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New York City

Dance

Prompt #26: "Art has to come from the human experience." – Sabin Howard / Sculptor)

Title: Realms in Parallax (Dance Film)



"Art has to come from the human experience" hit deep with the realization these moments we are living in are finite and will soon be part of the past as technology, AI, and social media increasingly take over the arts. How do you make something genuine in a world of instant copy-paste? When dance has turned into TikTok trends and regurgitated choreography, standing out becomes taboo.

Street dance has a certain uniqueness to it, being created on the streets from impoverished communities as a way to express emotions and ideas without having many resources.

I struggled with an abusive parent and poverty which spiraled into a flurry of bad choices. That was until I found dance, a community, and a way to express and release my pain. This led me down this path to create something that feels real, genuine, and meaningful; to hopefully save someone else who needs it.

The story explores the consequences of substance abuse brought on by physical abuse and abandonment. Following the main character though the stages of grief after experiencing a loss of self, the audience is confronted with moral dilemma: how much responsibility should we assign to someone whose harmful behavior is tied to trauma beyond their control? How can we balance compassion & understanding with accountability?

If I can help even one person realize they are not alone in their thoughts and struggles, and help them to pursue forward, the effort would be worth it. That is the value of art and this project for me.



