about a part of their life, with deep experiences and torments, incessant obsessions about the human condition in front of the hustle and bustle of the city and the divided country strongly by changes in economic, moral and ethical life. The writers of the 8x and 9x generations are people who have almost completely grown up in the urban atmosphere, and the city becomes a part of the writer in them. This has had a huge impact on the representation of urbanism in literature. It is possible to mention Ha Thuy Nguyen (*Beyond the door*), Nhat Phi (*Sleeper*), Dinh Phuong (*Nuoc Khuc, Waiting for your turn*), Hanh Nguyen (*Suspended youth*). The city seems to have more intimate, becoming a safer haven for lonely and isolated individuals, because of the entanglement of popular culture, which easily corrodes the collective consciousness and the need to assert individual identity in the popular population. New experiences are creating new aesthetic experiences for

contemporary Vietnamese literature, in the space brought by urbanization. (Doan, 2016)

In the modern or contemporary world of art, the urban landscape is a fairly common subject in modern art, from the dramatic perspectives of Paris by Camille Pissarro or Claude Monet to the realistic New York of Richard Estes, or even the abstract landscapes of Willem de Kooning. In addition, Italian Futurists have characteristically exploited the movement of the contemporary city (Umberto Boccioni: "The City Rises", 1910-11, New York, Museum of Modern Art). Photorealist and hyperrealist painters have become famous in urban landscape painting in recent times. Richard Estes (born 1932) is possibly the most important New York City landscape painter since the days of George Bellows, whose artwork ranges from "Horn and Hardart Automat" (1967) to "Broadway Stop Bus, Near Lincoln Center" (2010). (Fernández, 2022)

## **Theory**

My creativity under this thesis focuses on the stories behind the windows in the city with different feelings which includes cramped, loneliness, happiness or noise. Depending on experiences of each viewer, they could imagine the stories seeing the windows. My works are under the influence and close to ideas of Abstract Expressionism. I study visual elements to describe aesthetics and meaning in painting.

The idea by René Descartes (1586-1650) that a picture is a marked surface that produces the experience that is normally caused by seeing an object of the kind depicted that is, that it imitates the effect of a visible object on the senses rather than the object itself (the illusion theory). The importance as stated by Descartes significantly effecting my creativity is the critical role of the object and the experience of the senses. (Hyman, 2008)

Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel (1770-1831) argues that art in contemporary remains to give expression to human life and freedom; on the other hand, it is unlimited to any art-forms. Modern art can base on features of any of the art-forms in its presentation of human life which can be presented indirectly through the depiction of nature. (Houlgate, 2009)

Han Feizi, 280 BC - 233 BC considers the value of works of art to be determined only in relation to the person who receives them, but the perceiver always uses his own experience to evaluate the work. Products. Therefore, art wants mean to be associated with real life. Any fantasy apart from reality is monstrous and illusory. (Watson, 2003)

Immanuel Kant (1724–1804) regards that the vibrancy of a given color contrast, may in its empirical contingency appear variously to different viewers. Only the formal aspect can require the feeling of enjoyment which marks the exercise of taste. (Pillow, 1994)

## **Influence from Visual Arts**

### **1. Visual Arts from Other Artists**

One of artists influenced in my art works is Stuart Davis (1892-1964) who is a famous American modern painter. His experience to European modernist painter guide to a personal modernist kind that especially impacted the later progress of the pop art. He started with realistic objects but he later abstracted them away with bright colors and geometric edges. American life and architecture are the main inspiration in his painting, the factor that produces Davis' work unique. (The Art Story, 2021)

1.1. Swing Landscape, 1938 was evaluated one of Davis's most remarkable works. Thank to Davis's use of color and shape, his work showed a clear sense of energy and movement, while the overlapping scenes tell multiple stories at once. The dynamism and chaotic energy of the work refers to the disorientation of urban life. The mural combines between abstraction and realism by mixing forms and spaces in a kaleidoscope. Swing Landscape is a crucial example of his works that led the development of both the Abstract Expressionist and Pop art movements. (Sims, 1991)



Figure 6 Artist: Stuart Davis

Title: Swing Landscape, 1938

Size: 220.3 × 439.7 centimeter

Technique: Oil on canvas

(Whitney Museum of American Art, 2021)

1.2. Moreover, the distinguishing feature of my work is speed and movement which is partly influenced by Italian futurism. Particularly, the work of Gino Severini who played a vital role in the Italian Futurist movement. He focused on contemporary urban life rather than the dynamic workings of machines. Severini's works were presented rhythmical and repetitive shapes that produced a kind of lyrical or musical effect. In specific, *Le Boulevard* shows the march of modernity with the crowded scenery witnessing pedestrians moving up and down one of the city's busy boulevards. Trees grow upwards on the canvas. The "traditional vehicle" is represented here through a horse and cart which is placed by the dazzling headlights of a motorcar. (Bohn, 2014)



Figure 7 Artist: Gino Severini

Title: Le Boulevard, 1910

Size: 63.5 x 91.5 centimeter

Technique: Oil on canvas

(Art Uk, 2022)

## 2. Visual Arts from Pre – Thesis

### 2.1 Pre – Thesis work 1

The main idea focuses on the living of people in big cities where people live in concrete buildings, apartments, cabins, etc. Such life style makes me remind the life of snails in their shells. Therefore, the relationship motivates me to create art works which combine between forms of shells and forms of buildings through unique forms, soft lines and vivid colors with acrylic on canvas techniques. The inspiration from urban livings facilitates me to study researches later.



Figure 8 Title: Pentagon

Size: 120 x 120 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

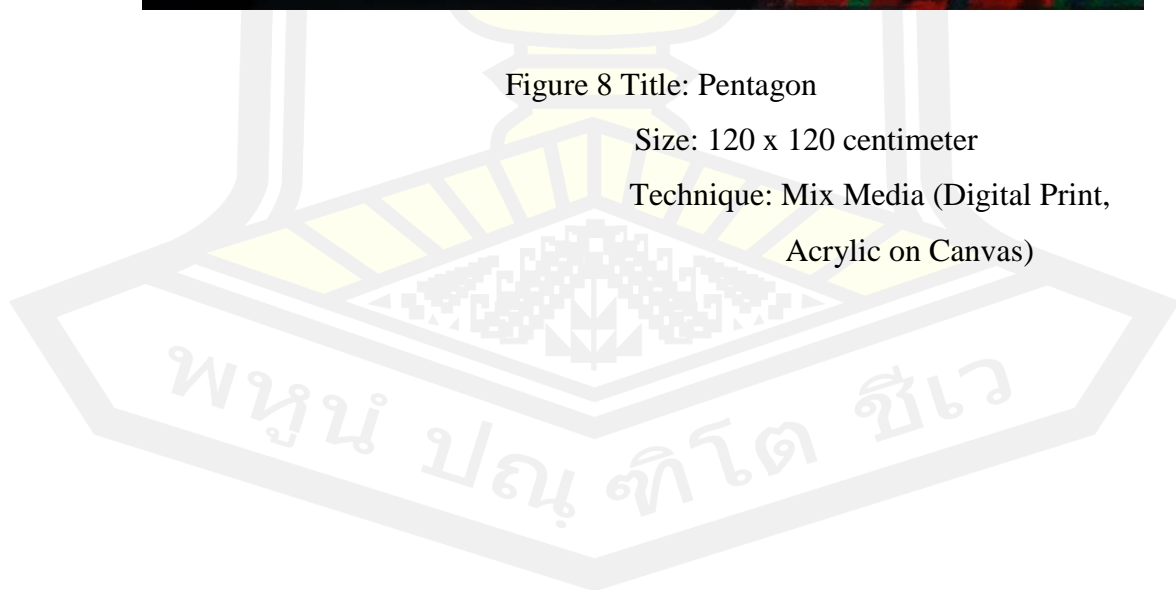




Figure 9 Title: Spiral

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

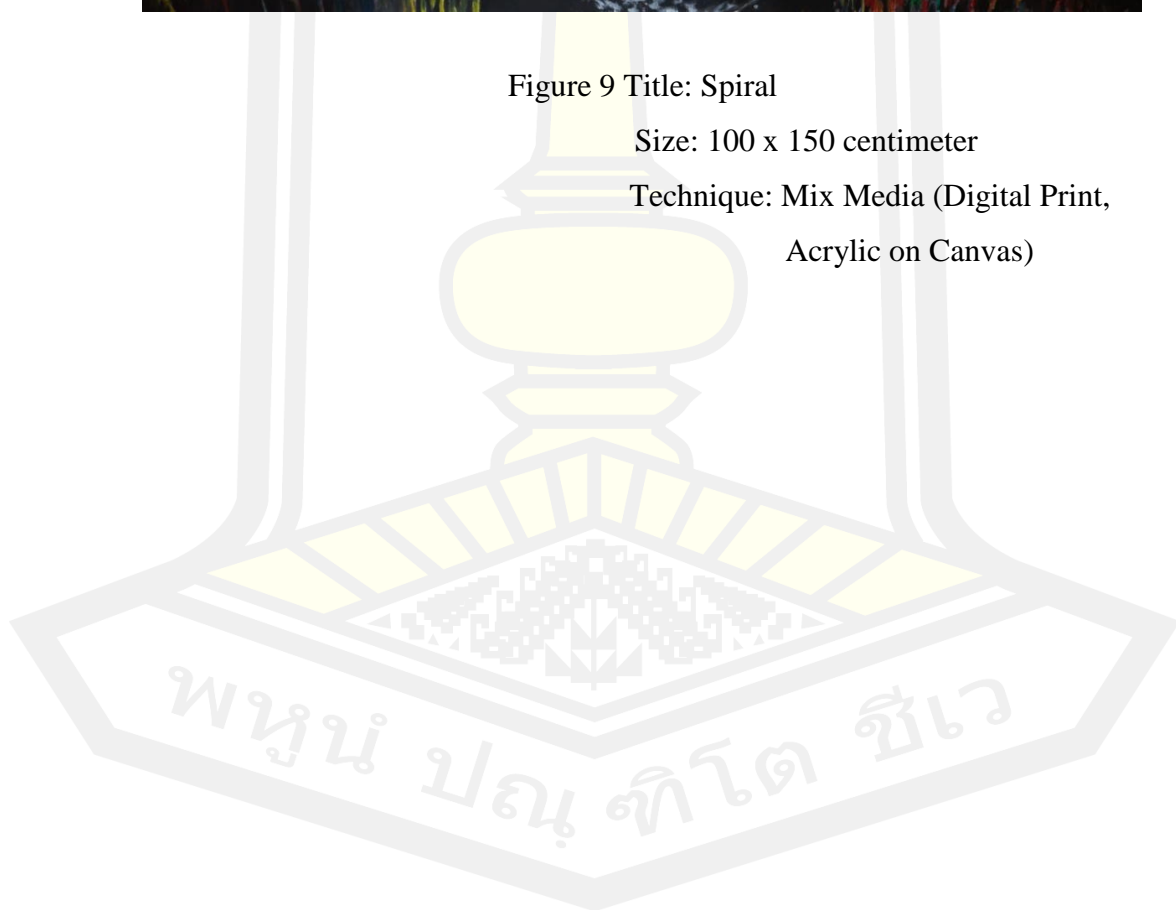




Figure 10 Title: Cylinder

Size: 150 x 100 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

พูน ปณ จิต ชีวะ



Figure 11 Title: Roller

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

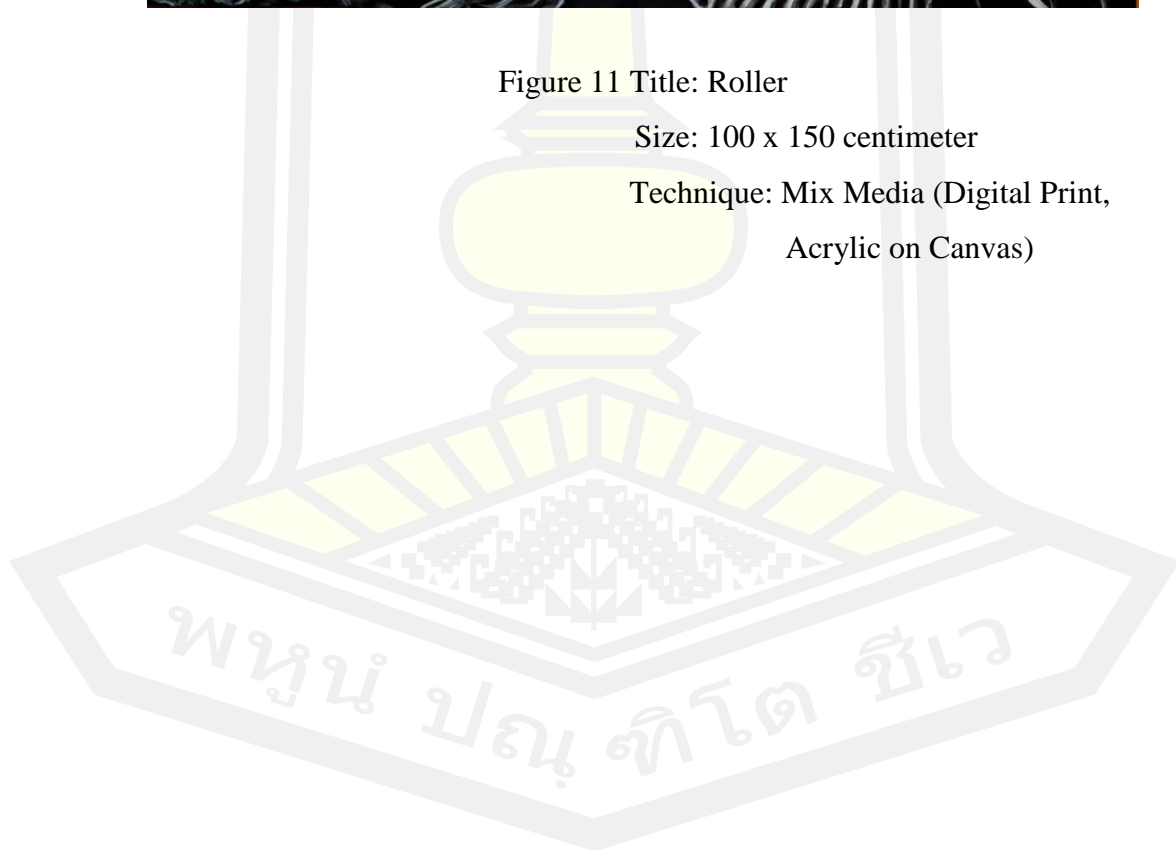




Figure 12 Title: Maze

Size: 120 x 120 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

### 3. Visual Arts of Thesis Proposal

#### 3.1. Thesis Proposal

3.1.1. Idea/ Concept: My creativity under this thesis focuses on urbanism which is characterized by social mobility. This idea can be seen behind the windows in the city with different feelings which includes cramped, loneliness, happiness or noise. Depending on experiences of each viewer, they could imagine the stories seeing the windows. The main idea is the connection of line, shape and color

to lends a clear sense of energy and movement which transmit views of the artist about the social mobility of urban life as well as the movement of contemporary life.

3.1.2. Form: My art works were presented by combination of several visual elements such as line, shape, color, value, form, texture, and space, etc. These elements of art are the visual tools that I use to create a composition with unity and attractions that reflect the art messages. Lines are drawn with alternate shapes to create movement effects of the life effectively. Straight and curved lines are combined with the thick and thin lines to show diverse and vivid emotions. From my art perspective, I want to transmit windows 's images from high-rise buildings with different views to reflect the stories behind the windows of people who face to different problem in modern society. My brush strokes are wispy and energetic but they possess an architectonic structure that endows them with a sense of power and weight. I employed this element, implying the presence of forms rather than describing literal objects in space. In paintings, a zigzag of lines occupies the center ground of the canvas, surrounded by black shapes. The painting is fully abstract, and yet because of the frames of window is appeared it seems as though it is a picture of something recognizable. But this is not a picture of buildings. This is more of an expression of the energy and emotion of people in the contemporary life; the excitement of color space is presented intensively strong with contrast light by complementary colors.

3.1.3. Technique: Equipment used for this study include: camera (taking documentary photos for studying and sketching), computer (digital sketching, manipulating images, searching for data for thesis, etc.), printer (printing sketches on canvas), pencils, acrylic colors, brushes, trowels (drawing art works). Firstly, I took outdoor photos in Danang city where I am living, I tried to focus on textures and details of urban space. After that these photos is manipulated on Photoshop which is a digital sketching technique following by my distinctive style. Next stage, the digital sketches is printed on canvas before completing by acrylic painting technique.

3.1.4. The rhythm of colors and shapes combine to create a lively and bustling urban space in mixed media paintings. The beauty of the visual elements creates the aesthetics and meaning in the painting through lines, colors and textures to describe contemporary life in society.

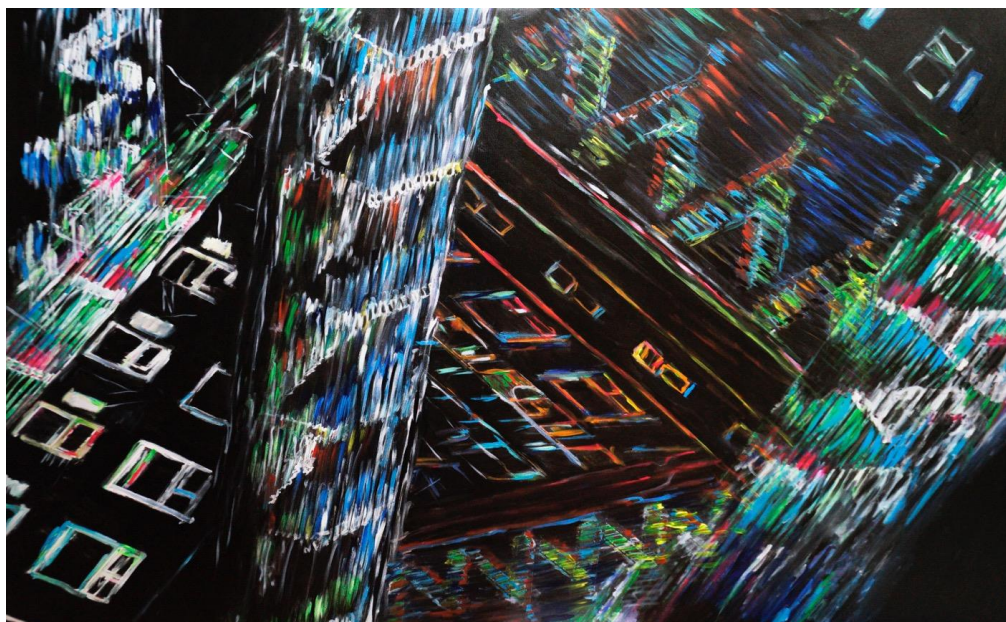
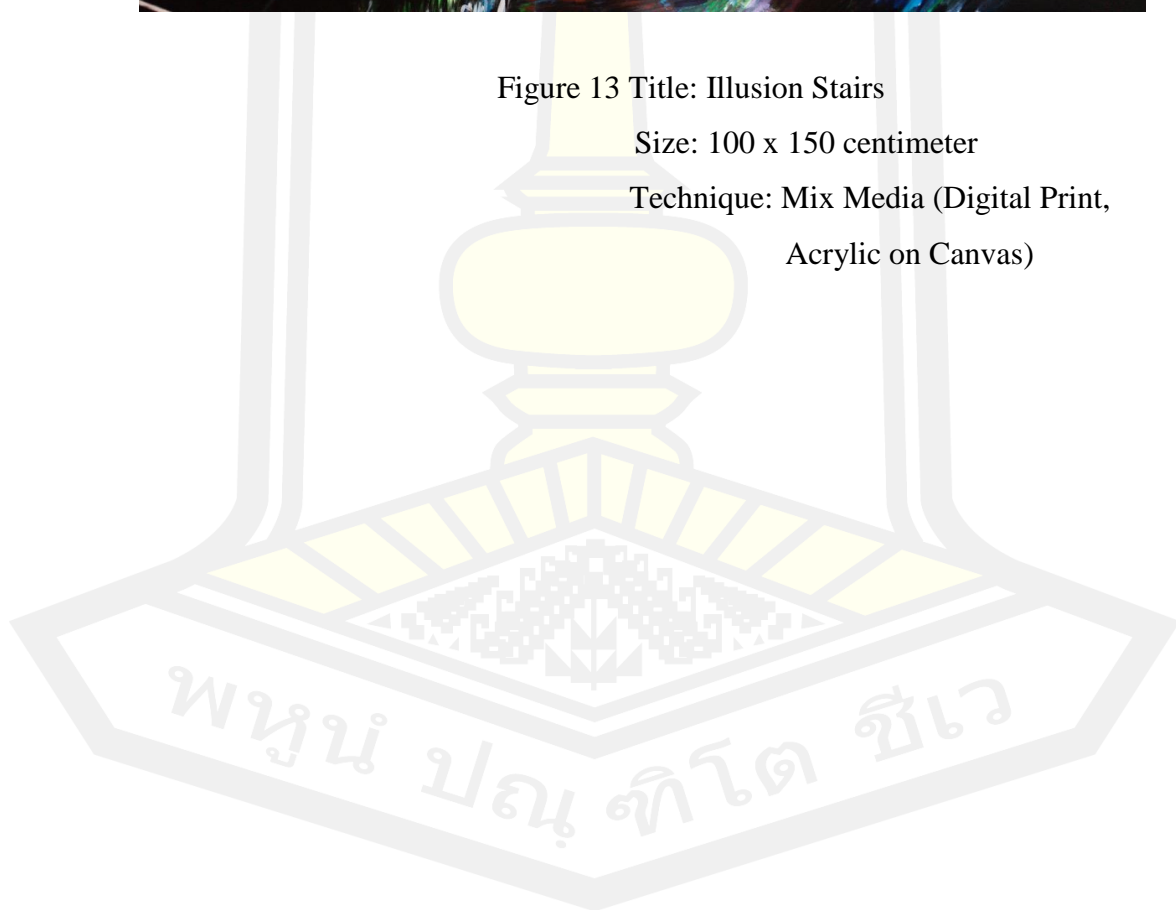


Figure 13 Title: Illusion Stairs

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



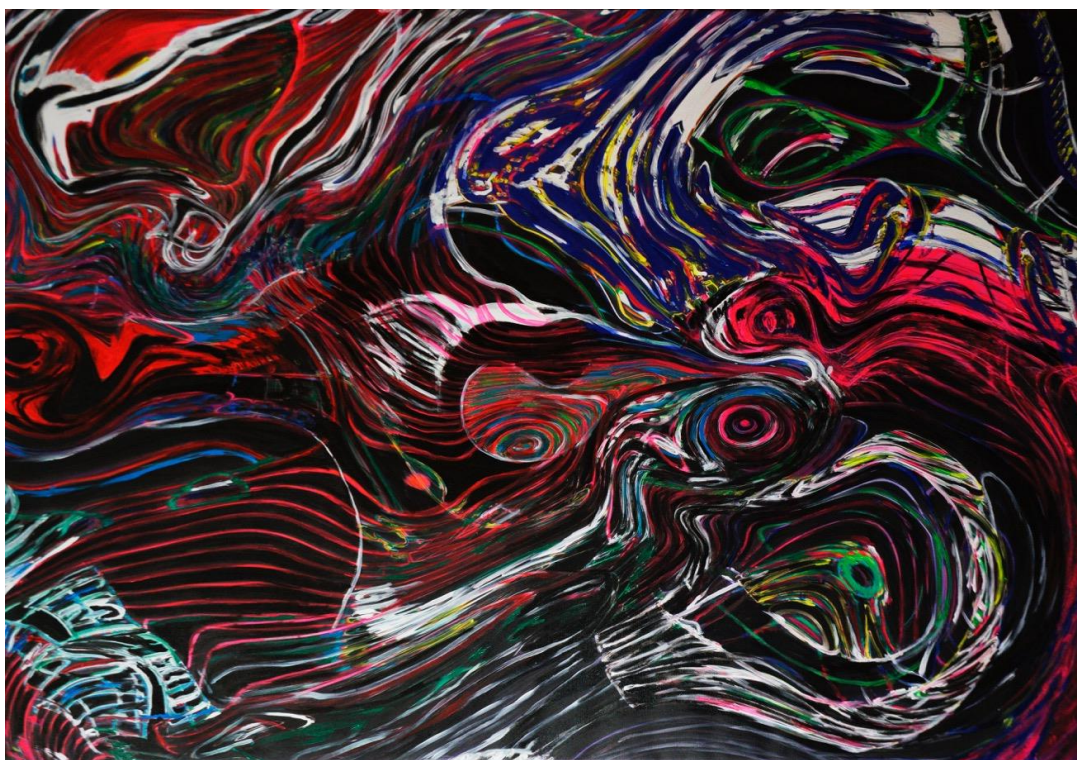


Figure 14 Title: Neon Motion

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

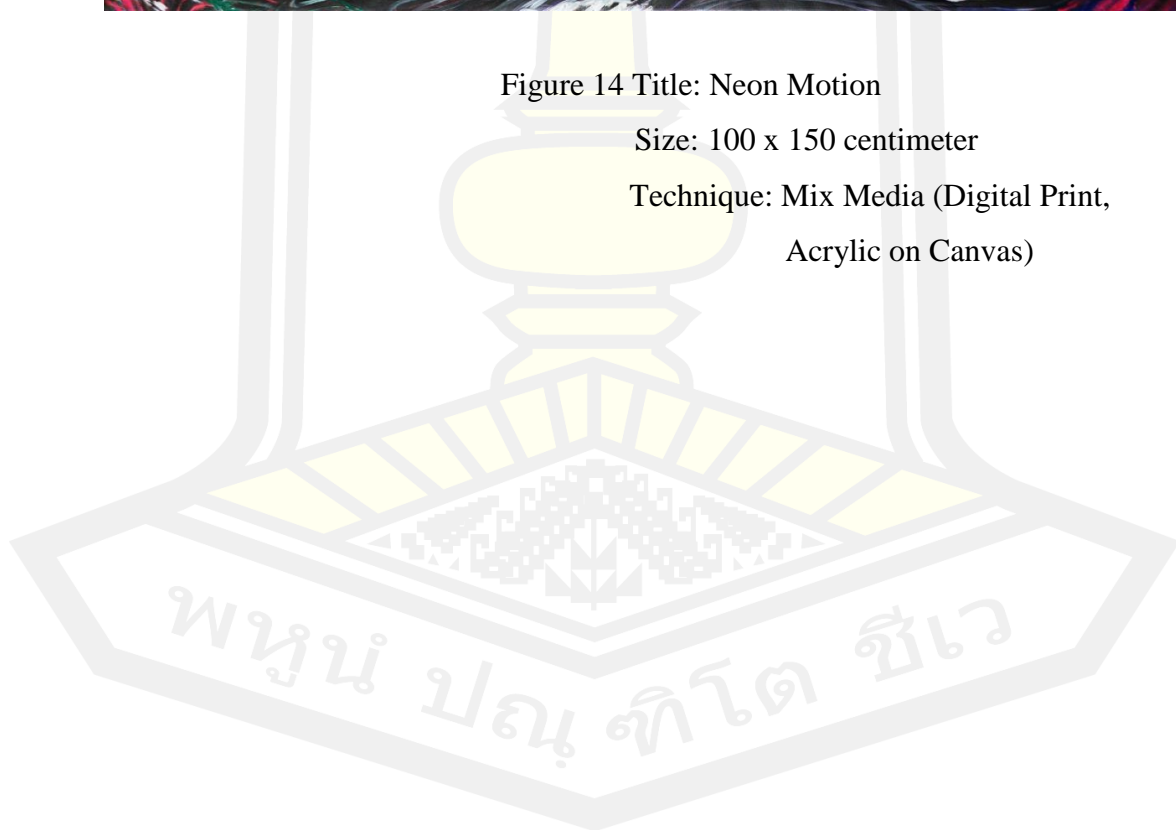
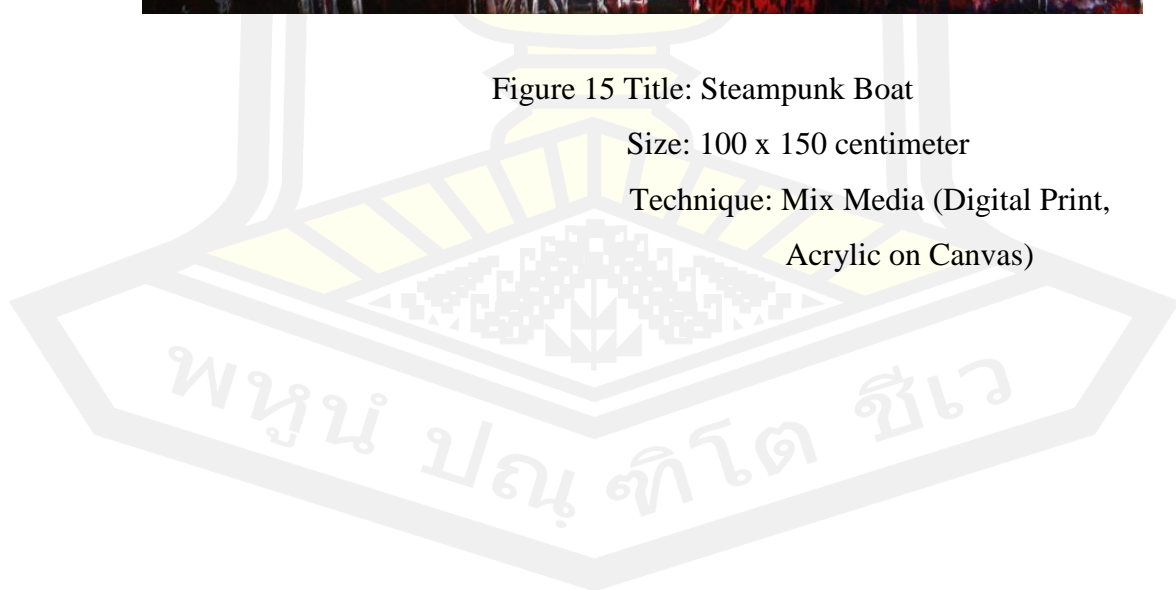




Figure 15 Title: Steampunk Boat

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



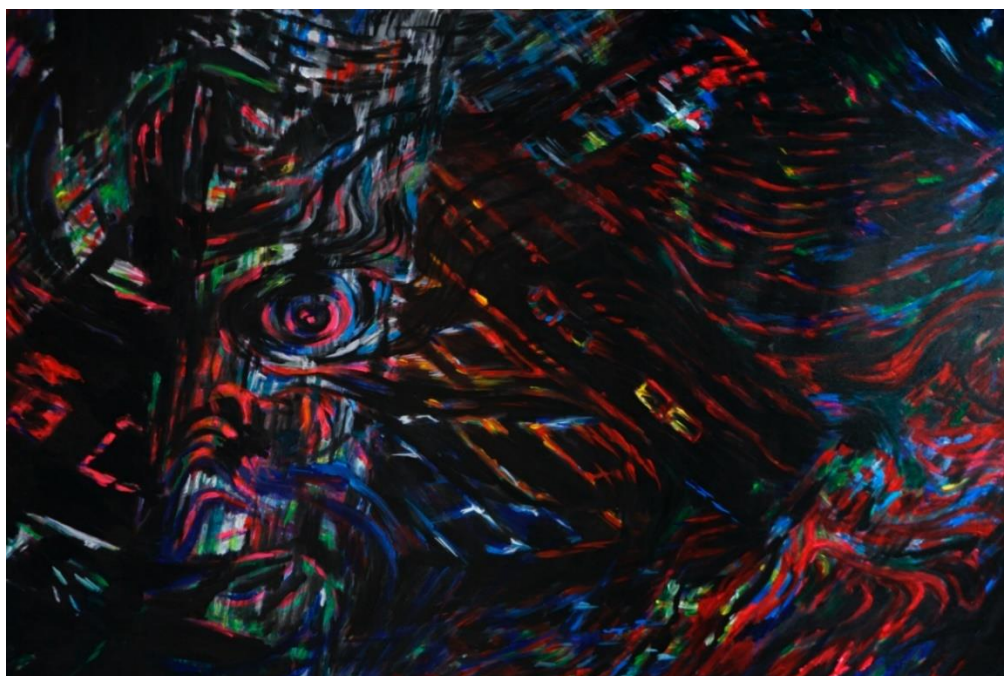


Figure 16 Title: Illusion

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

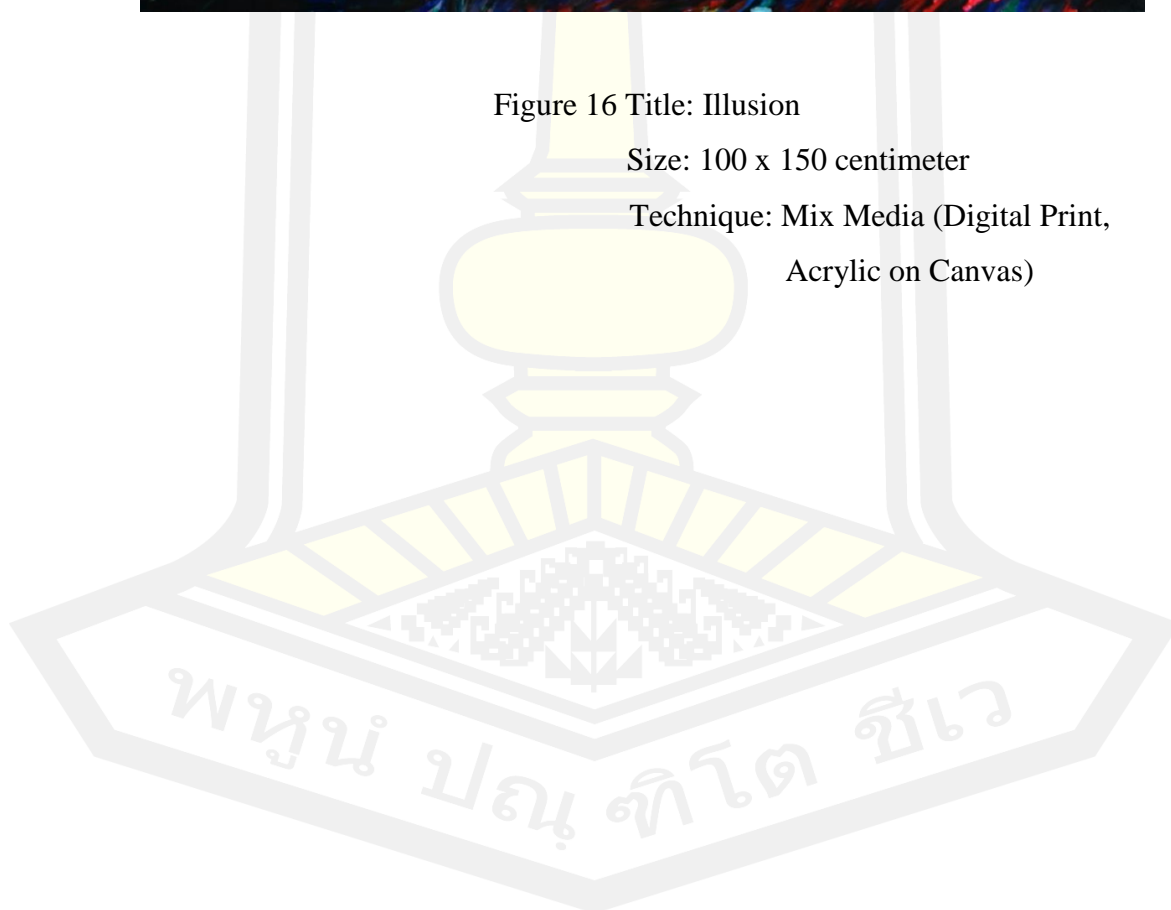
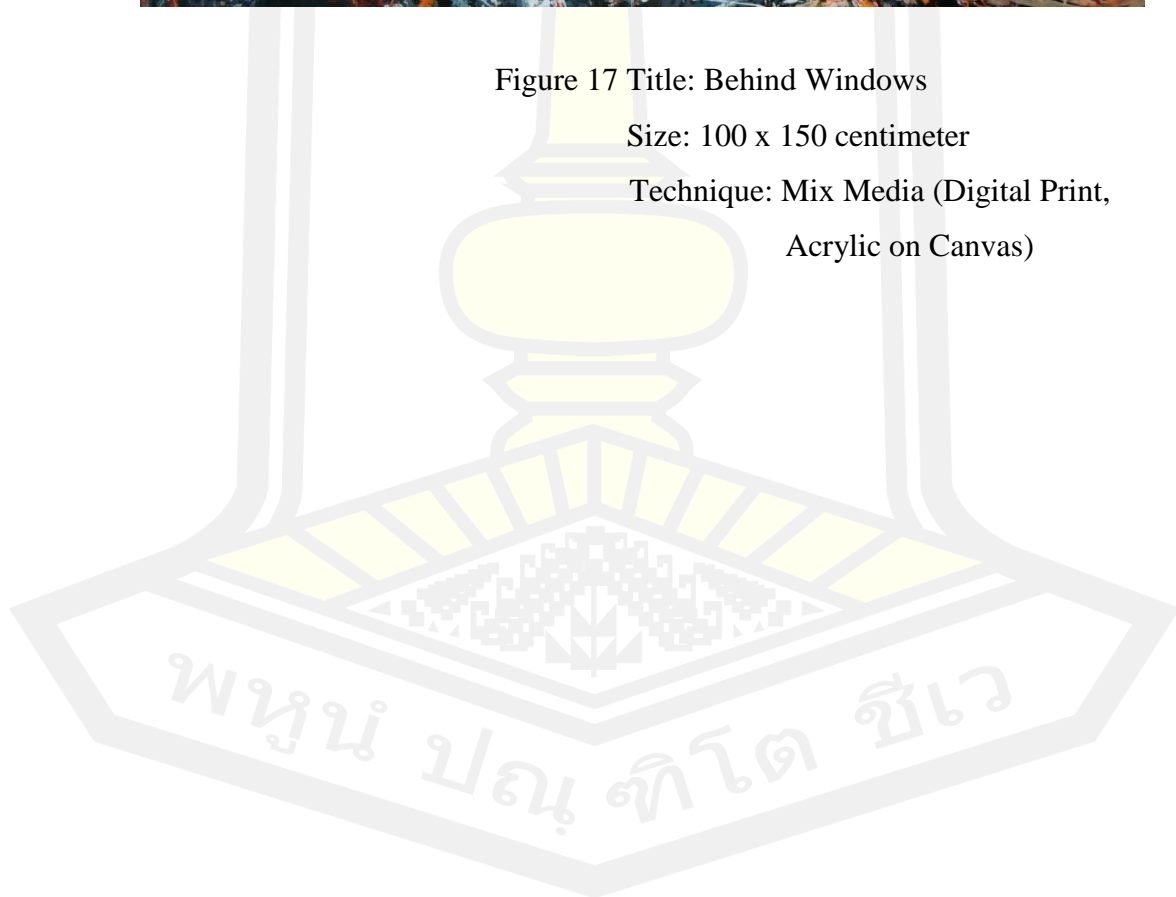




Figure 17 Title: Behind Windows

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



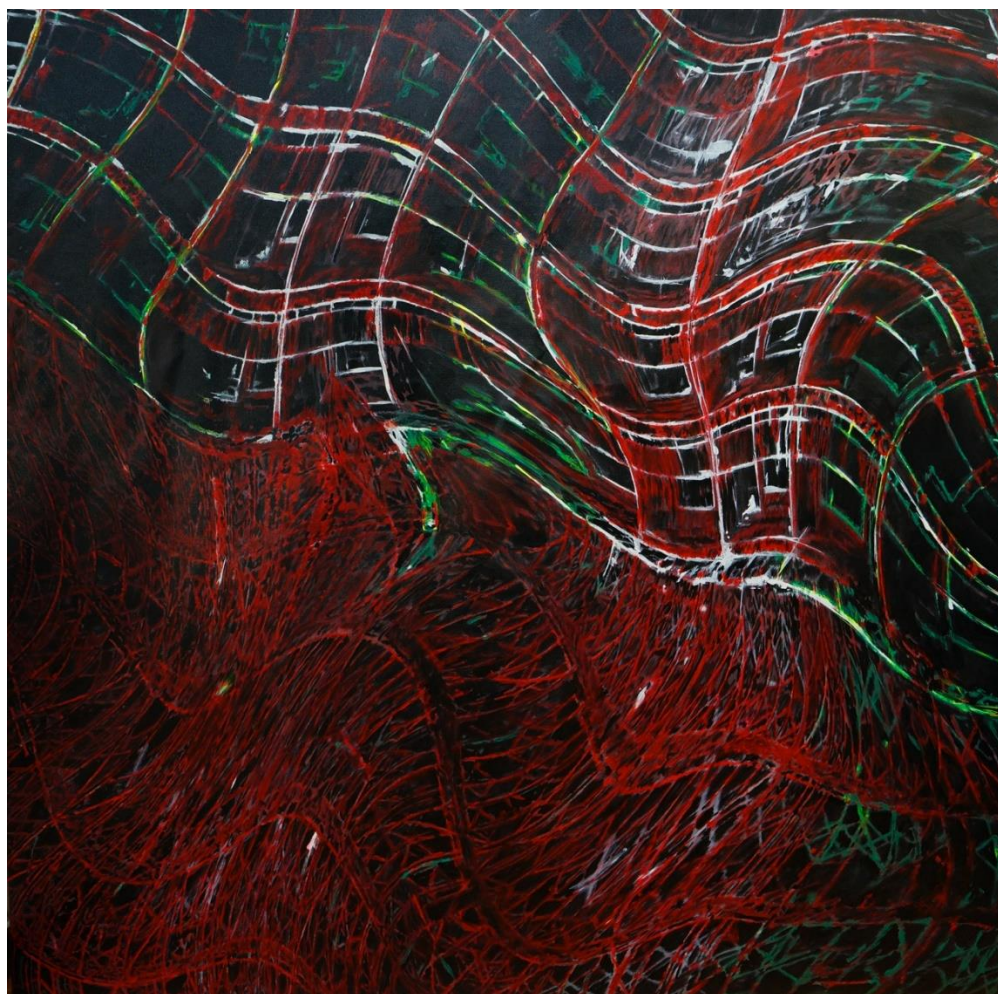
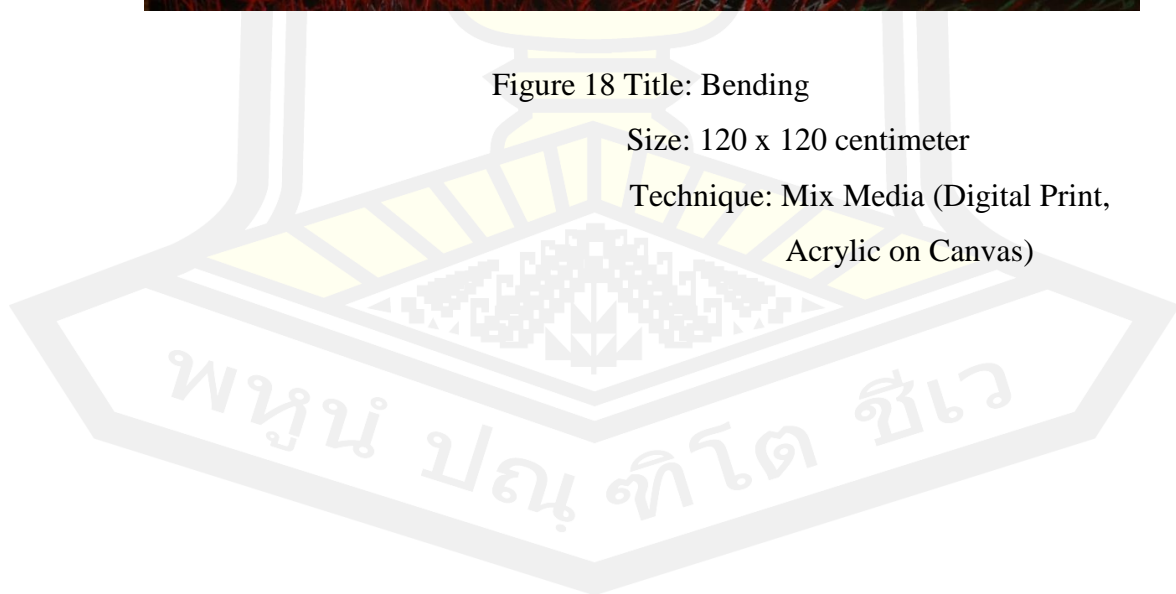


Figure 18 Title: Bending

Size: 120 x 120 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



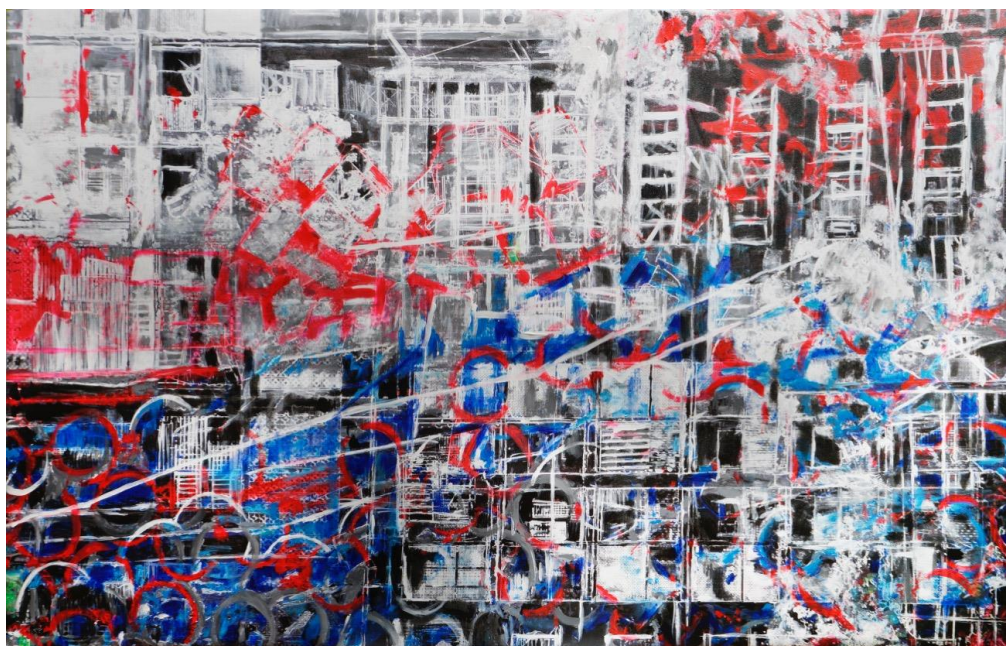
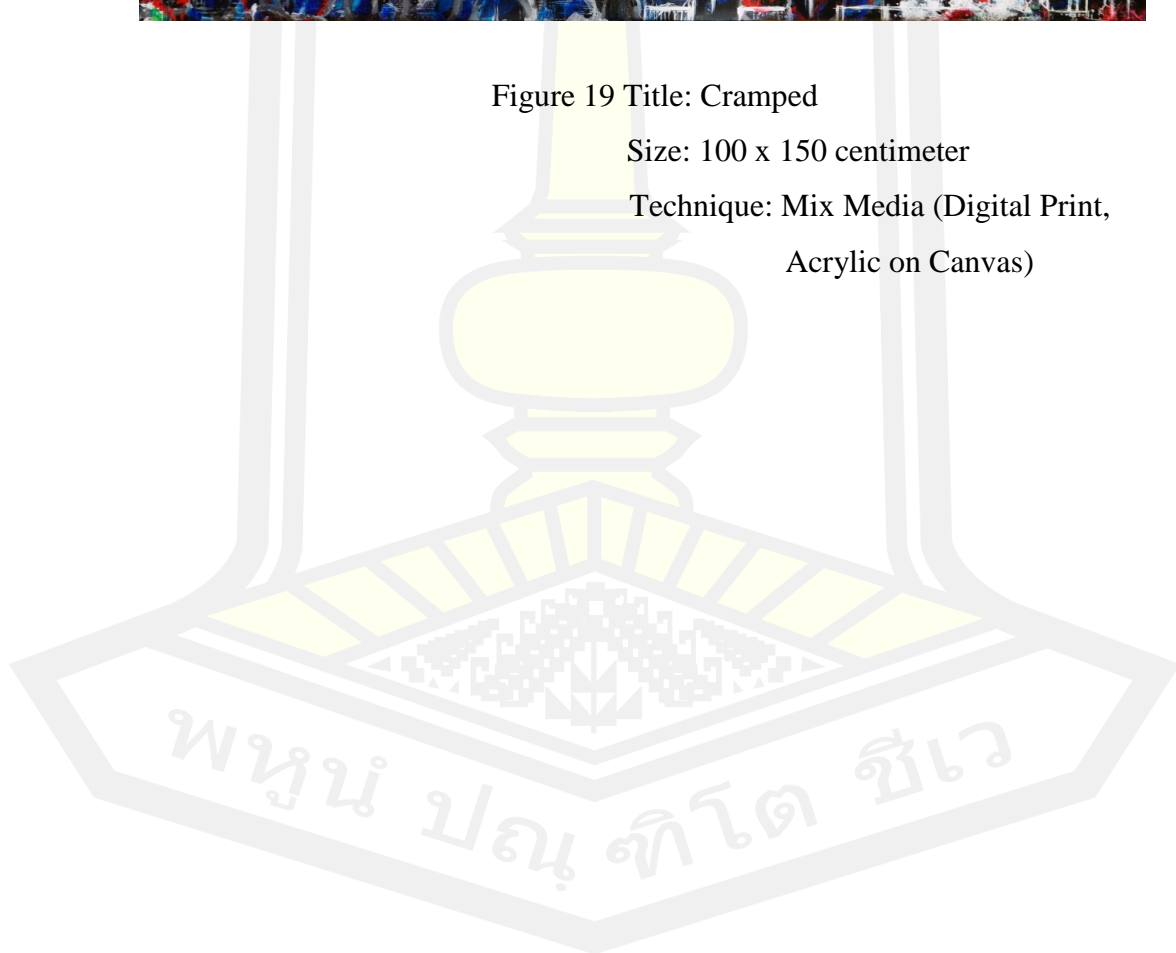


Figure 19 Title: Cramped

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



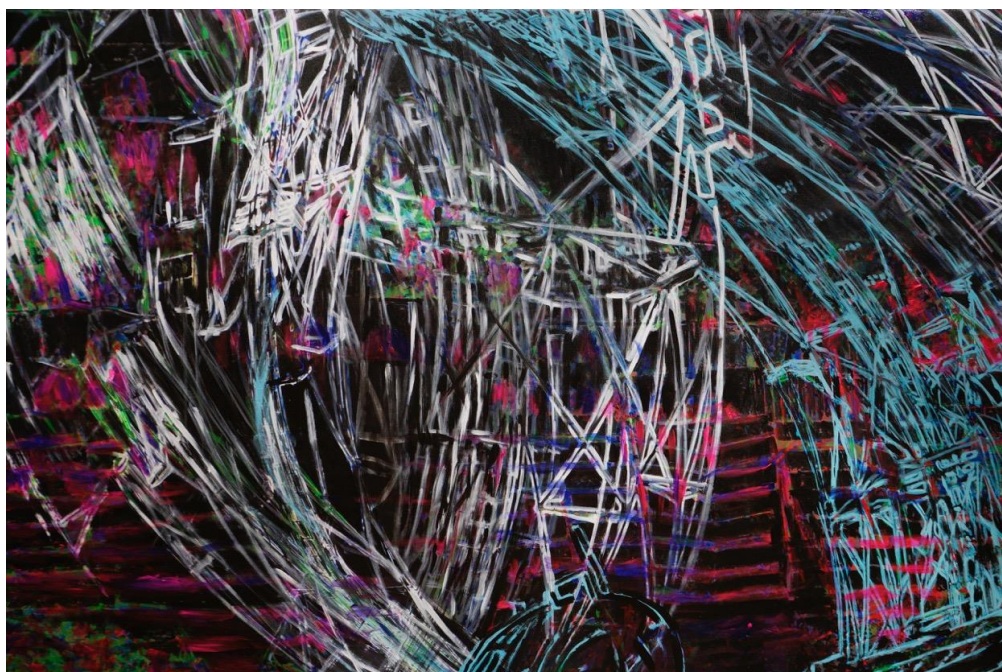


Figure 20 Title: Strained

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

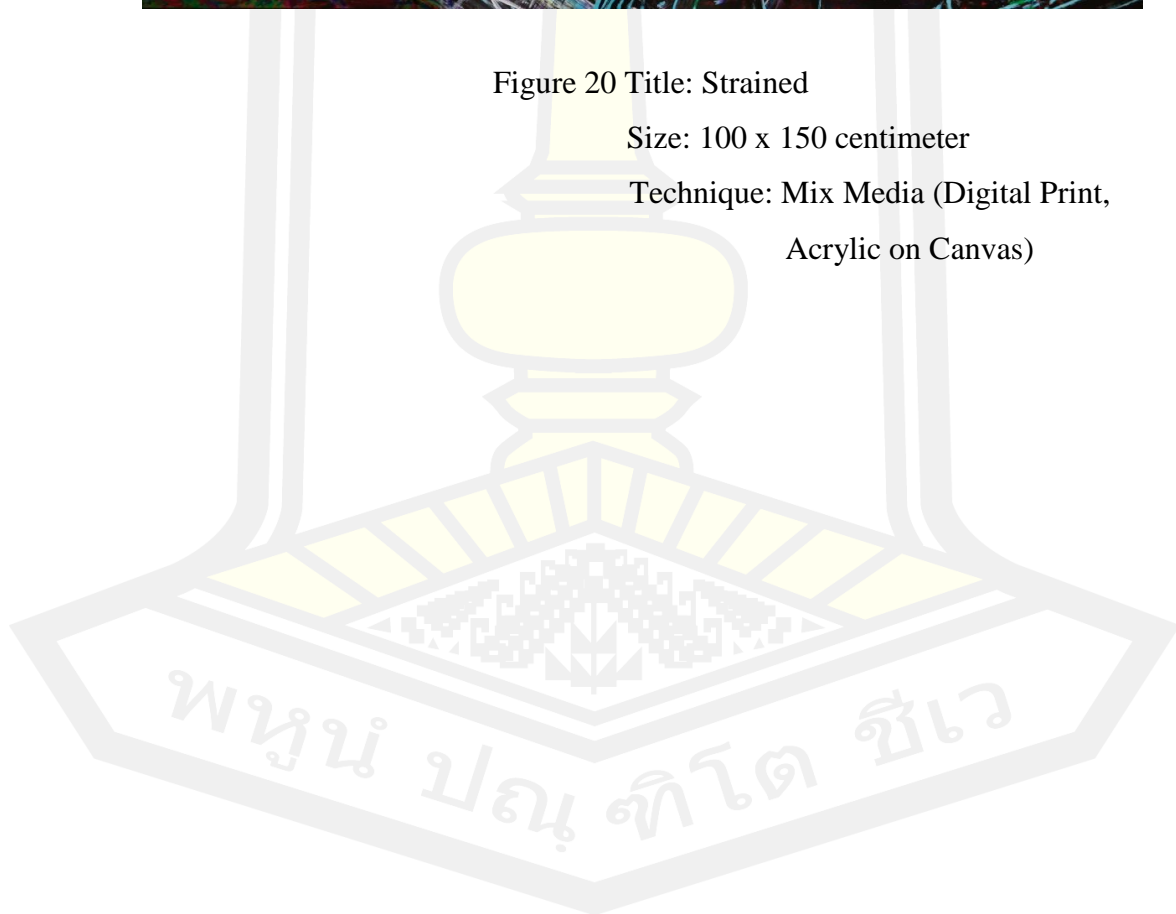
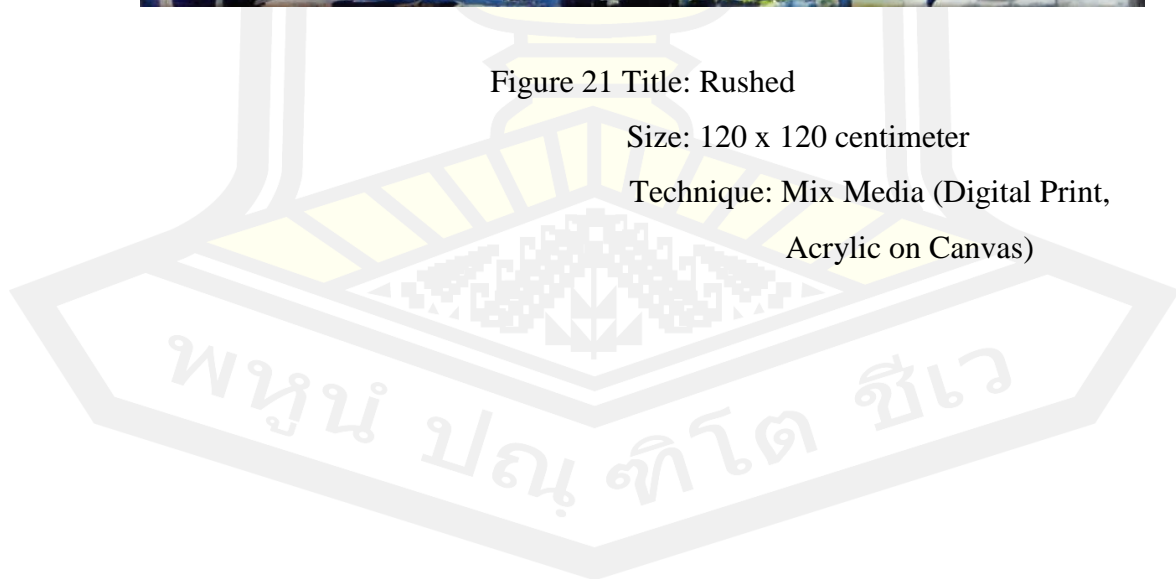




Figure 21 Title: Rushed

Size: 120 x 120 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



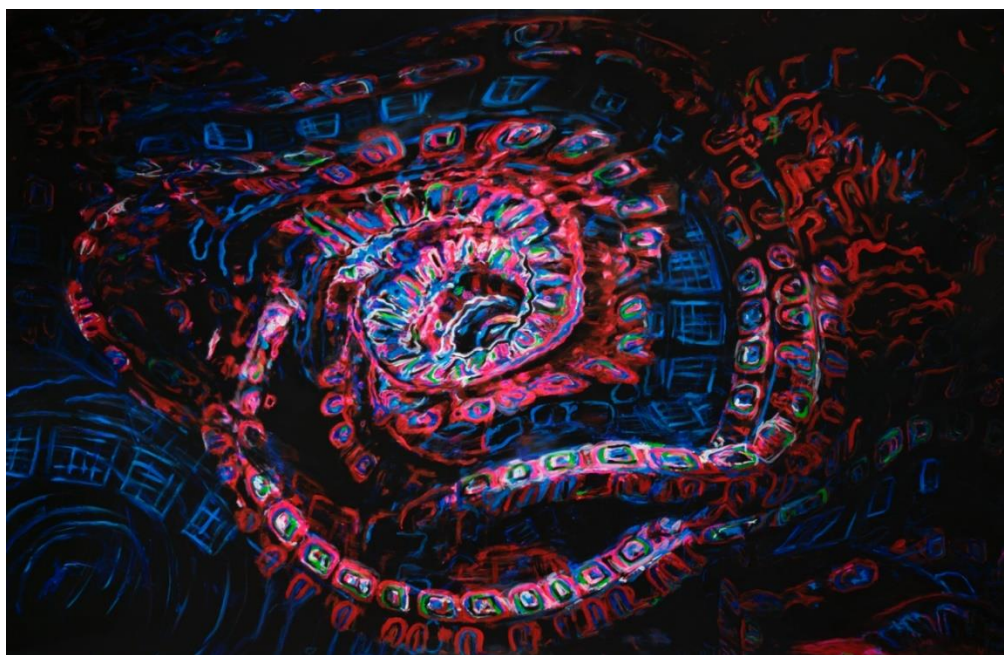


Figure 22 Title: The power of life

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

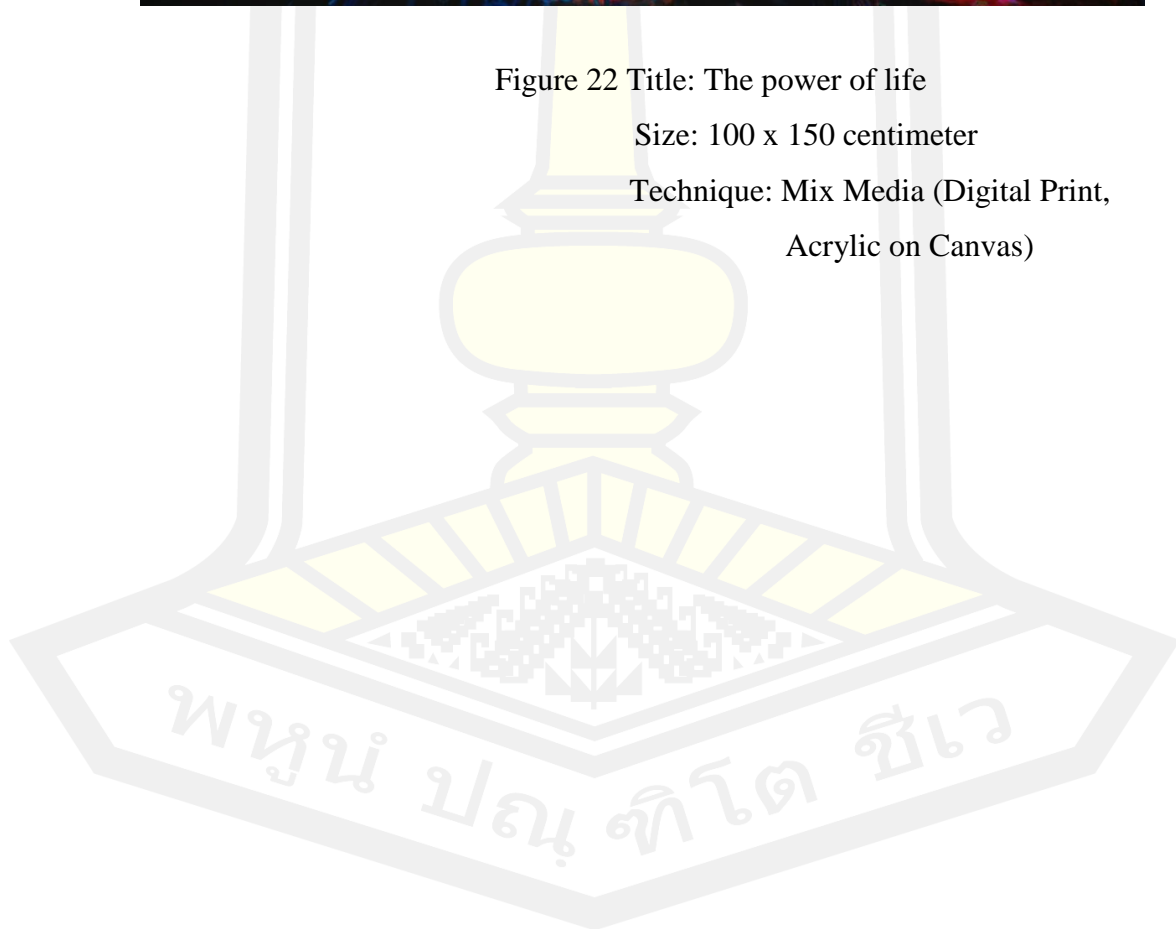




Figure 23 Title: Mapping

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

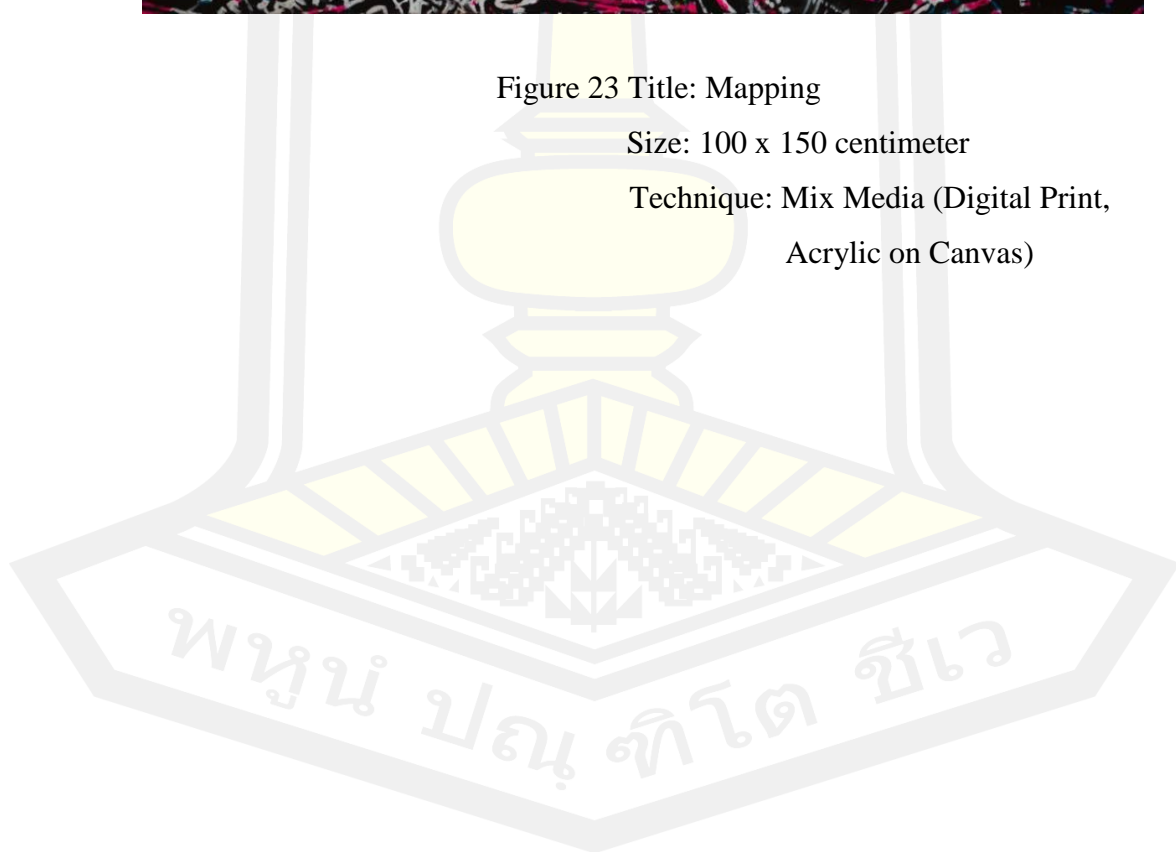
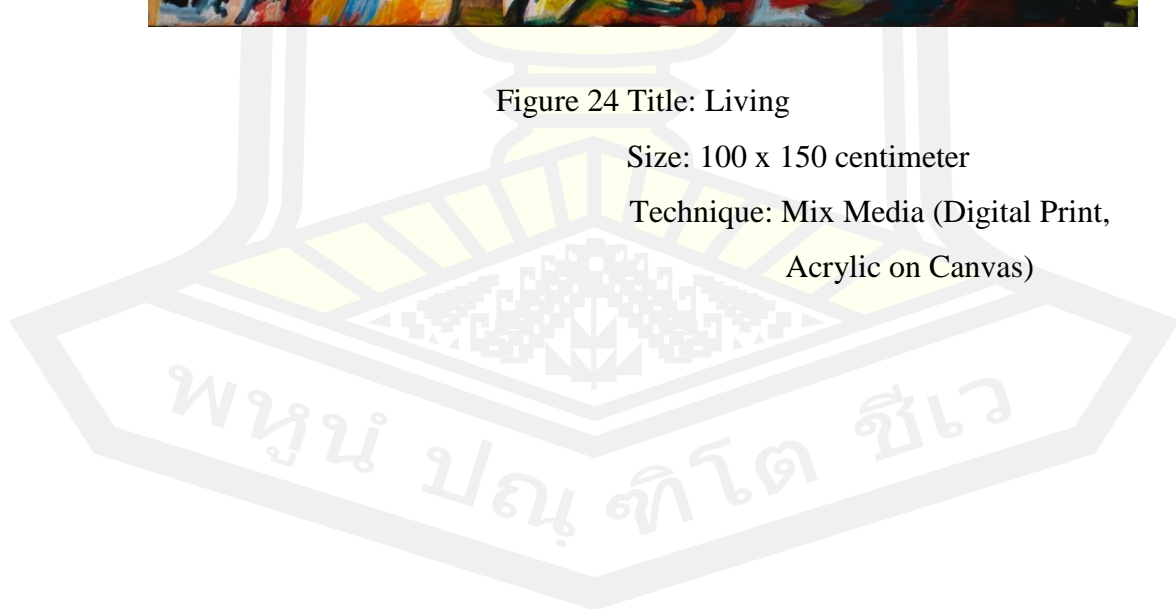




Figure 24 Title: Living

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



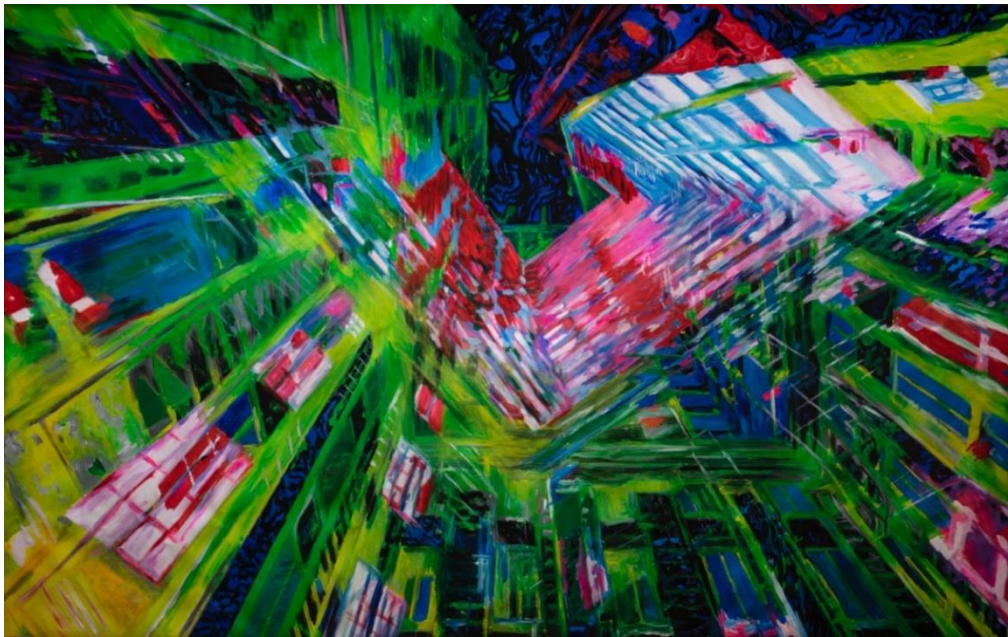


Figure 25 Title: High-rise

Size: 100 x 150 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



Figure 26 Title: Night Life

Size: 85 x 200 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)



Figure 27 Title: Social Mobility

Size: 185 x 100 centimeter

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

## CHAPTER III

### CREATIVITY METHODS

This chapter gives an outline of the study design and procedure. The procedure of the study concluded from chapter two and other frameworks which involve with “The movement of contemporary life”. This creation will be presented according to the following topics:

1. Collection and Analysis Data
2. Visual Arts Experimentation
3. Creation Process
4. Dissemination Process

#### **Collection and Analysis Data**

##### **1. Data Collection**

The data is collected from documents from different sources including realistic study (observing, sketching & taking photos, etc.) from the process of urbanization with a fast-paced, volatile life in the big city, especially the series windows on apartment buildings which reflect different scenes of life behind those doors. Images of urban landscapes such as apartments, constructions, street, etc. Study from the mass media and the Internet. Studies on the urbanization and the spiritual life of urban residents from many websites. Art photo collections about the urban architecture and human emotions from many websites. Writings and studies the window images in art”– from specialized magazines and many websites. Study papers on a civilized and modern lifestyle – Specialized magazines and many websites.

##### **2. Data Analysis**

###### **2.1 Analysis of theme**

The theme explored in “The movement of contemporary life” is the artist’s incisive critical look at the effect of urbanization and globalization on contemporary life. I want to depict the living space of people with complex emotions. Behind every single window, there is a different person who has a story that we know

nothing about and I sometimes forget that my life isn't the only life in the world. There's a story behind every window, behind every door. We, people, live day by day, follow rules, struggle to make ends meet, raise up kids, work hard. Enjoying time together with family & friends, rewarding ourselves, while some of us cry at night, feeling lonely with no one to turn to when dark comes. From different stories behind every window, I want to perform the aspects of life to lead diverse movements in viewer's feeling.

## 2.2 Analysis of form symbols

Use visual elements to present different shapes and positions of the window of apartment buildings. Study the structures of the objects, lines in details (outlines, shadows, shapes, textures, material, etc.)

Use vivid colors and high contrast between different shapes, hues, dynamic color mixture in abstract space to convey multiple feelings and highlight the fantasy space of urban areas. Light or dark, open or closed — the window opening as an architectural element but also as a metaphor for hope, change in contemporary life.

## 2.3 Analysis of techniques

Analysis and experiments on different techniques and methods for presentation to meet the objectives of concepts. After experiments, I have selected and decided on using the technique of combination between digital sketching and drawing with acrylic color to meet the objectives of concepts.

## Visual Arts Experimentation

I set out to develop a new medium to convey the effects of urbanization on people's lives through art based on the combination of lines and shapes and the movement of colors. My work began to study the structure of shells and architecture. In the first idea, the shell became a symbol of the city which is presented the perspective of architecture, buildings, houses, streets. These elements are combined with lighting, deconstruct compositions, rotated shapes, adjusted colors, textures and strokes. After that I arrange the composition to be unified by using a laptop to edit images. In the next step, the digital edition is printed to define the structure and outline. Finally, acrylic paint is used to create the rhythm of lines and textures in a

picture with dimension and unity according to the principles of visual arts. My inspiration comes from my observation of urban life, the psychology of people with different backgrounds but they always have to accept difficult challenges with the expression of human energy and emotions. in contemporary life. I hope to convey the influence of urbanization and globalization on contemporary life. The process of urbanization brings many positive effects in the development of each country. Society seems to be only interested in material development and less interested in the spiritual life of urban dwellers, who are subject to a noisy environment with a fast-paced, volatile life. The rapid urbanization process has created mixed changes in people's mentality.

### **Creation Process**

#### **1. Sketches/ Model**

Instead of sketching, which is traditionally a rough drawing or painting, I conducted field research to capture multiple-angle photographs of urban objects in which I jotted down preliminary ideas. for a digital sketch on his laptop. Using my graphic experience, I sketch out all the components of the work that will eventually be realized with greater precision and detail.

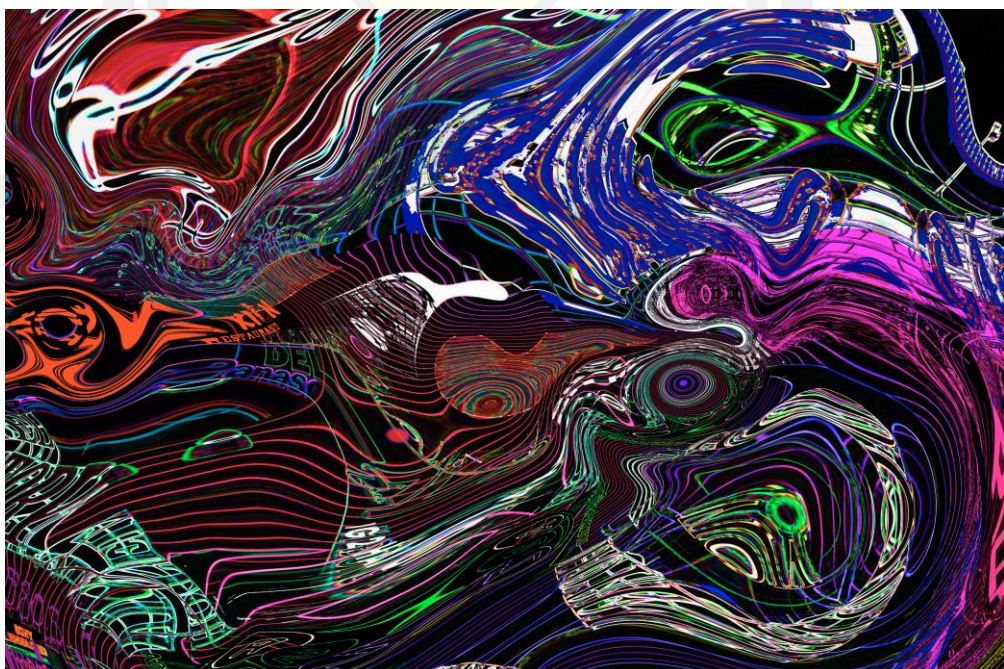


Figure 28 Digital Sketches No. 1

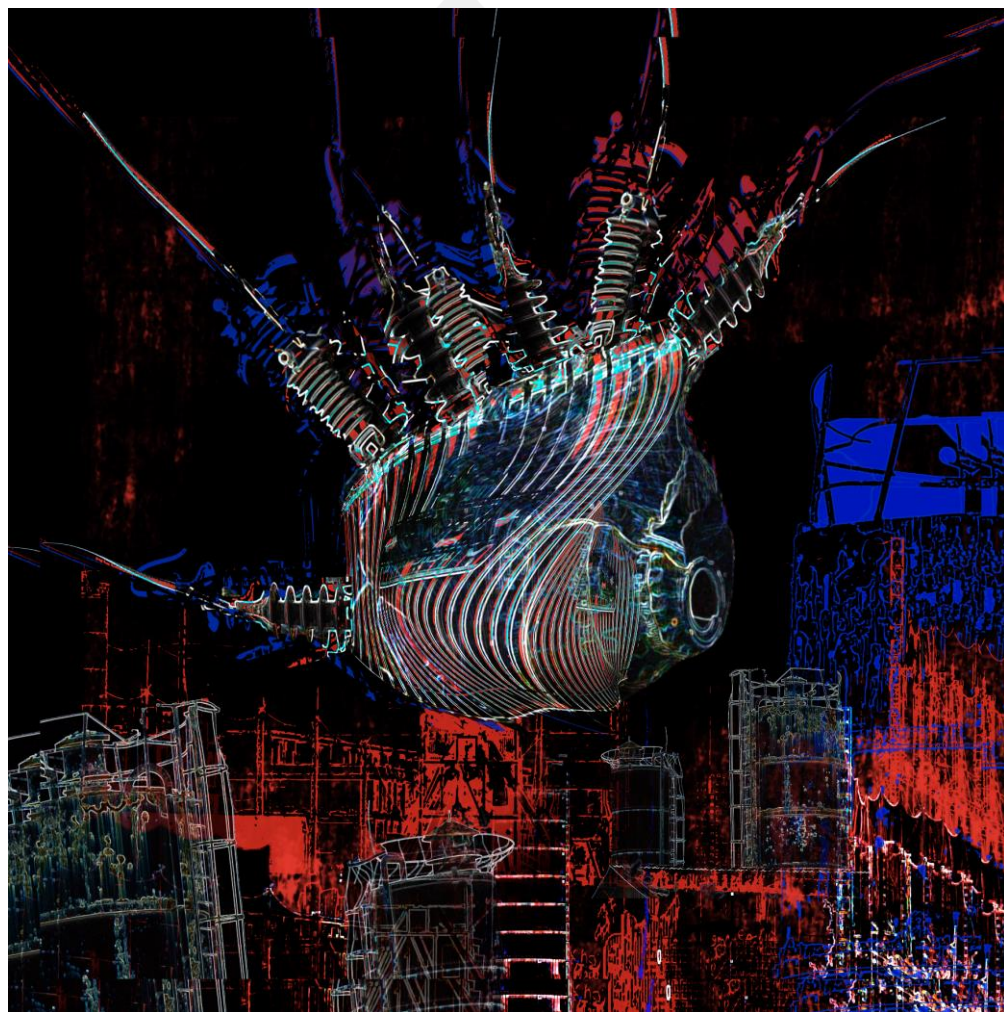
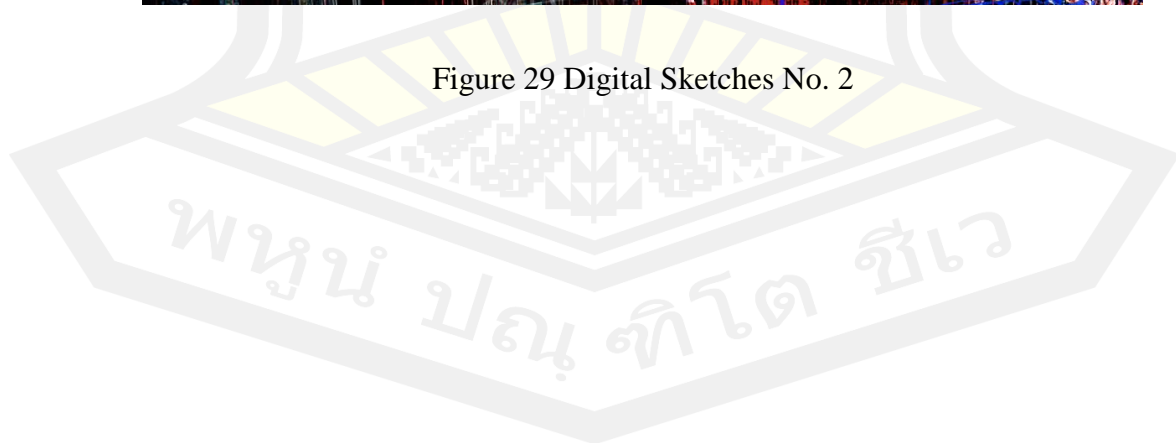


Figure 29 Digital Sketches No. 2



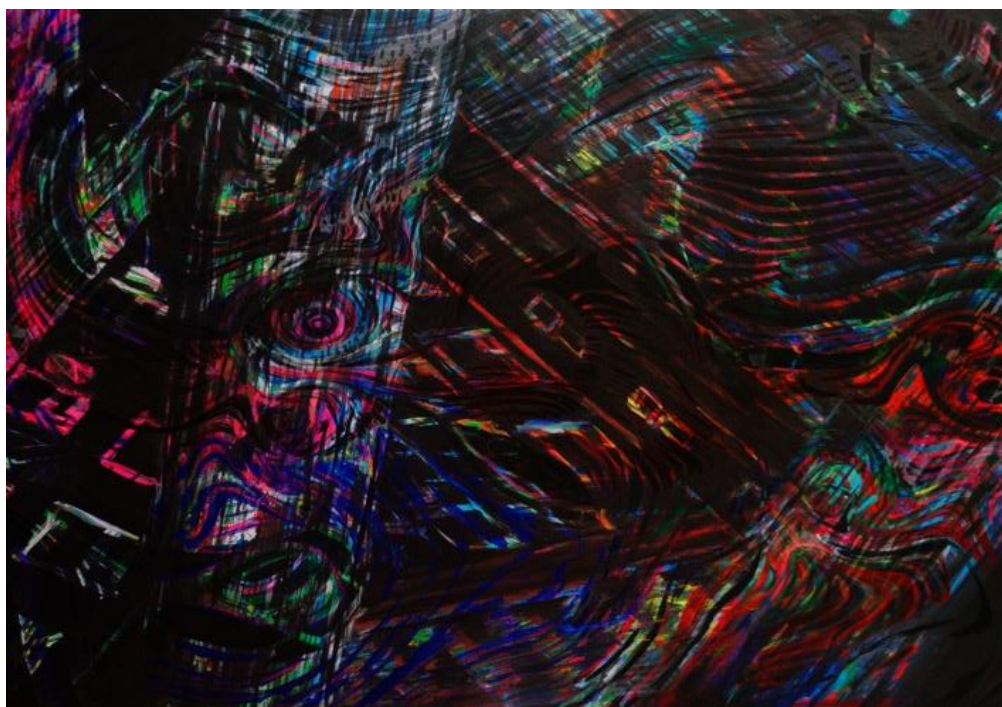


Figure 30 Digital Sketches No. 3

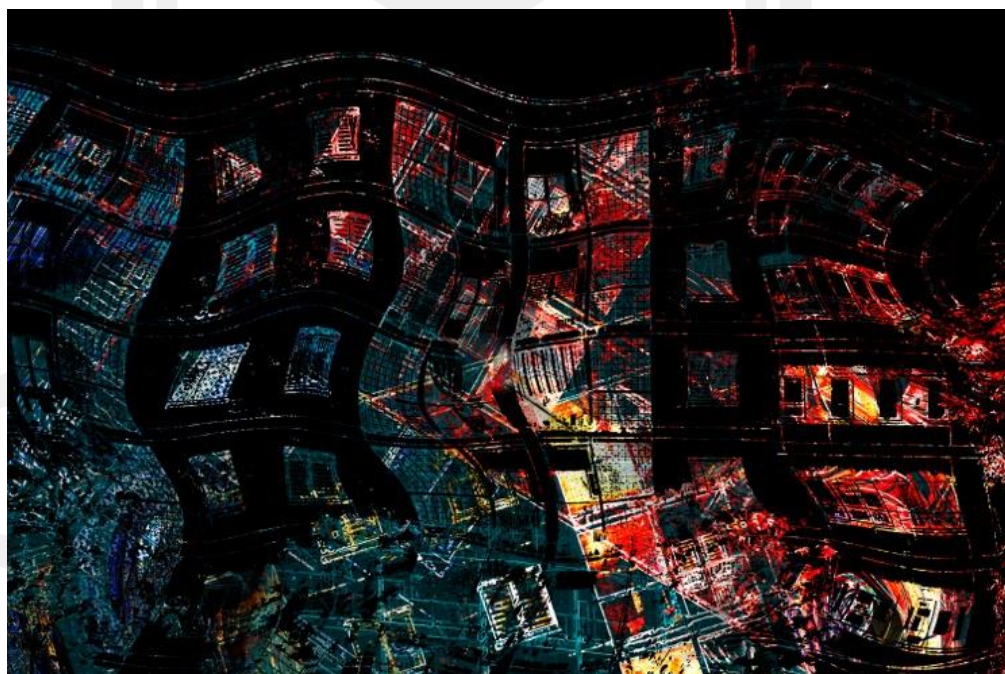


Figure 31 Digital Sketches No. 4

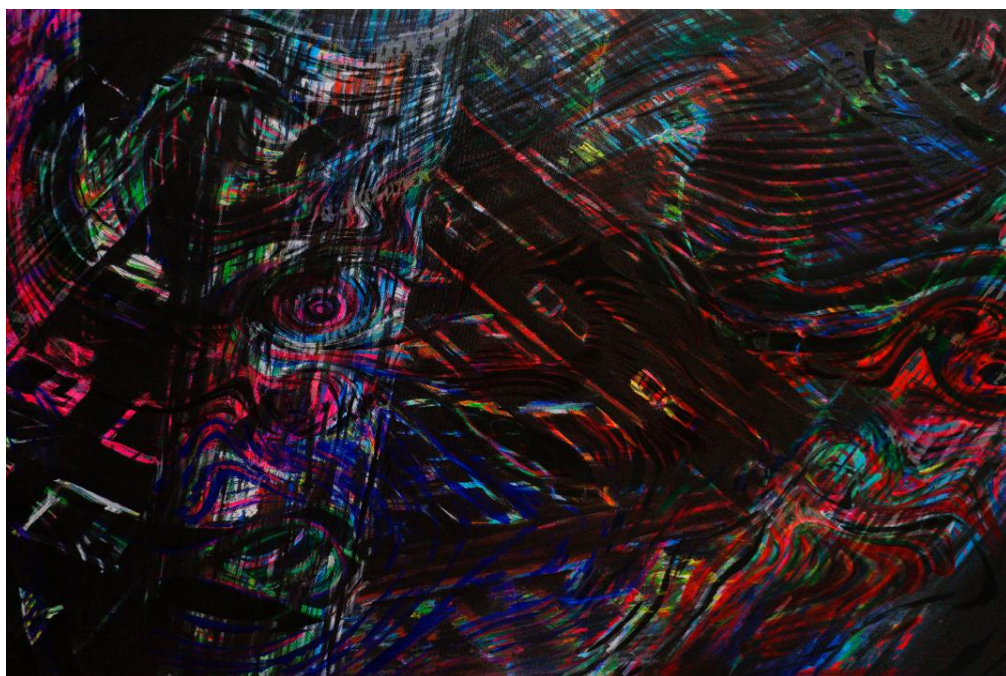
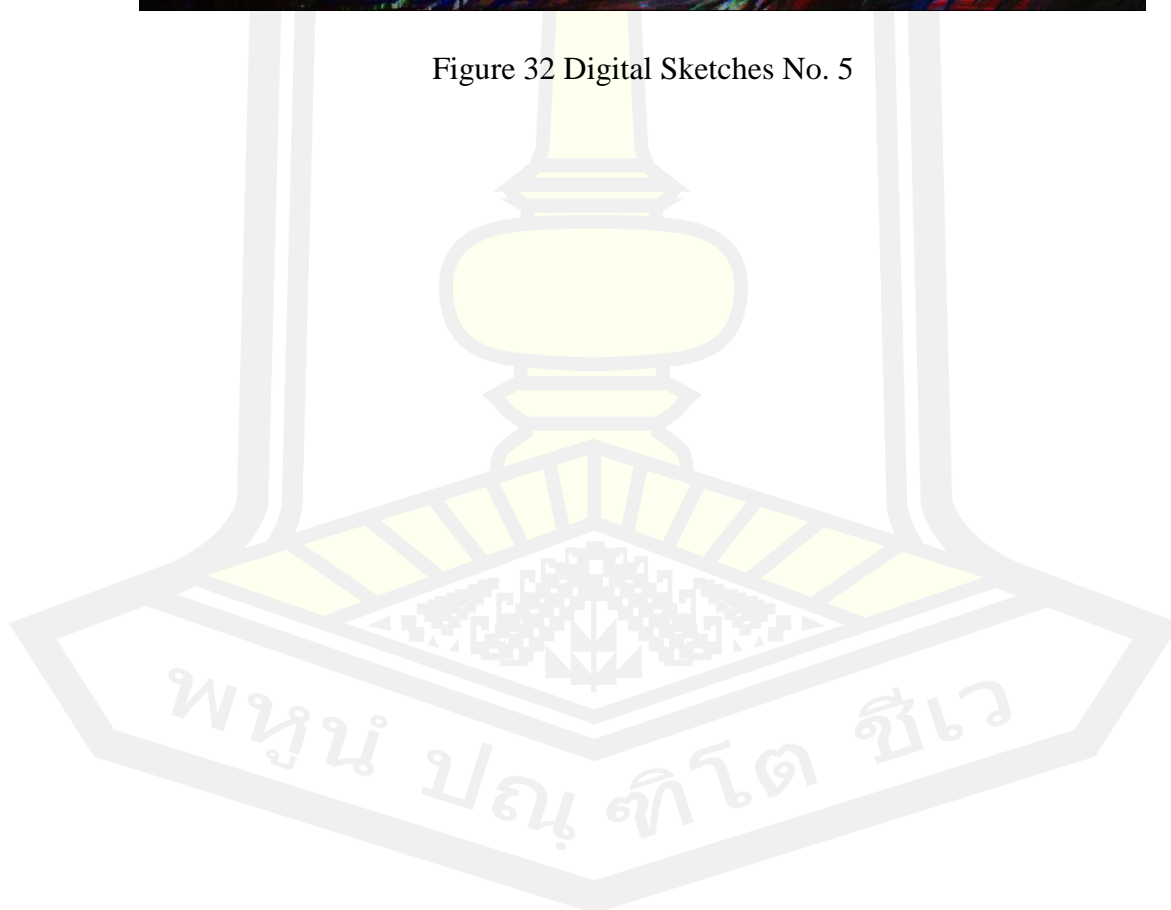


Figure 32 Digital Sketches No. 5



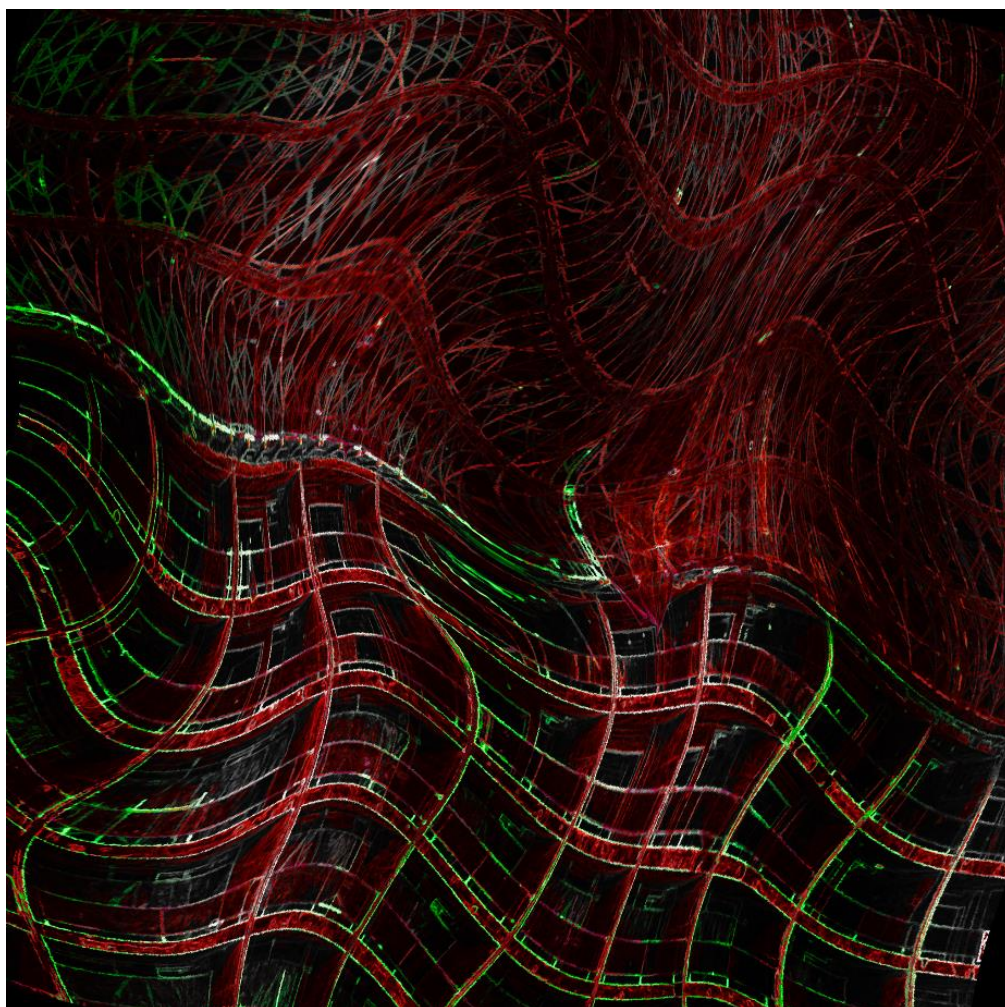
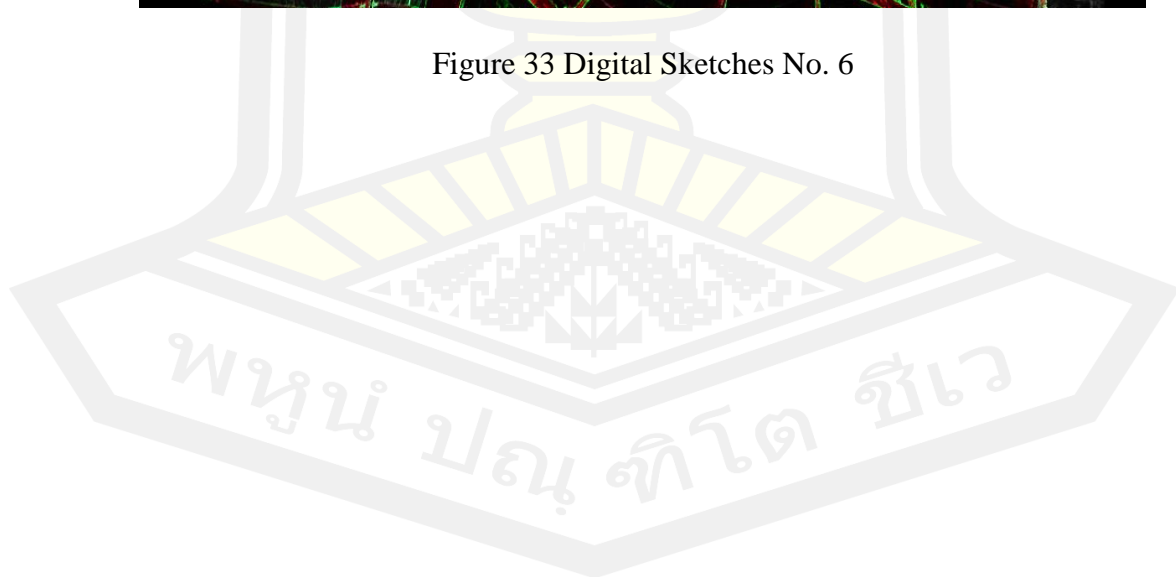


Figure 33 Digital Sketches No. 6



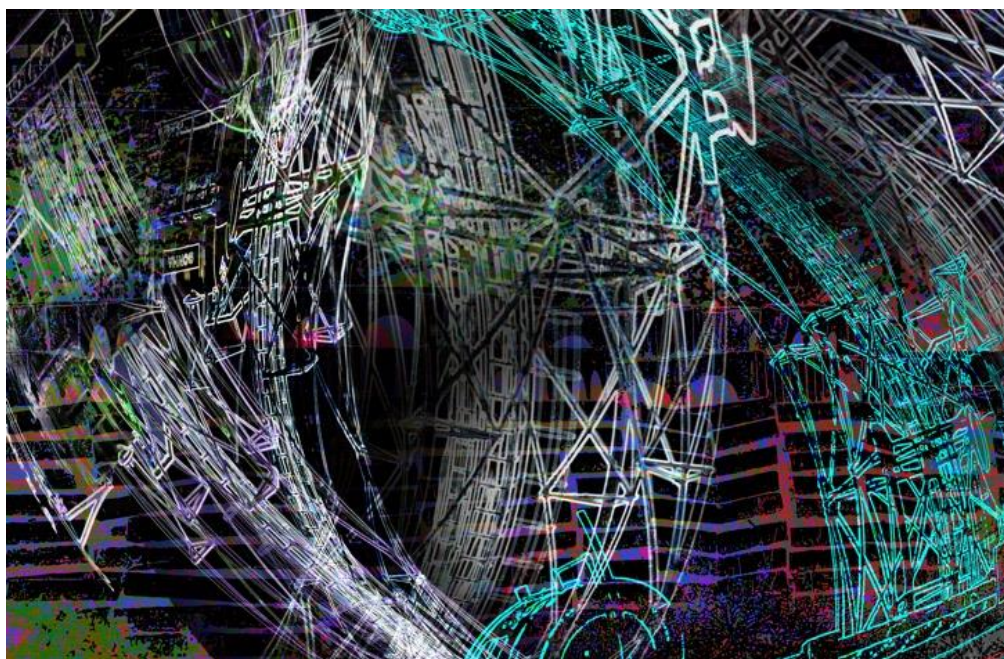


Figure 34 Digital Sketches No. 7



Figure 35 Digital Sketches No. 8

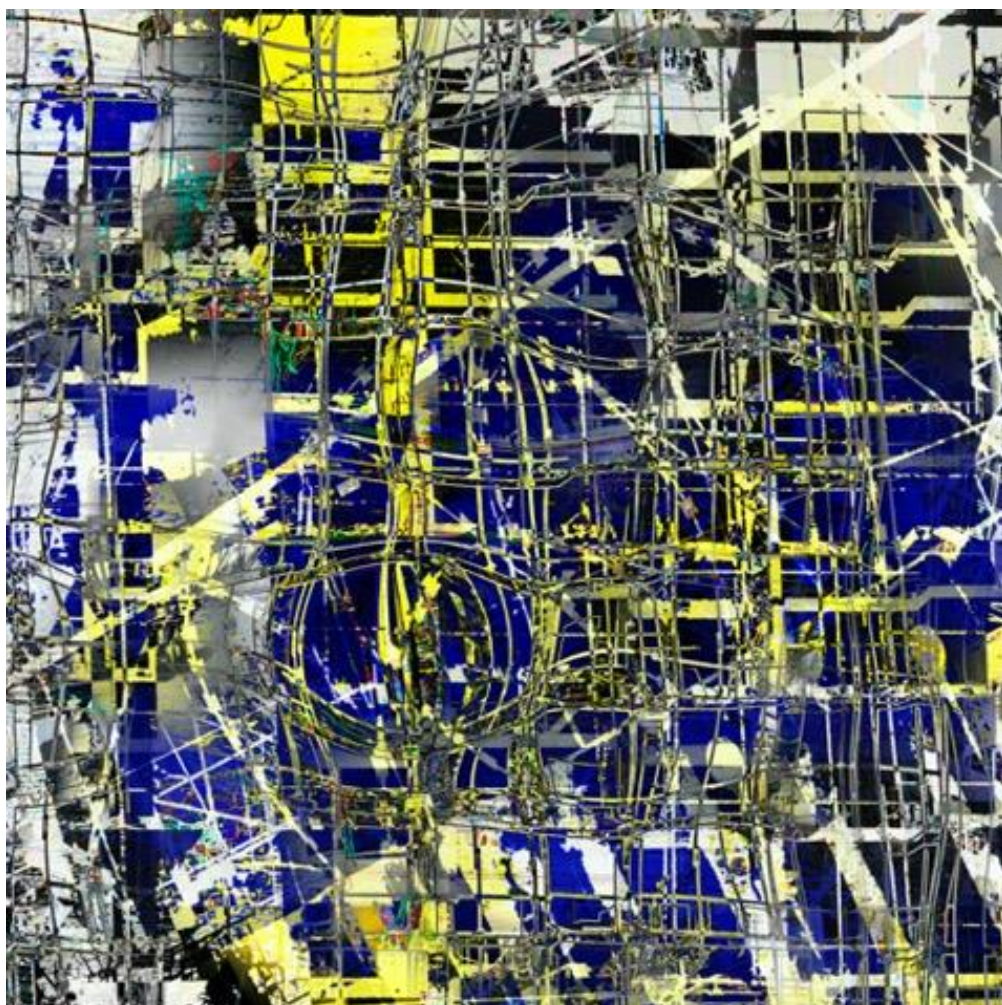
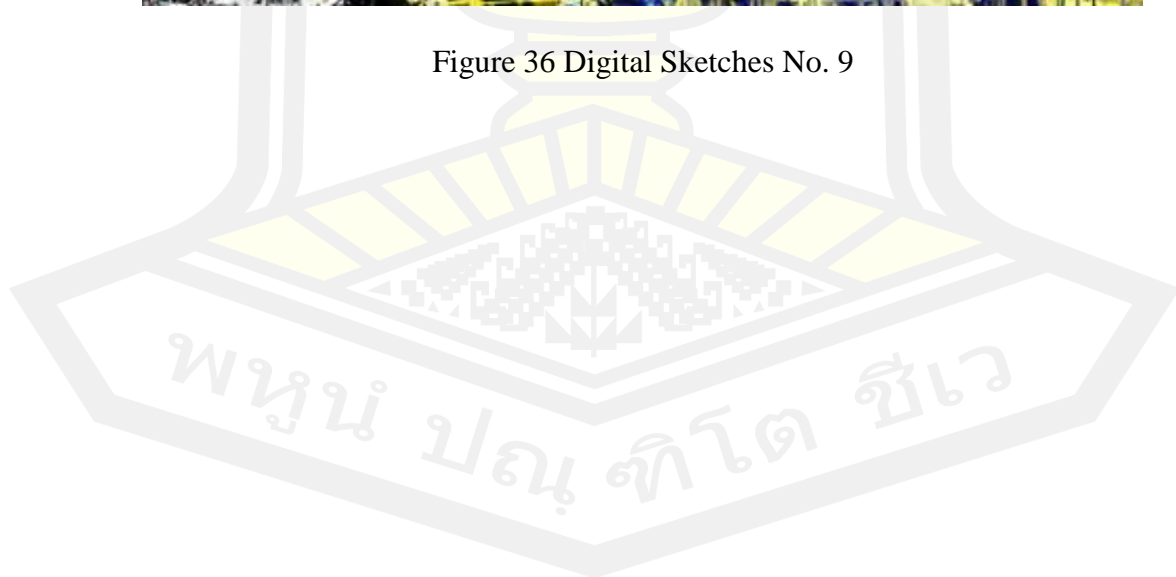


Figure 36 Digital Sketches No. 9



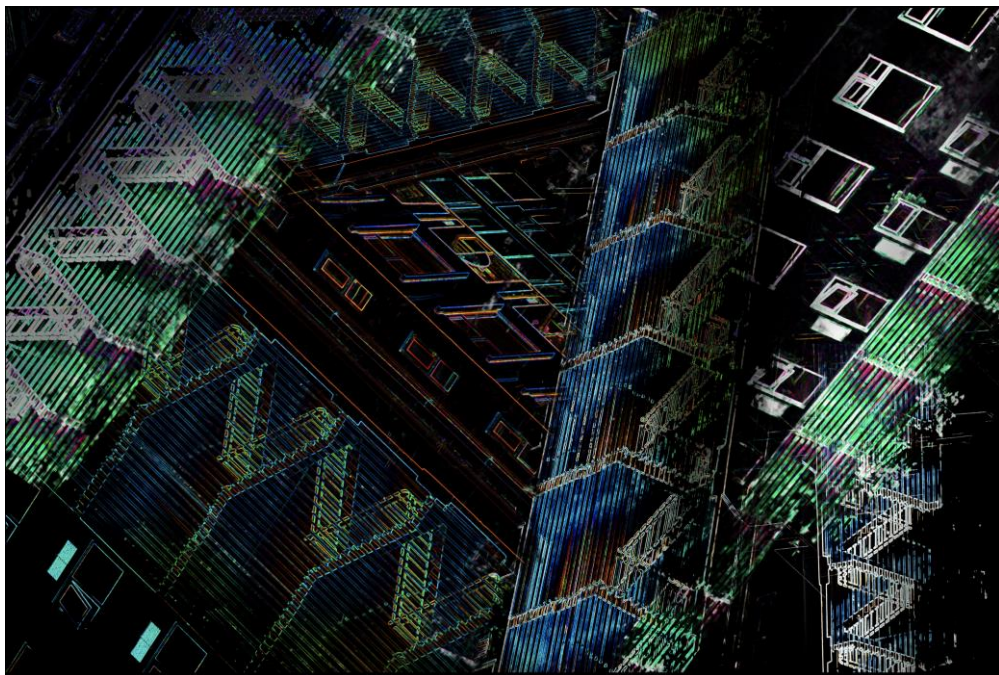


Figure 37 Digital Sketches No. 10

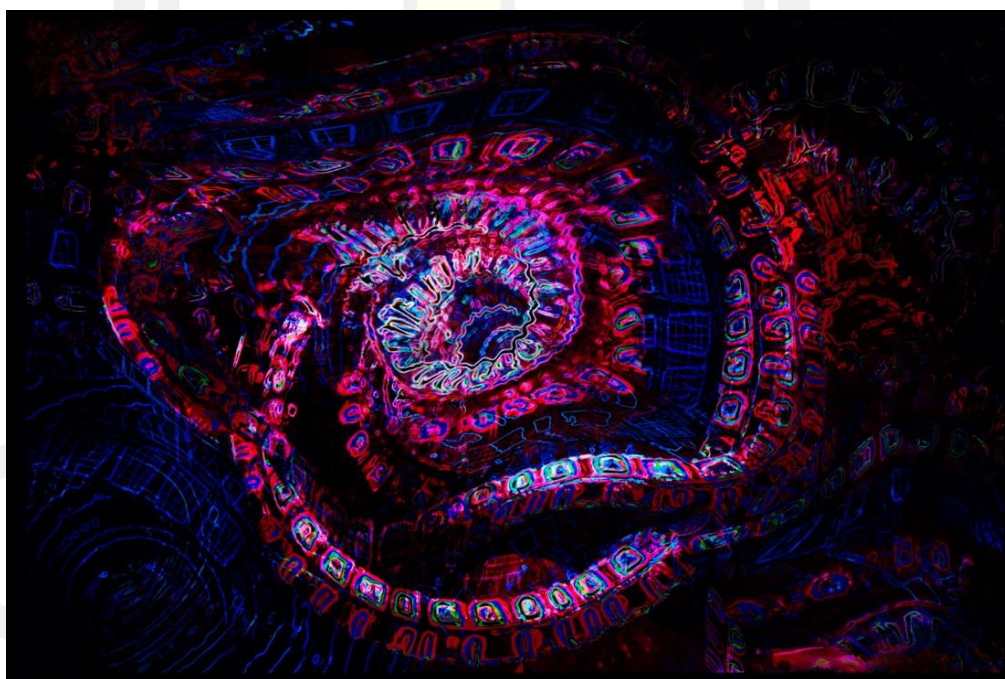


Figure 38 Digital Sketches No. 11

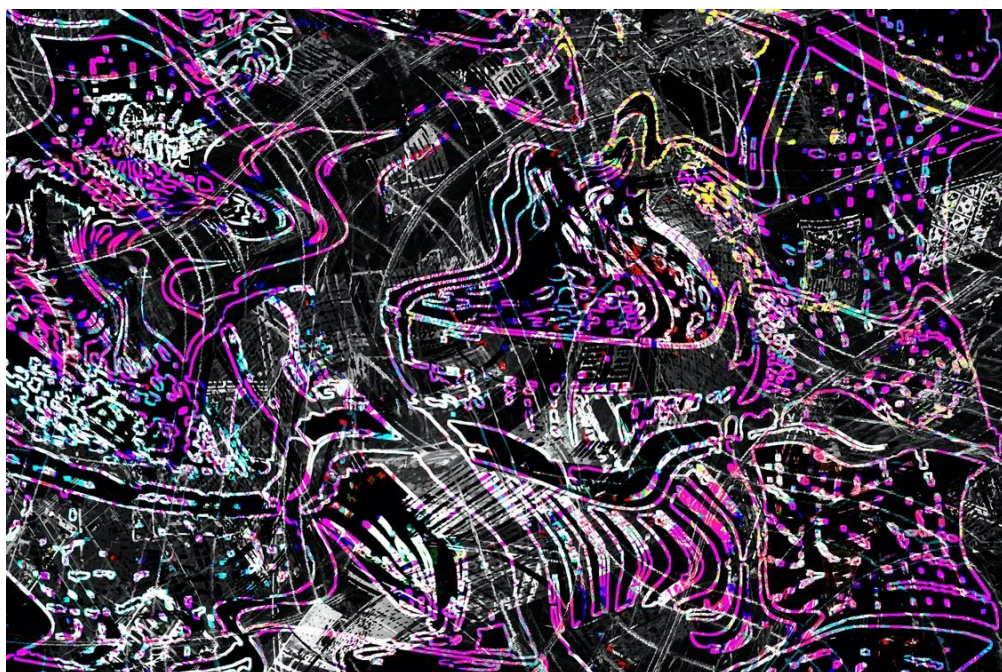
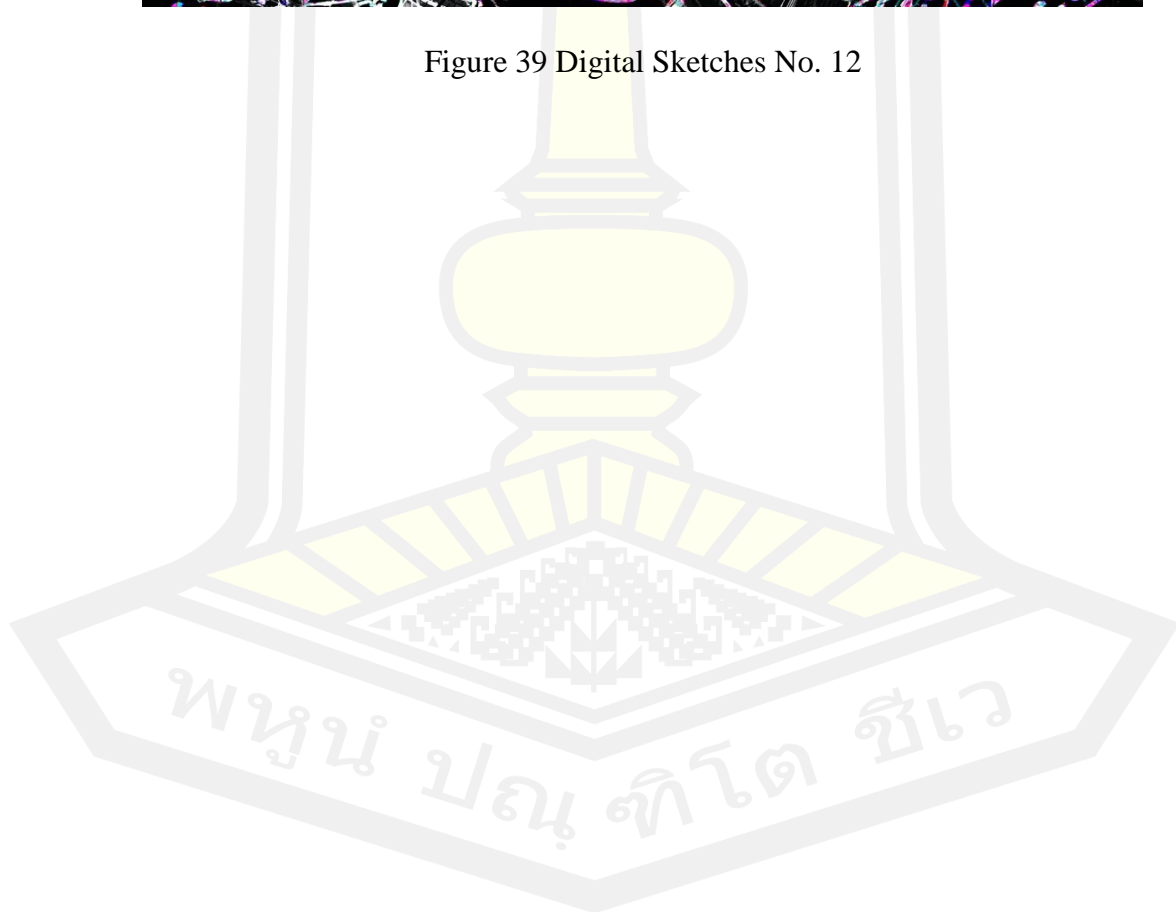


Figure 39 Digital Sketches No. 12



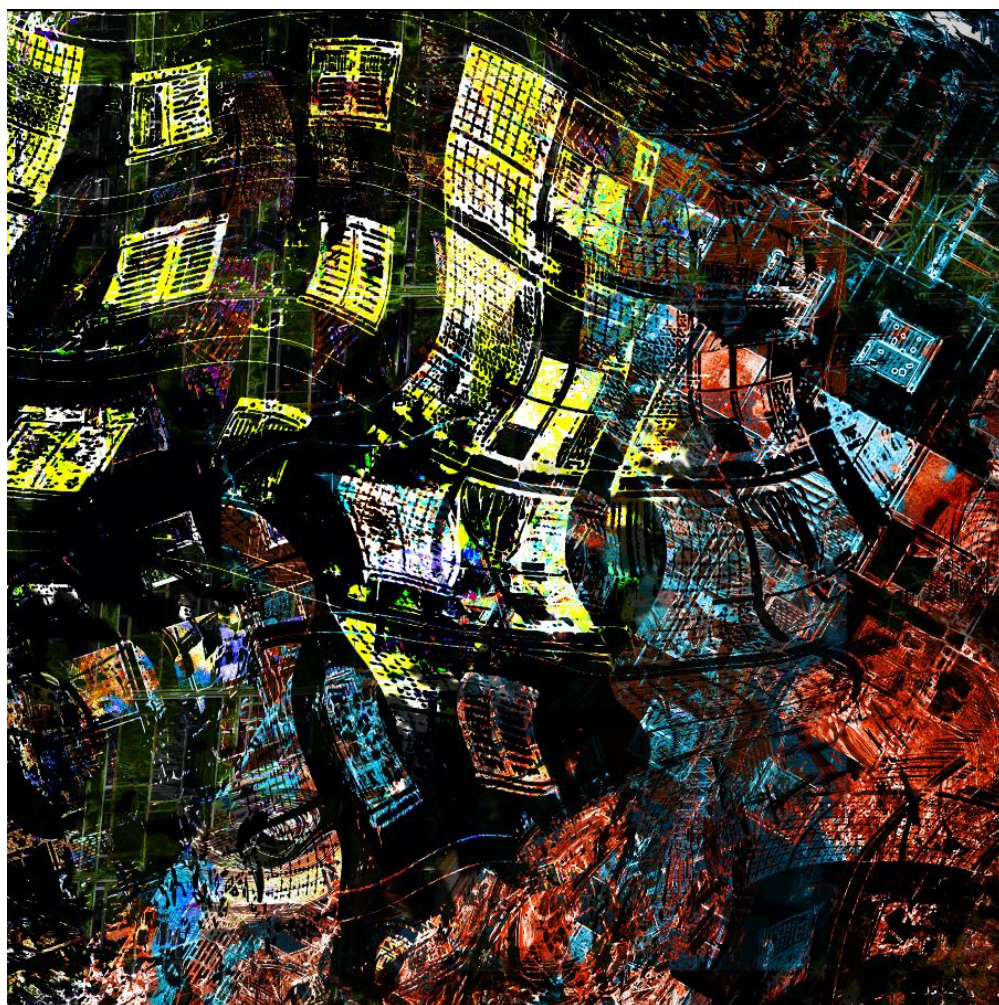
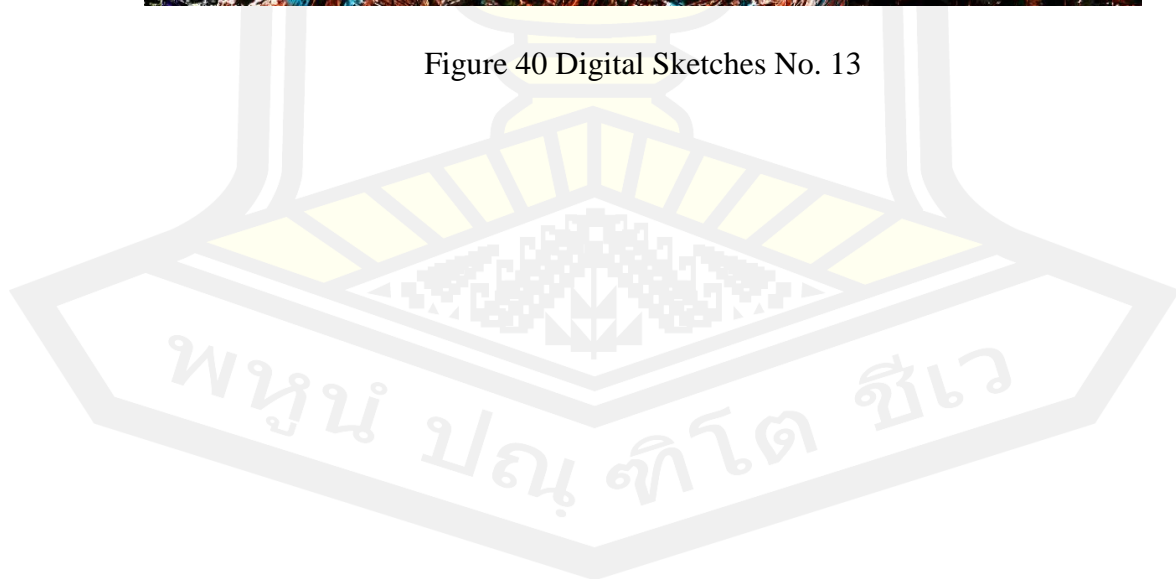


Figure 40 Digital Sketches No. 13



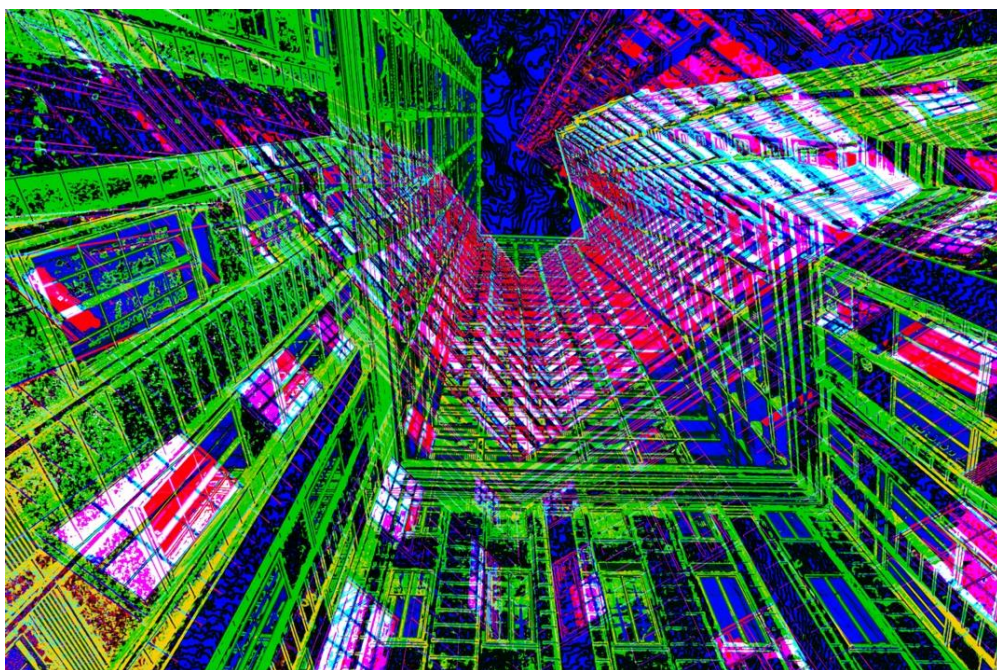


Figure 41 Digital Sketches No. 14



Figure 42 Digital Sketches No. 15

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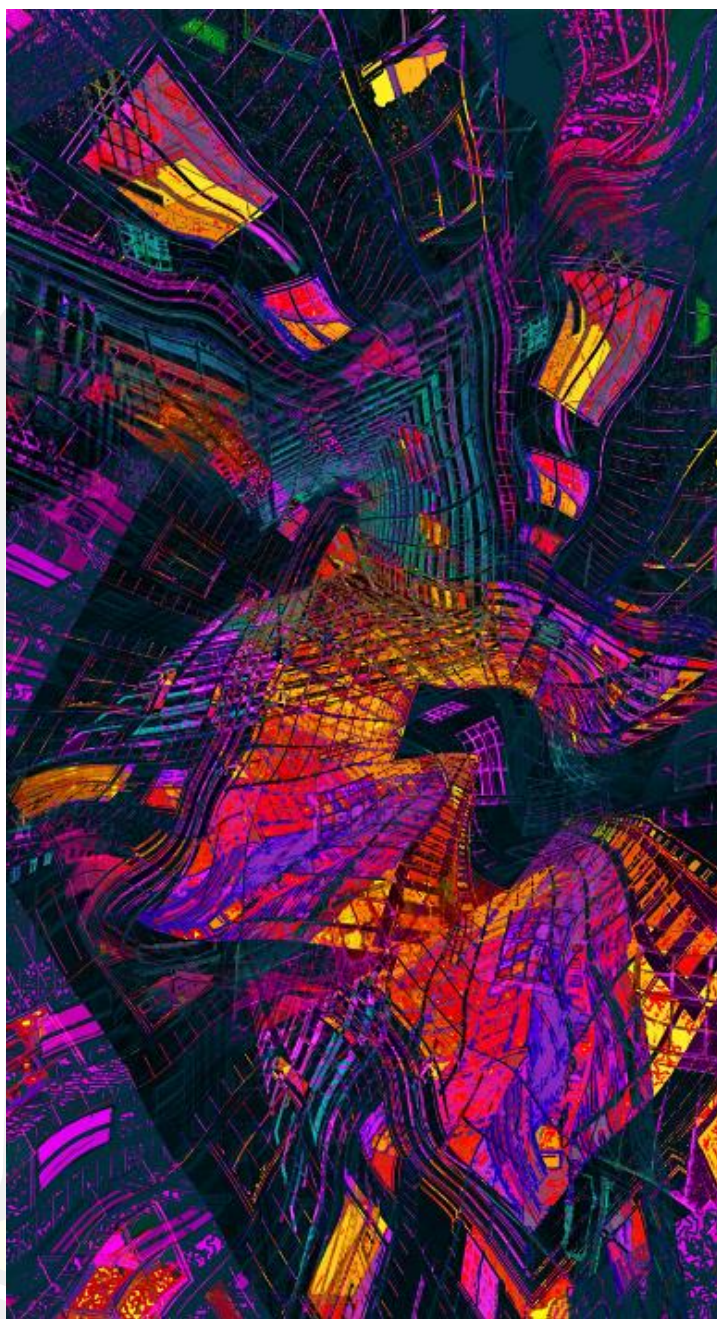


Figure 43 Digital Sketches No. 16

## 2. Material and Equipment

During our creative practice, we carry out several experiments on painting techniques and presentation on canvas to seek for best suitable visual effects to present our concept. These experiments include:

### 3. Step of Creation

#### 1. Step 1

Preparing selected digital sketch which is drew on computer



Figure 44 Creation step 1

#### 2. Step 2

Printing the digital sketch on canvas and attaching the print edition to a frame.



Figure 45 Creation step 2



Figure 46 Creation step 2

### 3. Step 3

Using acrylic color and brushes to drawing and editing the painting on print canvas



Figure 47 Creation step 3

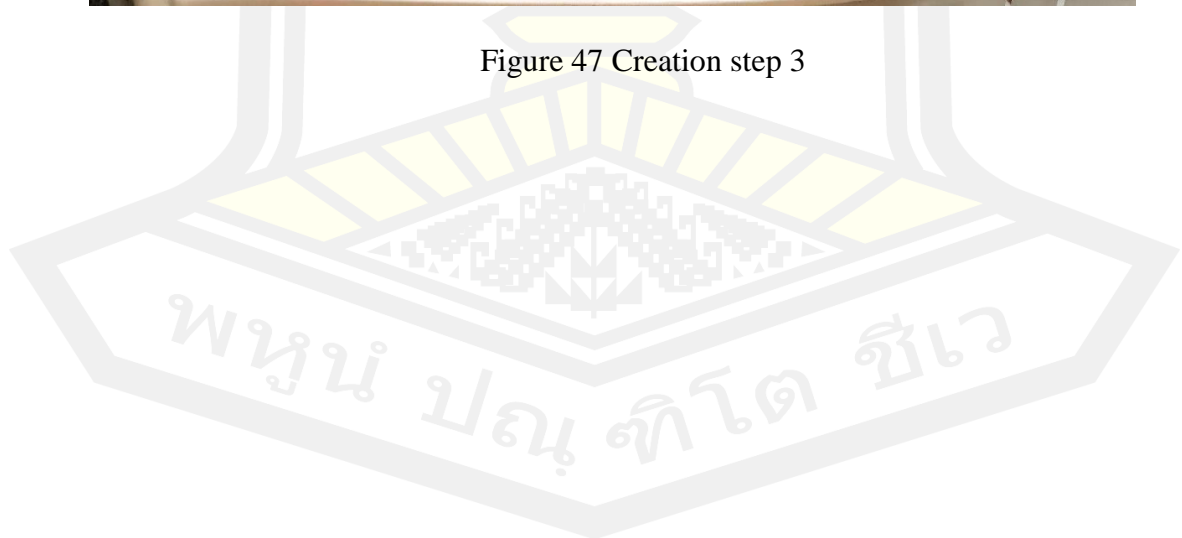




Figure 48 Creation step 3

#### 4. Step 4

Recoloring by overlapping acrylic colors to create textures, adding lines of different sizes and drawing details in the background.

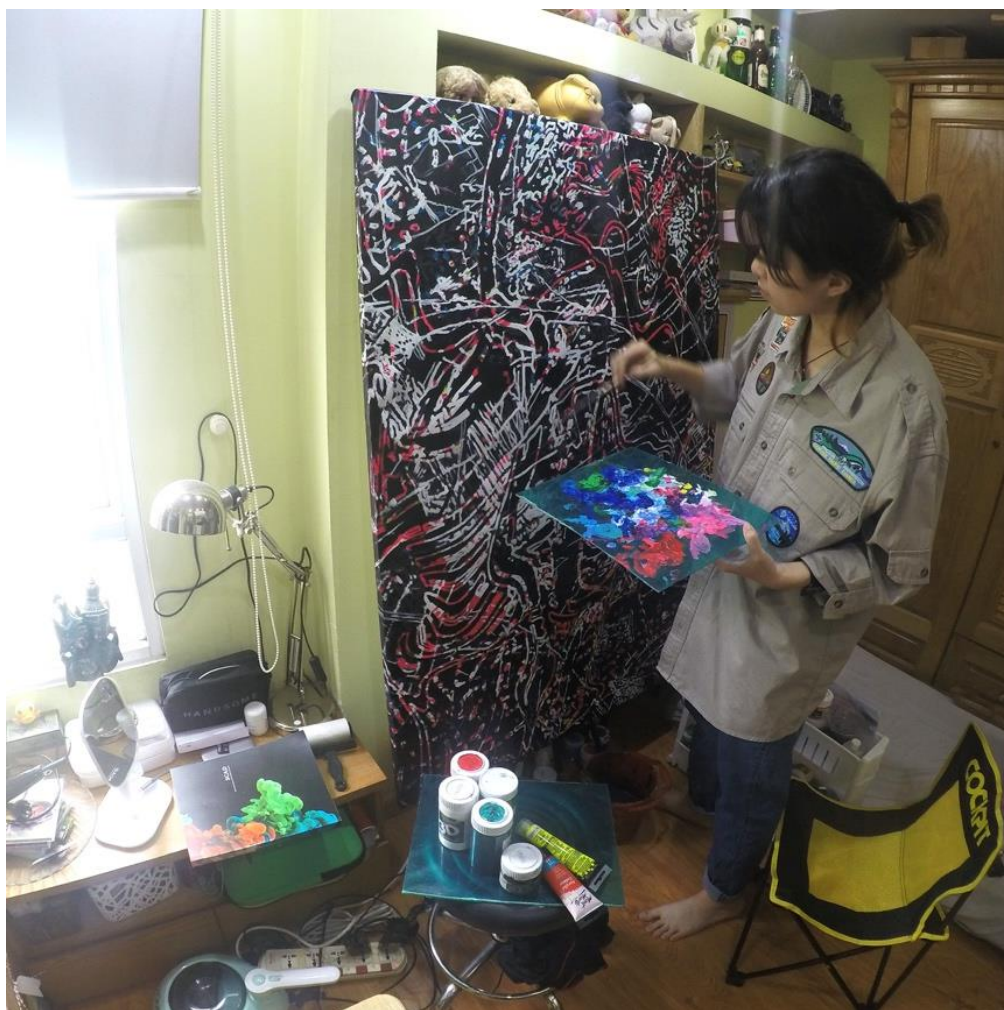


Figure 49 Creation step 4

### 3. Step 5

Finalizing: Acrylic painting is completed with the rhythm of lines and textures in a picture with dimension and unity according to the principles of visual arts.

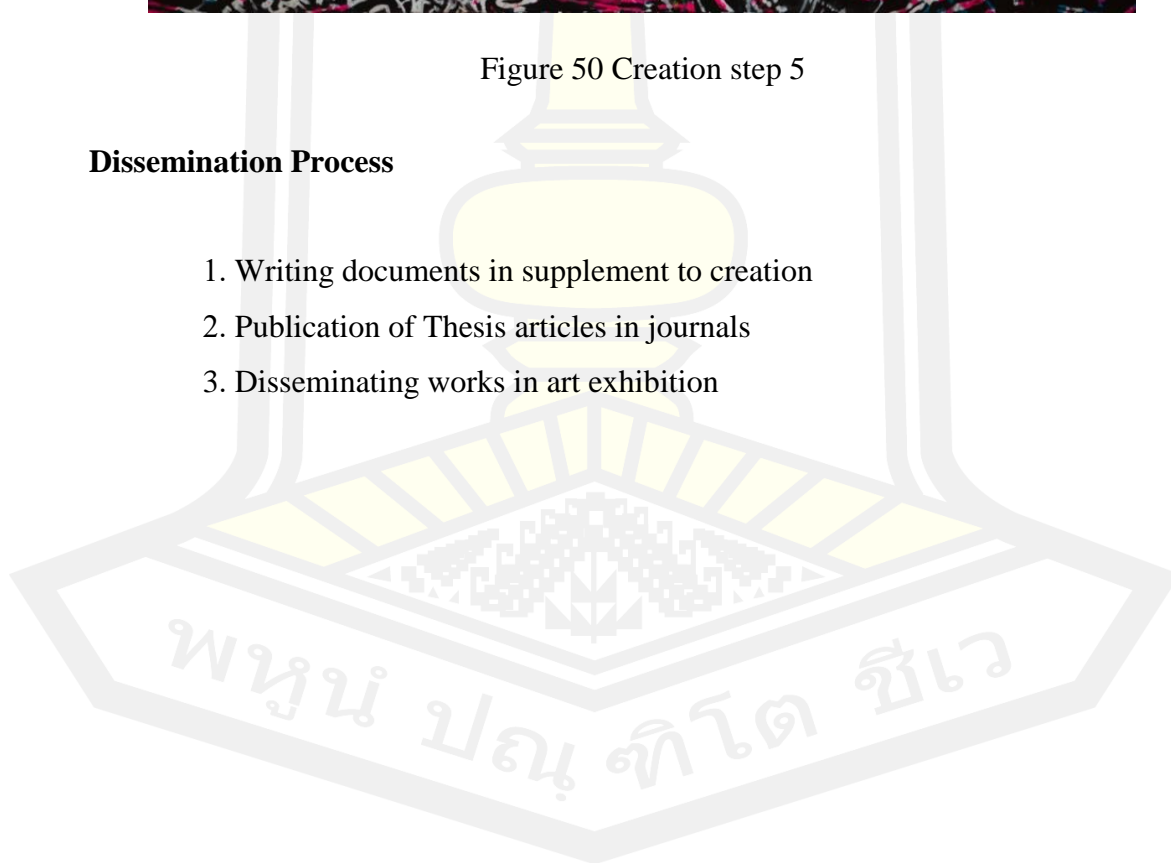
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Figure 50 Creation step 5

### Dissemination Process

1. Writing documents in supplement to creation
2. Publication of Thesis articles in journals
3. Disseminating works in art exhibition



## CHAPTER IV

### RESULTS

This chapter intends to “The Movement of Contemporary Life”. The focus of this chapter is to illustrate the results. Thus, the results are shown into the following topics:

1. Results of Data Analysis
2. Results of Creation

#### **Results of Data Analysis**

In “The movement of contemporary life”, the abstract shapes are combined with flexible lines which are inspired from forms of apartment buildings and to describe the movement and development of technology in modern life.

From the result of data analysis of modern life, the artist’s incisive critical look at the effect of urbanization and globalization on contemporary life. Development is always one of the inseparable factors in life. In order to develop, people are forced to move according to the rotation of the times. Therefore, I have continued to develop my project through a different direction, which breaks away from the original symbol to switch to exploiting urban and city elements through feelings from my inner mind. I look at the surrounding life through the impact it has on me and the spirit of people living in busy cities may be more tense and concentrated than in the countryside. The development of modern society along with the domination of science and technology is the key factor for these effects. These things have enabled me to create works with the content of “The Movement of Contemporary Life”. It represents the bustling, vibrant and colorful. The movement of fast-paced life and connections and interactions on the background of abstraction.

The artworks were the combination between digital overlapping and acrylic painting on canvas. Visual arts expressed via form urban objects and virtual lights was used from distorted shapes which conveyed the rapid pace of modern life leading to diverse movements in viewer’s feeling.

## Results of Creation

From the research and practice process, I have gradually determined characteristic my artwork styles. The concrete creative direction in the paintings have presented the movement of urban life. During researching time, data and materials have been collected carefully to convey content and ideas clearly. In addition, thank to suggestions of experts and advisors, the artworks are increasingly progress and approach closer to the topic. It can be clearly seen as follows:

### 1. Thesis work 1

1.1 Idea/ Concept: The content focuses on the development and connection of life which present the movement and changes of urban space via images of buildings with complex feelings. The different interweaving movements between light and dark, day and night, present and past.

1.2 Form and Art style: The shapes of buildings from the bottom-up perspective are abstracted with curved lines and sharp patches. The change between the black and white patches creates strong emotions. Besides, the difference in detail in the composition creates diversity and vibrancy for the work.

1.3 The Results: From the artist's perspective, the artworks show aesthetic results in lines and colors that create a distinct abstract space. The paintings need to add more color than using black and white.



Figure 51 Thesis work 1

Title: Connection

Size: 100 x 235 centimètre

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

## 2. Thesis work 2

2.1 Idea/ Concept: Describe the urban space at night, the movements of the bustling nightlife. The structure of the modern living space and the brightly colored lighting contrast with the depth of the night.

2.2 Form and Art style: The lines are abstracted on the shape of the building with many doorways hidden behind the winding lines, creating an interwoven connection and interaction between urban elements, creating an impressive aesthetic effect with striking colors.

2.3 The Results: From the artist's perspective, the artworks show aesthetic results in lines and colors that create a distinct abstract space. The paintings need to add more detail and focus on complex overlapping lines.

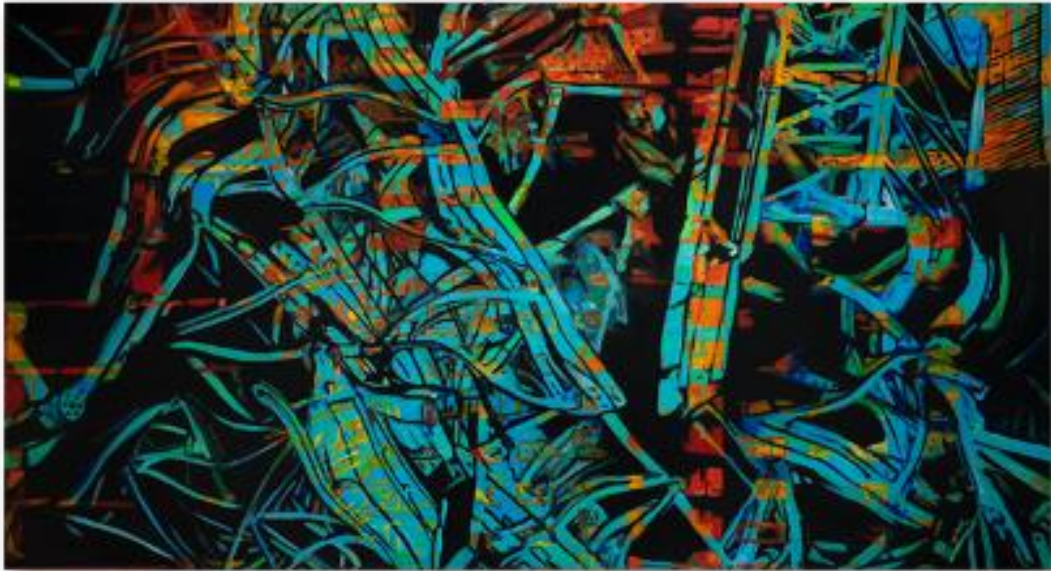


Figure 52 Thesis work 2

Title: Structure

Size: 100 x 185 centimètre

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

### 3. Thesis work 3

3.1 Idea / Concept: The content depicts vibrant and colorful urban life, with different spatial layers expressing strong emotions and enthusiasm in the fast pace of life in modern cities where machines and technology bring about dramatic changes in people's lives.

3.2 Artistic form and style: The shapes of buildings from a multi-dimensional perspective with the appearance of high-rise blocks are arranged in many directions and abstracted with diverse lines and vibrant colors create depth and illusion.

3.3 The Results: From the artist's perspective, the work show aesthetic results in lines and colors that create a visual aesthetics. The harmonious combination

of aesthetic elements does not care about the content and show the homogeneity between visual elements.

3.4 Progress: Compositions have evolved in perspectives that make shapes unique and multi-directional. This creates movement in the visual elements.



Figure 53 Thesis work 3

Title: Urban Space

Size: 100 x 235 centimètre

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

#### 4. Thesis work 4

4.1 Idea / Concept: The work presents a colorful scene of a modern city in an atmosphere of artificial light. The excitement of modern urban areas is interesting with the interaction and connection between the lines and blocks that bring the breath of the technology city.

4.2 Artistic form and style: The artist uses a close-up view of the main facade of the block, the structure of the buildings, but is combined and interwoven with lines and colors inspired by the elements of Urban areas such as electricity systems, streets and various machinery create depth and strong illusions.

4.3 The Results: From the artist's perspective, the works show aesthetic results in lines and colors that create a distinct abstract space. The paintings need to add surfacing techniques to create stronger emotions, clarify specific concept.

4.4 Progress: The artworks have good style and need to be developed, specifying how to express between graphic and acrylic. Moreover, developing in a positive, multi-dimensional way, showing images, sounds and vehicles is necessary.



Figure 61 Thesis work 4

Title: Overlap

Size: 100 x 185 centimètre

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

## 5. Thesis work 5

5.1 Idea/ Concept: The idea in the paintings is a modern city landscape with a fast pace of life and different layers of space mixed with artificial light showing strong development, the energy hidden behind the windows. The movement of color lines reveals the distinctive character of busy and colorful urban life.

5.2 Form and Art style: The image of the city mixed with artificial light in the middle view. Curves and diagonal lines combined with a soft expression create a magical feeling. Hidden are horizontal lines that create typical effects of city space.

5.3 The Results: From the artist's perspective, the works show aesthetic results in lines and colors that create a distinct abstract space. The creations showed the movement through the colors of light, the depth of city life. Style is a combination of abstraction and reality to express the continuous development of society.

5.4 Progress: There is a change in structure that is more obvious, especially in the use of lines: In the previous works, the lines were mostly geometric and architectural, but in these works, the lines are clearly features of the cityscape. Specifically, horizontal lines create a change of fast bustling urban life.



Figure 54 Thesis work 5

Title: Light Night

Size: 100 x 235 centimètre

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

## 6. Thesis work 6

6.1 Idea/ Concept: The work is the presentation of modern urban spaces through images of buildings, streets, seaports, bridges. The images are expressed

through the artist's perspective of the movement of the city life, full of vitality and bustle.

6.2 Form and Art style: Urban elements are arranged closely together in various sizes with an emphasis on horizontal lines with striking colors. While the other half is undulating, free and clear lines, sometimes blurred, creating fast and complex movements.

6.3 The Results: The artworks should be sketched by drawing instead of digitizing. The lines give the work the style of cityscapes at night. It cannot be seen the fast changing fast movement of the city so reviewing the previous works is necessary. Lines and colors play a vital role and wide viewing angles cause inefficiencies in lines. Concept needs to be firm and clear.

6.4 Progress: Compositions have evolved in perspectives that make shapes unique and multi-directional. The focus should be on the clear structural lines of the buildings rather than the horizontal lines of the landscape. It can be seen the beauty of color in the works. The change should be expressed from the past to the present or the change between the noise of the day and the quiet of the night. Through the windows of buildings, the development of the digital world should be shown. Style should combine translucent and clear to match the concept.

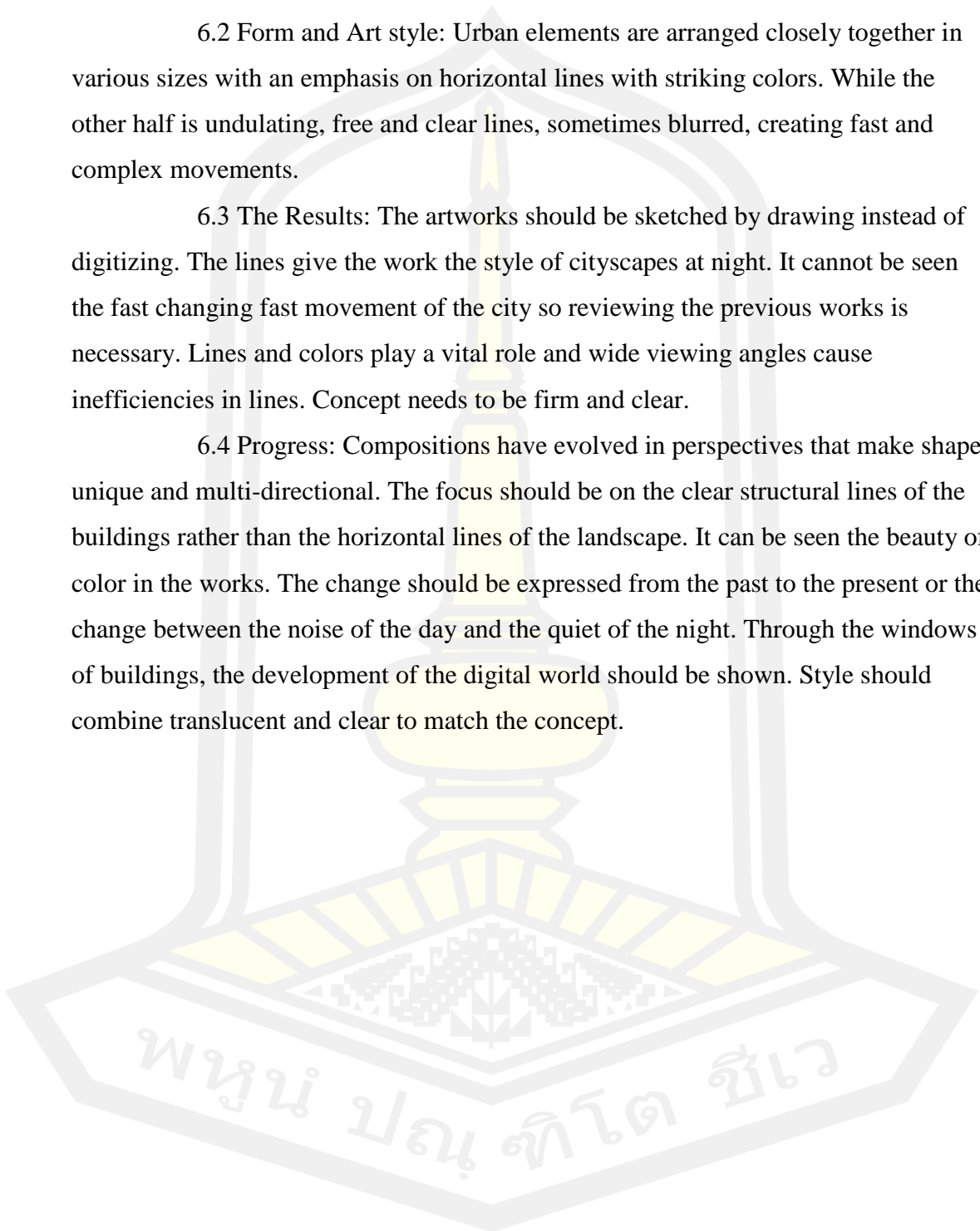




Figure 55 Thesis work 6

Title: Digital City

Size: 100 x 185 centimètre

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

## 7. Thesis work 7

7.1 Idea/ Concept: The idea in the paintings is a modern city landscape with a fast pace of life and different layers of space mixed with artificial light showing strong development, the energy hidden behind the windows.

7.2 Form and Art style: The image of the city mixed with artificial light under the panoramic view along with soft curves and diagonal lines creates a magical feeling.

7.3 The Results: From the artist's perspective, the works show aesthetic results in lines and colors that create a distinct abstract space. Works should be used digital technology to show improvement in resolution as well as printing techniques on paper, digital works are quite good. In the previous works, the content was presented quite well, but in the later works, a lot of free forms were used, so the urban spirit was reduced.

7.4 Progress: The work that can be left digitally original will show better detail and light. The theme is quite clear, the movement of life in the subject is quite consistent. The work is quite potential, so it needs to be edited more technically to be able to develop further.



Figure 56 Thesis work 7

Title: Movement

Size: 100 x 185 centimètre

Technique: Mix Media (Digital Print,  
Acrylic on Canvas)

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## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter examines the extent to which the study problems have been resolution by the work, study and how the findings add to the existent literature. Conclusion about the creation purposes and the creation resolution are drawn based on the results findings. It will be presented according to the following topics:

1. Purpose of Creation
2. Conclusion
3. Discussion
4. Recommendation

#### **Purpose of Creation**

1. To study “The movement of contemporary life”, the abstract shapes are combined with flexible lines which are inspired from forms of apartment buildings and to describe the movement and development of in the modern life.

2. To create the visual arts which are used Mix Media technique (Digital Print and Acrylic on Canvas). Visual arts expressed via form urban objects and virtual lights was used from distorted shapes which conveyed the rapid pace of modern life leading to diverse movements in viewer’s feeling.

#### **Conclusion**

This visual arts creation thesis “The movement of contemporary life” will be presented the conclusion according to the following topics:

1. Results of Data Analysis

Thank to field studies which creates knowledge about the life of people, society and architecture in Vietnam, I take notes and make sketches about the process of urbanization with a noisy and bustling life. Then, I studied the artist's

works which show the development of modern life via the images of building, street, machine. These abstract works have unique applied techniques, expressive forms of vibrant color with diverse lines from brush strokes are used in mixed media paintings. My works are under the influence of Abstract Expressionism and the theory about human life of Hegel as well as the theory of color by Kant. Therefore, these study play a vital role to applied to the creative structure of the architecture in the development of the concept.

## 2. Results of Creation

This process facilitates me to create art works which combine between forms of shells and forms of buildings which dedicate in the pre-thesis. From this inspiration about urban livings, the result of creations is presented through 7 thesis works used visual elements with exploration of the more universal aspects of aesthetics, mobilizing the power of color, line, texture, and form to bring people together in a visual space of contemplation.

## Discussion

The result of creation was discovered which indicated

### 1. Results of Data Analysis

In this visual art creation thesis, vitality of an urban space conveys the constant movements of contemporary life where the development of technology and science profoundly affects people's lives. The image of buildings is representative of the modern life of people behind the doors is the domination of machines and technology. The buildings are a symbol of the development of human industry; the artist wishes to send the message that contemporary life is a constant movement, interaction and connection of people with technology to pave the way for development of society. My paintings are created with abstract art style. The purpose of the creation is to study the expression of artistic content through the images of buildings with interwoven and overlapping doorways, highlighting the colors and light of the vibrant urban space. dynamic and full of life. Another purpose is to study the process of creating paintings with graphic techniques combined with acrylic painting on canvas to create impressive colors and lines based on modern technology

techniques with new emotions. In the process of data collection, the thesis is formed based on 3 categories including: information sources from books and internet, images from field research. In addition, the influences from the creative activities of international and Vietnamese artists also play a key role in my thesis. Specifically, Stuart Davis's experience impacted the later progress of my artwork via realistic objects which are abstracted away with bright colors and geometric edges. Moreover, theories of Descartes help me to understand the importance of experience and effect a visible object on the senses rather than the object itself. This idea leads me to interest in the emotions in artworks. The works are then developed in stages: I took outdoor photos in Danang city where I am living, I tried to focus on textures and details of urban space. After that these photos is manipulated on Photoshop which is a digital sketching technique following by my distinctive style. Next stage, the digital sketches is printed on canvas before completing by acrylic painting technique. The works are created as a personal creation of the author. This creativity reflects the successful result in expressing the image of the urban space with the movements of colorful life through the language of art.

## 2. Results of Creation

This process results me to create separated art styles which are seen as follows:

### Concepts

Processing concepts developed from the urban space behind the windows in the city with personal emotions and experiences to emphasize the different movement in rapid pace of contemporary life.

### Form

The mixing between shapes and lines with colorful theme express the technological life in big cities. Different compositions in each work have brought direct and imaginative visual effects. Visual forms are combined diversely. This is more of an expression of the energy and emotion of people in the contemporary life; lines and textures of buildings and urban elements are rotated at different angles with overlapping effects of a complex structure. The excitement of color space is presented intensively strong with contrast light by complementary colors.

## 3. The new finding/ the new knowledge

After the process of studying and experiments, the special way has been found for work creation. It is the way that the artist creates the excellent combination between with graphic and acrylic painting techniques

Thanks to the advice and guidance of advisors and the board of artists, the artworks are progressed with motion effects using artistic components, visual factors, composition, various line combinations and shapes, etc. to procreate a perfect harmony between forms and contents.

#### 4. The effects or reaction on social or technical field

The paintings are a new medium to reflex the effects of technology on people's lives through art based on the combination of lines and shapes and the movement of colors. Beauty values are conveyed the movement of urbanization and modernization on contemporary life.

### **Recommendation**

1. Presentation of creative works in this thesis will be more successful can use digital printing techniques for creativity or create works with digital media that represents a modern city in contemporary society in Vietnam

2. Developing content, symbols, able to find perspectives of architecture in other structures and apply them in future works.

3. Expressions in abstract works should pay attention to the use of geometric form and freeform. When the content focuses on cities, society, and architecture, focus on geometric form.

4. From the study and recommendations, it is possible to come up with guidelines for applying content, concepts, and expressions to apply in the creative works of visual arts by artists and others.

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