<u>Unseen Influence (an emerging series)</u> [*IK]

Our world is full of unnoticed influences. Our subconscious, The opinions of those we respect or admire, song lyrics, propaganda... This list is nearly endless. So many things that we believe and do have nothing to do with consciousness, but with thoughts we don't even realize we have, because we layer them over with rationalizations. We make a decision, then connect it to a reason that makes sense. These pieces, like us, are created using unseen influences (In the case of the paintings, it was magnets behind the canvas). Like us, they will change over time, the color moving from black to a red-orange-brown as the iron in the paint oxidises. The spikes will soften, the texture will shift, as experience grows. They will lose their sharp, fresh look and become more earthy and worn. Perhaps they will not be what was expected, but they will become what they were always meant to be. I, as the artist, don't really get to decide what they will be in the end. I can only create the beginning of their story. Once my creation exists, it belongs to itself. Once I release it into the world, I cannot control it.

If I try, it stops really being art.

... but we're not really talking about paintings, are we?

A note from the artist:

Typing these is always an odd moment for me. "Write an Artist Statement." I always wonder what to talk about. I could fill pages with trying to explain what I do, or who I am, or why I'm an artist (or why it took years before I was comfortable calling myself an artist), or so many other things. But only some of you are going to really care about the story of the artist (not judging the rest of you). If you are one of those people, though, I'm the one with the long aqua-blue hair. Come say hi!