

JUSTIN AYERS



2021

WHO AM I?

I was born and raised in Los Angeles, California; here, I was fortunate to be exposed to people with diverse stories and backgrounds. I discovered photography in high school and adored its ability to tell a story through a single image, especially my own. The usage of photography to express myself before coming out only fueled my love for the art form. I brought this perspective to California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, where I currently study Art & Design, concentrating in photography and video.

During my Sophomore year at Cal Poly, I became the president of Club 34, the Art & Design department's club for all majors and minors to come together and collaborate at events and art shows. During my Junior year, I took over as the editor-in-chief of .RAW Journal. At .RAW I work with other art & design students to create a quarterly zine that highlights the entire department's work and provides students an excellent opportunity to have their work published. I have become involved with the local craft fairs and pop-up shops that allow local creatives to share and sell their fantastic work. My experiences before and at Cal Poly, coupled with the beautiful people I have met along the way, have shaped the work I produce today with pops of bright color and exciting perspectives for the viewer to enjoy.

Today, I center my work around members of my generation, examining their beauty and stories through a highly stylized and personal lens. Focusing my work on those around me allows for a deeper connection through our shared experiences. I carry this theme throughout my practice to tackle stereotypes and societal pressures. Additionally, I couple past and contemporary fashion trends with digital manipulation to create a final product that encapsulates the person's essence or the concept I am investigating.



PORTRAITS



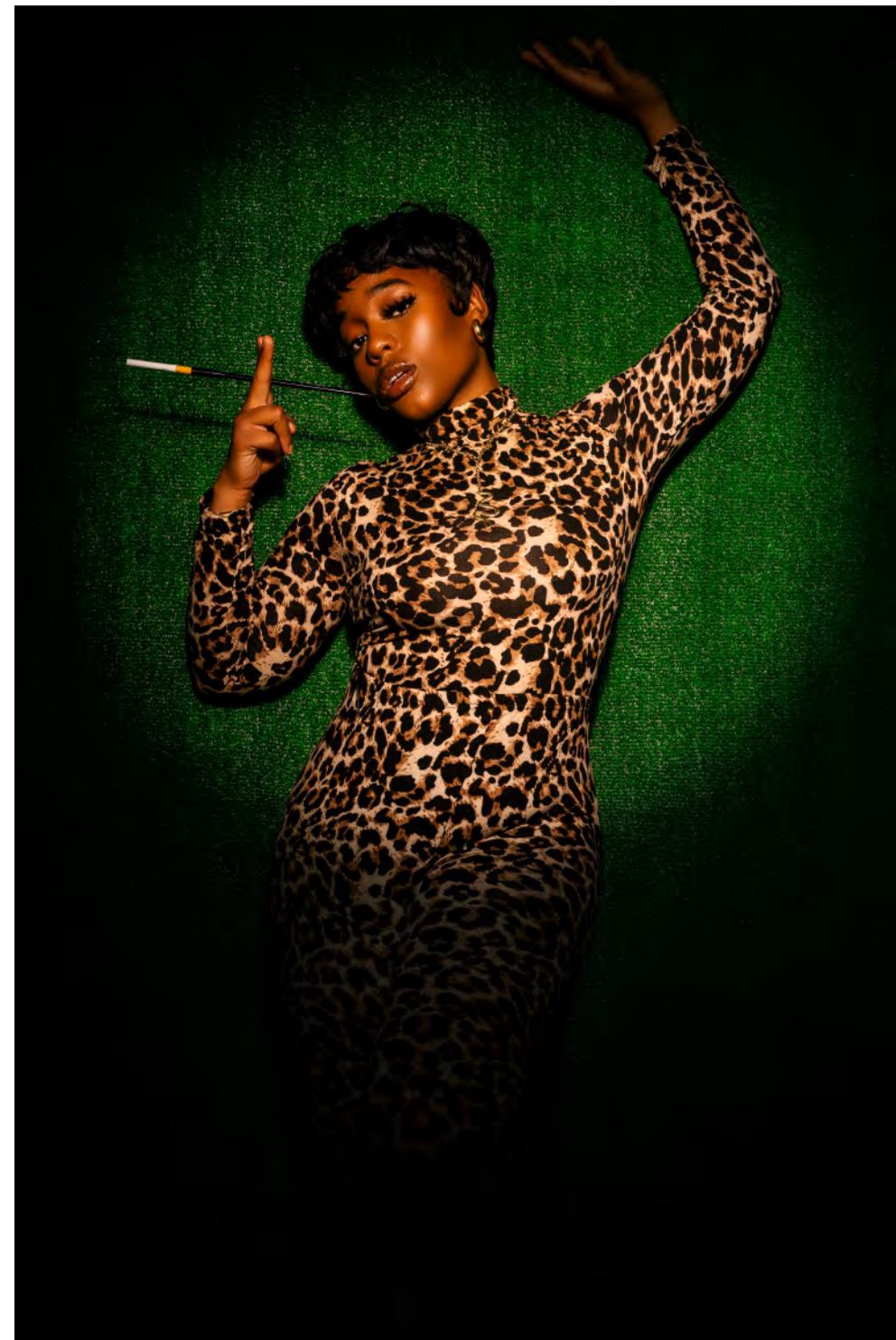


Highlighting how fashion has evolved since the COVID-19 outbreak, "6 Feet Apart" explores the widespread popularization of masks. Initially worn solely for our protection, they have now become the most commonly seen accessory of the new decade.

6 FEET APART



PORTRAITS





PRAIRIE PRINCESS DRESS

Made with silk hand sourced in the Central Coast of California



SKYmerRAY is a sustainable clothing brand founded by a Cal Poly Student. Using 100% recycled materials, SKYmerRAY combines a collection of revamped, up-cycled pieces and unique designs made from scratch. All pieces are designed and handmade with love and with you in mind.

SKYmerRAY

CAMI-CROSS BACK & HIGH WAIST BOTTOMS

Made with a recycled nylon blend from the U.S. and Italy – sourced in LA







MASC

An exploration of masculinity focusing on myself and my own experience with gender presentation and expression as a cis-gender gay man, utilizing themes of cabaret and burlesque cultures.

