



Dear Valdosta Worship Leader

May this letter find favor with you. It is your invitation to be a part of efforts to form a new annual event, which will gather the Valdosta Christian community in praise and worship. I wish to share a vision to bless the Valdosta community through our love of Christ. Remaining in His love will enable our efforts to be an extension of his love and bear much fruit. This letter includes:

- An introduction to myself as a local Valdosta Artist
- A vision and invitation to a celebration through the arts led by worship leaders from all over Valdosta, Georgia
- A quick survey to be filled out and returned via email craighawkinsart@gmail.com or by phone 229-630-0269



SHARING SHOWCASING GIVING

Sharing

favorite hymns

Showcasing

Valdosta's musical
talent

Giving

proceeds from
purchased media
to local charity

My name is Craig Hawkins

I have been a Christian for fifteen years, a husband of ten years, a father of three children, a professional artist represented by Mason Murer Fine Art in Atlanta, GA, and an Assistant Professor at Valdosta State University teaching drawing and 2D design in the Department of Art. I am a member of the body of Christ and regularly attend Christ Fellowship Church in Valdosta.

Since Spring 2012, I have been researching and developing a series of artwork based on hymns. My current research can be found on my website:

www.craighawkinsart.com, and I have included a few sample images in this letter as a reference. I'm attempting to survey all local area churches in order to form a list of each worship leader's favorite hymns. These hymns will become the reference material for my artwork. I will study them, find hymnals for direct reference, and transfer the hymn page onto a piece of high quality paper and develop a drawing from this stage. My focus for this series has been "the temporal touching the eternal". The following pages are an excerpt from my website.

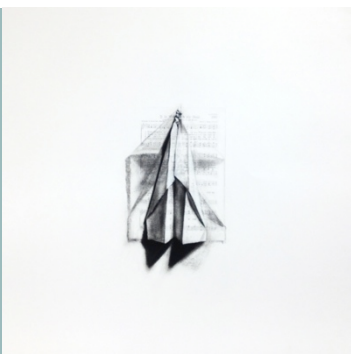
Hymn 37

"All Hail The Power Of
Jesus' Name"



Hymn 265

"It Is Well With My Soul"



Hymn 139 "I Stand Amazed In The Presence"

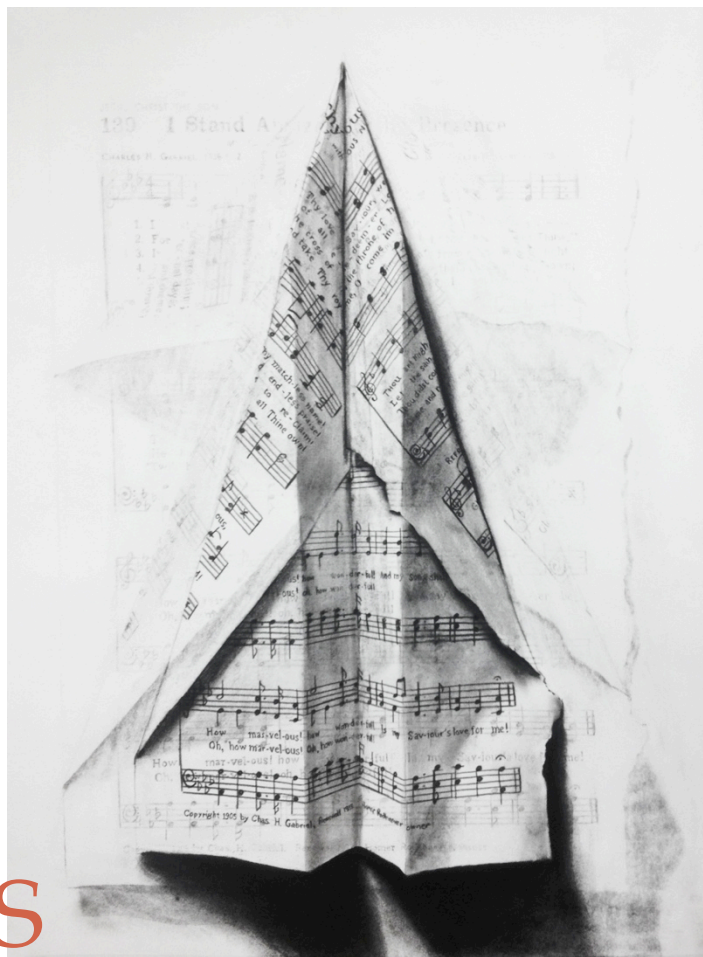
+ HYMNS

The temporal touching the eternal

As human beings we are glued to time, at least until death. The core of our being is designed for the eternal yet everything we do can seem to fall short within the temporal. What I mean is that everything we sing, everything we say, and even acts of service can be very limited or measured through time and therefore they are temporal. The measurement of their impact may be of influence on the eternal nature of someone's heart and mind but all can practically be measured as temporary. Amidst the framework of time I want to

express that we're designed for the eternal in our worship. While often captivated by the temporal, our heart longs for an eternal home. Our desires find ultimate fulfillment when they are given to the One in which we are designed to enjoy forever. The metaphor of a paper airplane constructed from the page of a hymnal seems appropriate for the temporal nature of our songs here on earth.

(continued)



Although they're directed to heaven they are, through time, destined to end. However, another experience of the beauty of God yields another song to beckon our hearts toward the eternal once again.

I'm comparing the length of the song to the flight of a paper airplane, and comparing the direction of my heart towards God to the child-like expression of delivering, in the form of a paper airplane, the admiration God deserves. I enjoy this expression of worship through song and image.

Visually these paper airplanes will exist in varied forms of use. One paper airplane may be clean and crisp; sharp and new; but others could be well used, tossed up, and flown several times over. The history of their flight path crashing into the window, wall, chair, or floor reveals itself through bent edges and crinkled tips. They are evidence revealing the temporal quality of a song touching the eternity in our hearts. They are the evidence, through metaphor, of an

attempt to connect with the eternal. In the process we discover our own identity. "He has also put eternity in their hearts..."

Ecclesiastes 3:11

These old songs are rich with theology, rich with love and

truth. Each drawing is presented as solemn, symmetrical and very iconic and it's presentation is framed ornately but as white as possible for the purity of what they stand for.

- Craig Hawkins



VISION



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Along with the series of artwork that are developing from these efforts, I'm inviting other local visual artists to join with me and create a work of art for every hymn that I collect from my survey of Valdosta churches. My hope is to collaborate with worship leaders/music ministers and form the beginnings of a projected annual free event to the Valdosta community where local worship leaders/music ministers can share their favorite hymns together in a public arena (TBA). The goal is to unify different denominational churches across the city in one night of community celebration & worship through the arts. Previous recordings or live recordings of the event can be sold along with high quality prints of the artwork inspired by these hymns to raise money for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Valdosta.

In His Love,

T. Craig Hawkins

Assistant Professor of Art
Foundations and Drawing

Valdosta State University
Department of Art
1500 North Patterson St.
Valdosta, Georgia 31698

www.valdosta.edu/art
(office) FA 119
(229)293.6239

www.craighawkinsart.com

SURVEY

1. What are your top three favorite hymns?

2. Can you include a personal story as to why they are your top favorites?

3. Do you know of a local venue that would be a good location to hold an event described in the above vision?

4. Would you like to participate by sharing your talent through performing your favorite hymn at the event?

Please respond to this survey ASAP @
craighawkinsart@gmail.com
or 229-630-0269