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Programme of Study: Surface Pattern Design and Textiles

Module: ADAD4018 Ways of Thinking

Task One: Manifesto Writing.

1. Show that art can be diverse in all its forms, not just a title for portraits or landscapes. Encourage discussion of mixed media use and unconventional practices.
2. There is no intention to offend. No singling out of any particular religion, race or political view. Art should not be a bully.
3. Creations are not pre-thought. They are reflections of being present in the moment.
4. Colour is the messenger of inner emotions. When you are drawn to a piece for its tone or hue be aware of the story it's telling about you and the artist spiritually.
5. The style of the artist is not perpetually determined. It is a continual work in progress.
6. There is no invitation to the gallery for the art snob. Everyone else is welcome. Art is for the masses.
7. Primarily art is made for the pain and pleasure of the artist before the decision to share is made.
8. Wake up and smell the coffee before the beans are grinded and diluted by the propaganda of opinion.

3. Creations are not pre-thought. They are reflections of being present in the moment.



Fig. 1.
Jackson Pollock

‘It's like looking at a bed of flowers, you don't tear your hair out over what it means.’ (Jackson Pollock)

It is impossible to understand the entire thoughts of another person and why should you try? Extraordinary tales used to assume meaning within the composition of a piece are usually retrospective following the death of the artist. They may be used for financial gain, to sell books, sell merchandise or to increase the value of the art. Accept that art can just be improvised.

4. Colour is the messenger of inner emotions. When you are drawn to a piece for its tone or hue be aware of the story it's telling about you and the artist spiritually.

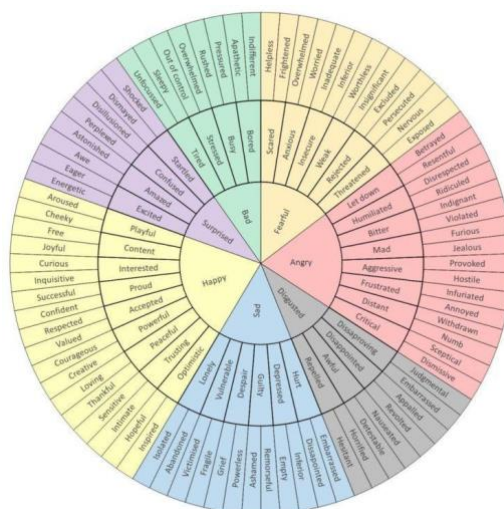


Fig 2 'The Wheel of Emotion'

“Colors, like features, follow the changes of the emotions.” Pablo Picasso

As early as 1810 poet, artist and politician Wolfgang von Goethe published a book entitled Theory of Colours (1810), (public library; public domain).

He recognised the way that colours could make you feel. This was based on his intuition but not agreed with by scientists of the time.

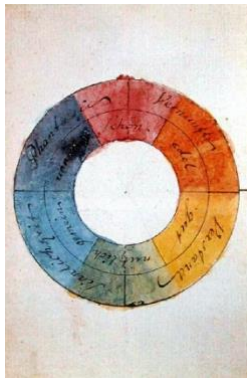


Fig 3.
Goethe's colour wheel

It is now known that when colour is seen the brain sends information to the hypothalamus for interpretation. This gland governs many functions of the body including behaviour, which then prompts a response. It is this reaction, when a piece is viewed, that can trigger feelings of love, calm and peace which helps to promote a sense of wellbeing.

The artist may not perceive the healing that they are receiving is from intuitively using a palette that is appealing to their emotional weaknesses. Alternatively colours such as red or black can show negative feelings. An artist may want to dissipate anger from within or attract attention which can be achieved by using these pigments. In conclusion colour can be more powerful than the composition in telling a story.

5. The style of the artist is not perpetually determined. It is a continual work in progress.

As humans we change our appearance or beliefs as time progresses. Our attitude towards the world matures. Regarding things such as musical taste, we can still enjoy listening to songs from our younger days as well as new ones more recently produced. This is the same with art. One example is Philip Guston. Fig 4, 5 and 6 show how his work developed over many decades from early social realism to spontaneous freedom, violence and war influences of the 1960's to more autobiographical pieces.



Fig 4
'Martial Memory' (1941)
Philip Guston



Fig 5
'Painting' (1954)
Philip Guston



Fig 6
'The Line' (1978)
Philip Guston

An artist may use the same medium for their whole life but their art must transition due to internal and external influences on body and mind. However subtle these changes they will occur and should to maintain interest and remain relevant in the artworld.

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List of Figures

Figure 1: *Jackson Pollock* [photograph] Accessed:

<https://www.rajgovt.org/art/jackson-pollock-the-man-who-created-most-famous-abstract-paintings/> (Accessed on 20th October 2021)

Figure 2: Sarah Schuster '*Wheel of Emotions*' [Image] Accessed:

<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/apos-emotion-chart-apos-therapist-002028240.html> (Accessed on 20th October 2021)

Figure 3: '*Color wheel Designed by Goethe in 1809*' [Image] Maria Popova '*19th Century Insight Into the Psychology of Color and Emotion*' (August 2012)

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<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2012/08/19th-century-insight-into-the-psychology-of-color-and-emotion/261261/> (Accessed on 20th October 2021)

Figure 4: Philip Guston '*Martial Memory*' (1941) [Image] '*Philip Guston: About The Artist*' Accessed: <https://www.hauserwirth.com/ursula/14048-artist-philip-guston> (Accessed on 20th October 2021)

Figure 5: Philip Guston '*Painting*' (1954) [Image] '*Philip Guston: About The Artist*' Accessed: <https://www.hauserwirth.com/ursula/14048-artist-philip-guston> (Accessed on 20th October 2021)

Figure 6: Philip Guston '*The Line*' (1978) [Image] '*Philip Guston: About The Artist*' Accessed: <https://www.hauserwirth.com/ursula/14048-artist-philip-guston> (Accessed on 20th October 2021)