

Stippled Creatures

Inspired by

Joel Crosswell



Created by Eve Williams, Creative Learning and Public Programs Officer, Devonport Regional Gallery.



This is *Galaxias* by Joel Crosswell. It was the winner of the 2014 Tidal art competition in Devonport and is part of the Devonport Regional Galleries permanent art collection. It consists of five ink drawings on black paper of a creature that resembles the cross between a human figure and a fish, specifically the endangered Tasmanian Galaxias Trout. This art work is the inspiration for this weeks art activity.

A bit about the artist...

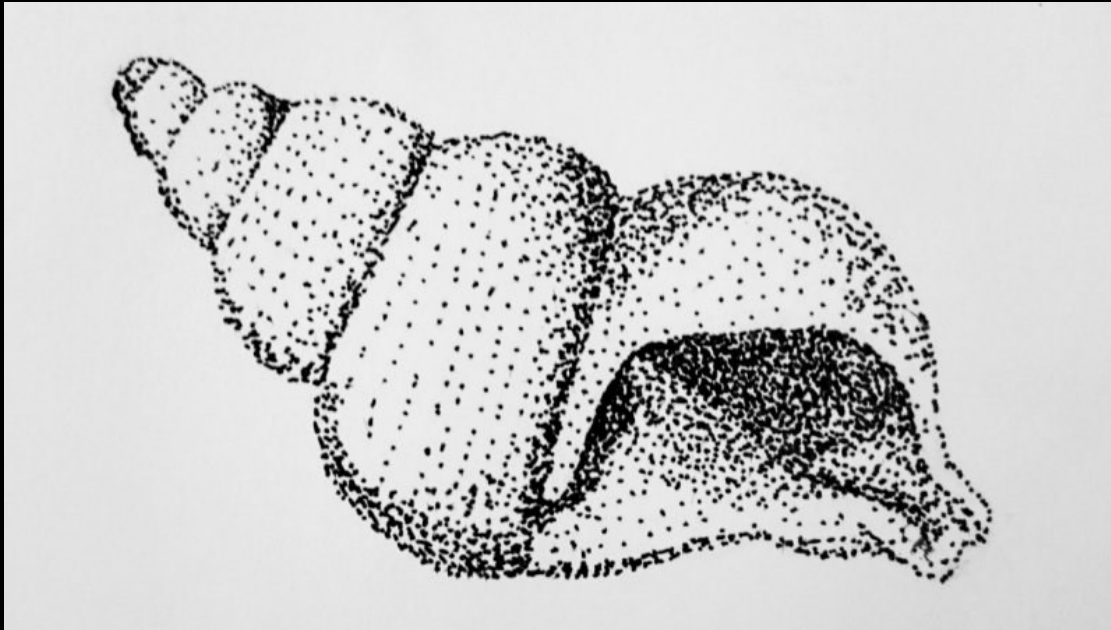
Joel Crosswell lives and works in Hobart. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from the Tasmanian School of Art, University of Tasmania in 2008. Crosswell creates stories in his work to connect with themes relating to spirituality, existence and the human condition (all the parts of being a human and living as a human being including birth, emotion, aspiration, conflict, and mortality.) He works with drawing and sculpture and includes strange, comical and obscure characters in his works. In 2011 he won the MONA Award for Drawing and in 2014 he won 'Tidal': the City of Devonport Art Award, with his piece *Galaxias*.





Galaxias details. Look closely at the drawings by Joel Crosswell. Notice how he has created his fish-human creatures by drawing a simple outline then filling in the details and shading using dots instead of lines. This technique is called *stippling* and uses hundreds and thousands of dots to give form to these drawings.

Here are some more examples of drawing using the *stippling* method...



Notice how this drawing of a shell uses no lines, but just dots (stippling) to create the entire form.



Notice how for shading/ dark areas of shadow there are lots of dots close together, and for areas of light there are less dots and they are further apart? This is how you can create shading in your drawing to create the illusion of form and depth (to make something look three dimensional/ 3D).

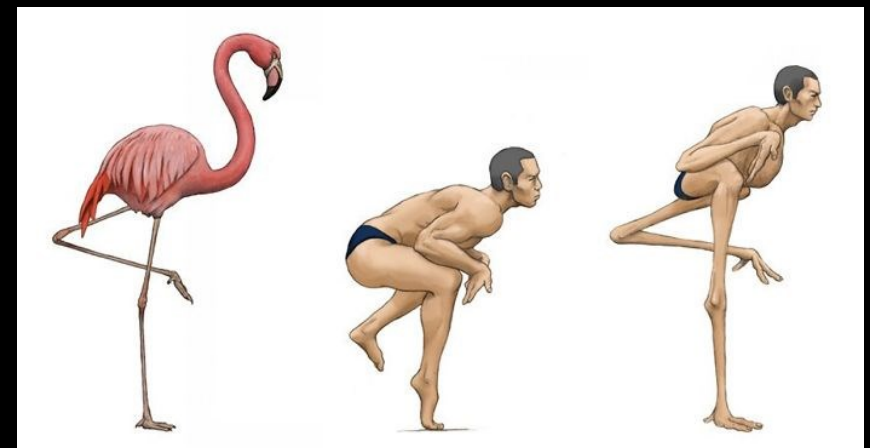




More stippling drawing examples.
Stippling requires a lot of patience!

TASK:

Create a drawing using the stippling method of a creature that resembles a half human– half some other animal or a mixture of different animals.



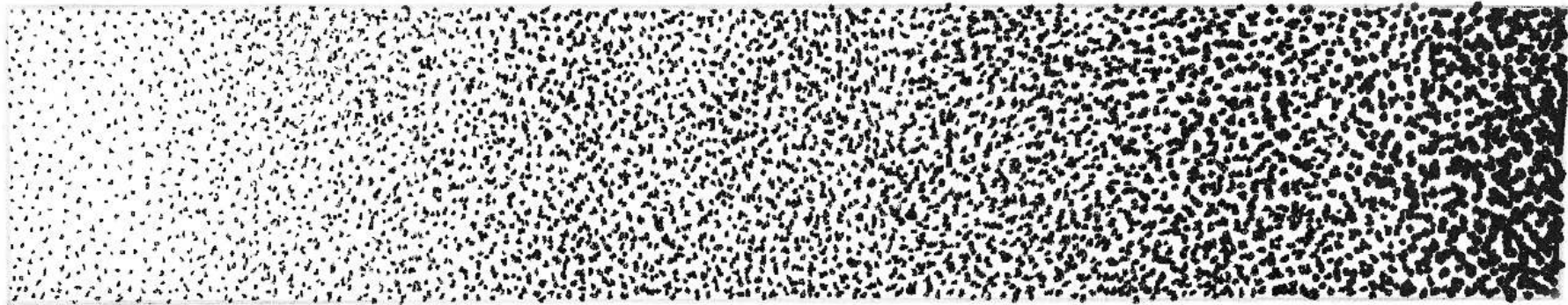
Some examples of animal-human hybrid creatures.... Some you may find a bit disturbing!

You will need:

- Paper. White works if you have a black fine liner, but black works well (such as Joel Crosswell's work) if you have a bright coloured or white fine liner/ ink or paint pen that will show up on the black.
- Fine liner pen, very fine point, or brightly coloured fine liner or ink. You could even use a white marker correction pen on black card if you have one that works well.
- Metallic fine liner (optional)
- Pencil (optional)



Step 1: Have a go at stippling to create shading.



Draw up a rectangle and have a go at stippling. Start at one end and do lots and lots of small dots close together. As you move along the rectangle do less dots and make them further apart. This should give you the illusion of shadow and light.

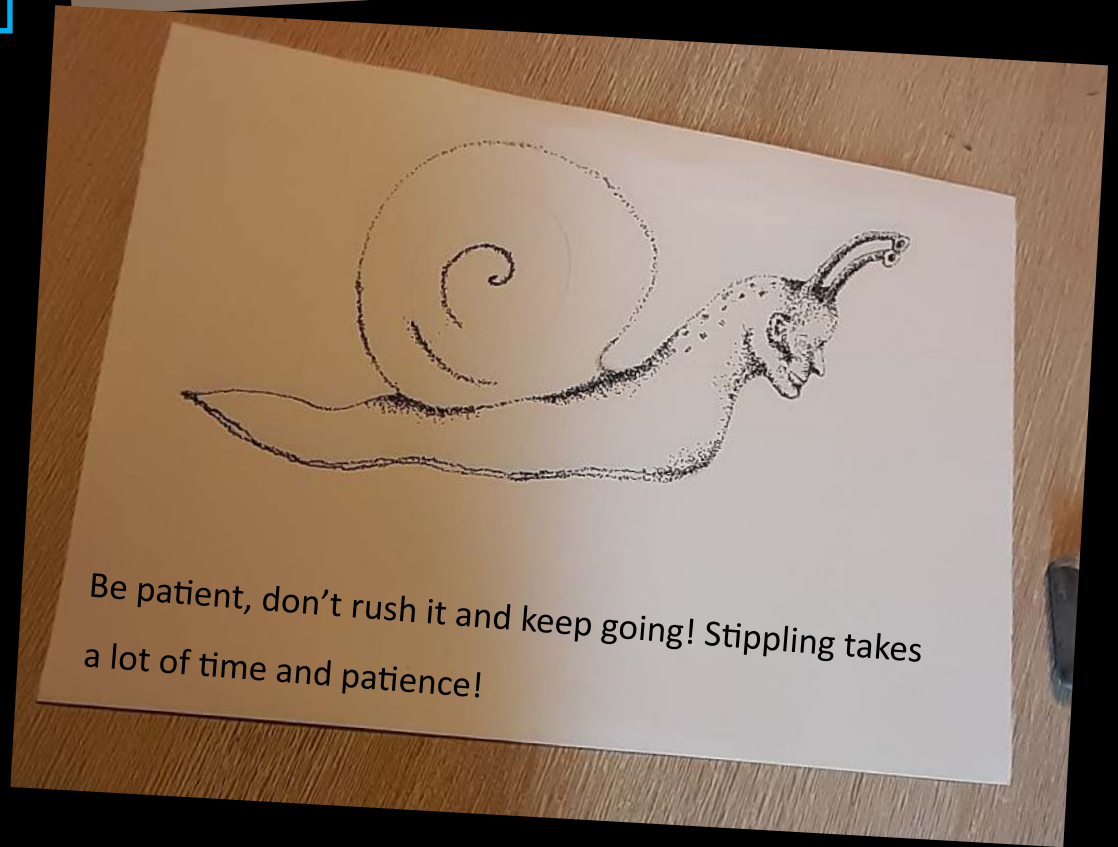
Step 2:

Use a pencil to draw the simple outline of an imaginary creature. It could be part animal part human as Joel Crosswell's Galaxias is part fish part human creature.



Step 3:

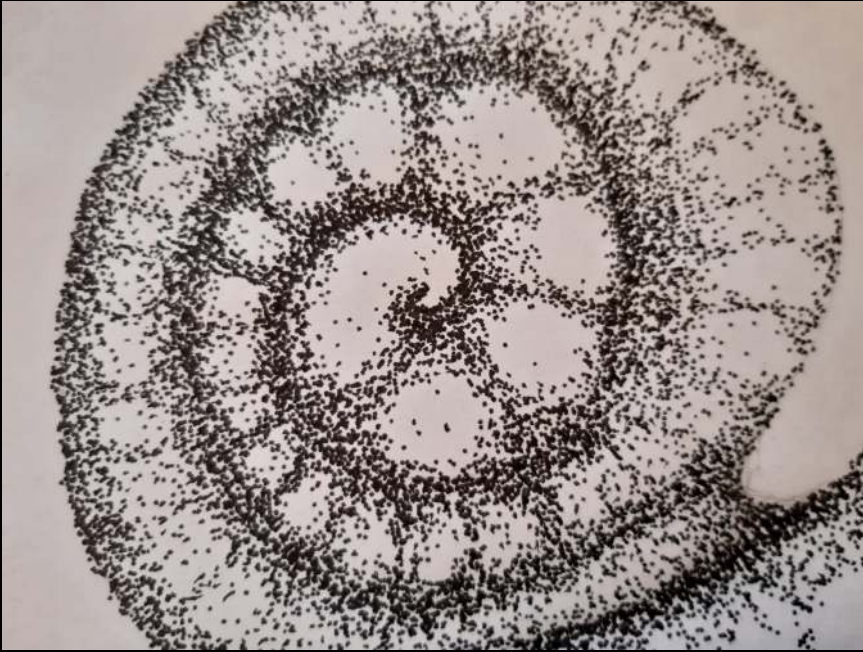
When you are happy with your simple creature outline drawing, use a fine liner/ ink to stipple in the details of your creature. Remember to add some shading and draw more dots in areas of shadow (areas that are sunken in/ shadows) and less dots in areas of light, or areas that protrude out. Once finished you can rub out your pencil lines.





Little bit by little bit.... Dot after dot...

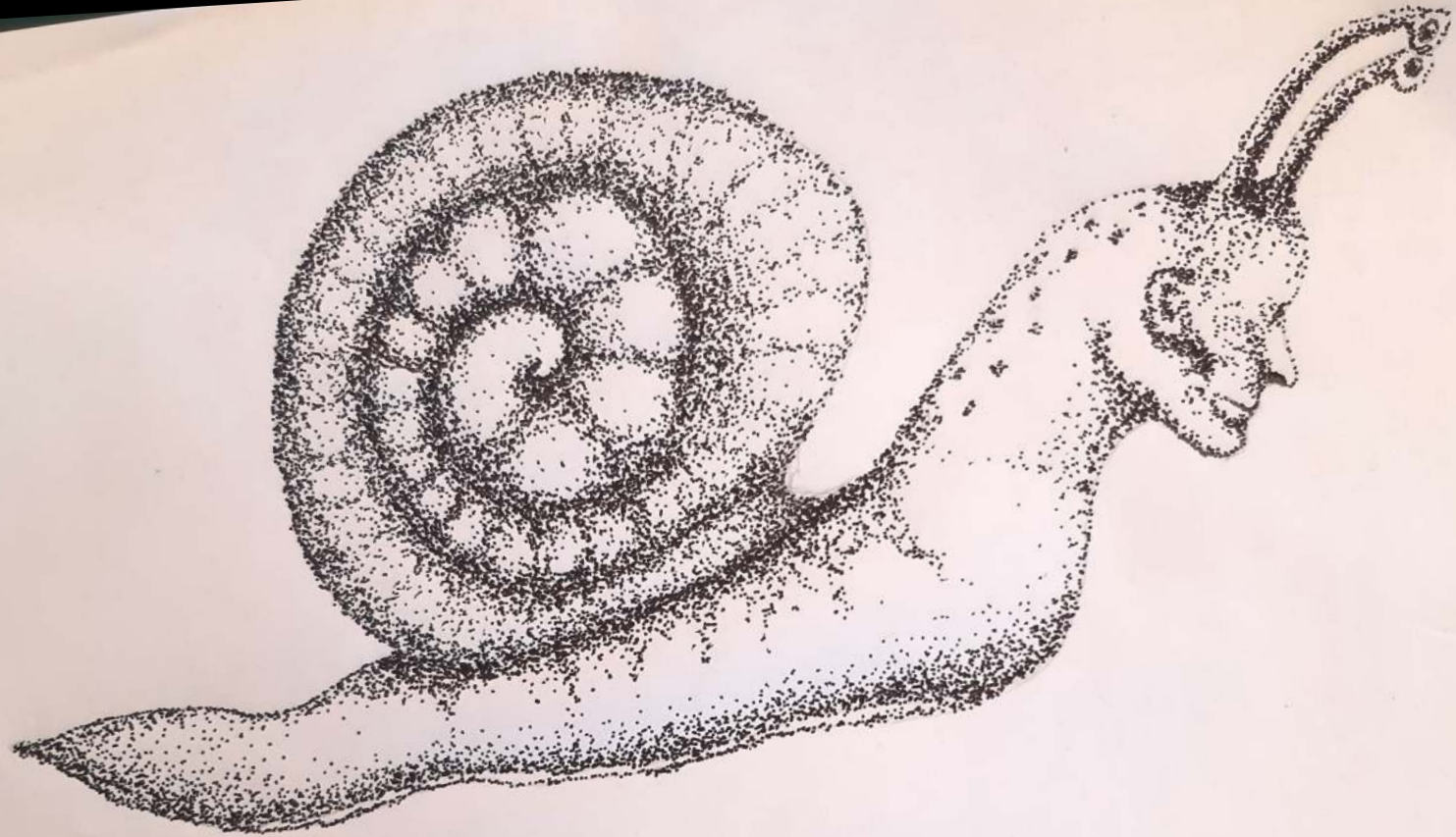
PATIENCE REQUIRED!!!



Dot...after dot...after dot...



...after dot....after dot.... Leave it and come back to it if you need to!



Until... FINALLY...finished!

Step 4: (optional)

Add outlines and/ or highlights of metallic pen to your creature such as Joel Crosswell has done in his work *Galaxias* (pictured)



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