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Five Children's Book Covers Employing Illustrative Type

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Artist Statement

I have been in the illustration program since my sophomore year with a particular interest in children’s illustration, but have recently joined the communication design program as well. In creating my set of five children’s classic book covers, I strove to combine both my illustration and graphic design interests in a way that employ type in an innovative way. I drew most inspiration from some well-known illustrators and designers that use vector graphics and hand-done type to create a seamless, illustrative merging of the two. I wanted each to convey a sense of youthful playfulness as well as use textures and type in unexpected ways.

Each book cover was created entirely on the computer in an attempt to exploit and enhance my digital skills. General shapes were made in Adobe Illustrator, and then brought into Photoshop where texture and details were added or tweaked. Aesthetically, they sit on the border between realism and fantasy: while each cover adheres to traditional rules of light and form, it also maintains a certain quirky quality.

This collection is a step forward from my previous illustration work in several ways. I have broken away from more traditional media, like gouache, which I once preferred. I also, thanks to my communication design classes, approached this project with a more sophisticated eye for typography than I had in the past.
Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White
James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
Mr. Popper’s Penguins by Richard and Florence Atwater
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien