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Program of study: Surface pattern and design

Module: ADDA4022 Ways of thinking

Ways of thinking lectures name: Julia Lockhart

Tasks in order I received them

Task 1: Manifesto = 400 words

Task 2: Task 3: Semiotic Analysis = 431 words

Task 3: Practice-based writing = 231 words

Task 1

Bruce Mau (1998) An Incomplete Manifesto for Growth

This manifesto details the author's 43 statements towards human growth and ways of becoming a better version of yourself. I find this very inspiring as it encourages disorganization to spark creativity and eliminate creative block as an artist. While reading this for the first time, it stuck out to me due to the informal nature of the writing and format. As a person who struggles with creative block and dyslexia the “just do it” attitude never worked for me when it came to any task. However, when reading this manifesto, it inspired me to embrace my flaws and appreciate myself as an artist.

The motivation of this manifesto is to encourage people to be themselves with no shame in order to produce art in the best conditions for the individual.

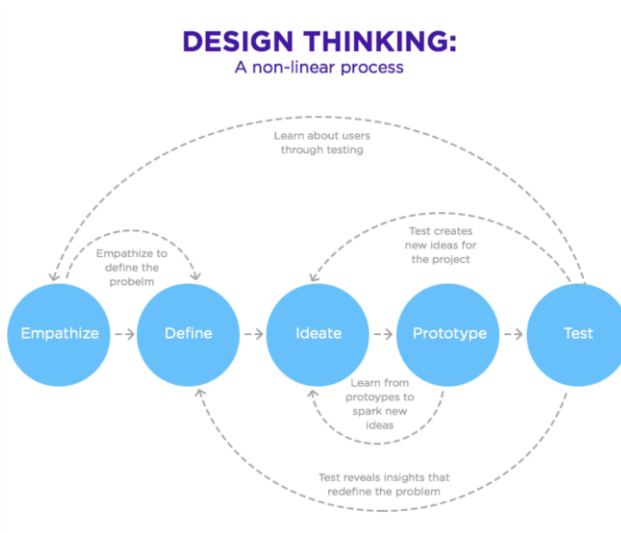
Written by Bruce Mau he says, (Ave, S. (no date) *Projects, Bruce Mau Studio.*) “It was my first attempt to answer the question: How does one sustain a creative life?” Which tells me that this was made to encourage artists to stay or get back into the creative space.

It is designed in a list format, due to its step-by-step approach to the topic.

My manifesto

1) Never follow someone else's dream

- 2) Keep breathing if that is all you have energy for
- 3) Practice tough love on yourself “I can't keep repeating this poor habit anymore, a change needs to happen”
- 4) Move to a different environment if the one you're currently in isn't motivating you
- 5) You aren't lazy, if 10% is all you had today and you put 10% in, you are putting in 100% of your effort
- 6) Push your passion even if others tell you, it's pointless
- 7) Your interests and passions can change, go with the flow
- 8) Take a step back from overwhelming work and be proud of yourself for how far you've come



Who is your practice influenced by? Make a list.

Personally, my surface pattern and textiles journey has been inspired by physical textile techniques, artists such as Alexandra McQueen, Lucy and Yak etc.

2. What do you believe in as a practitioner?

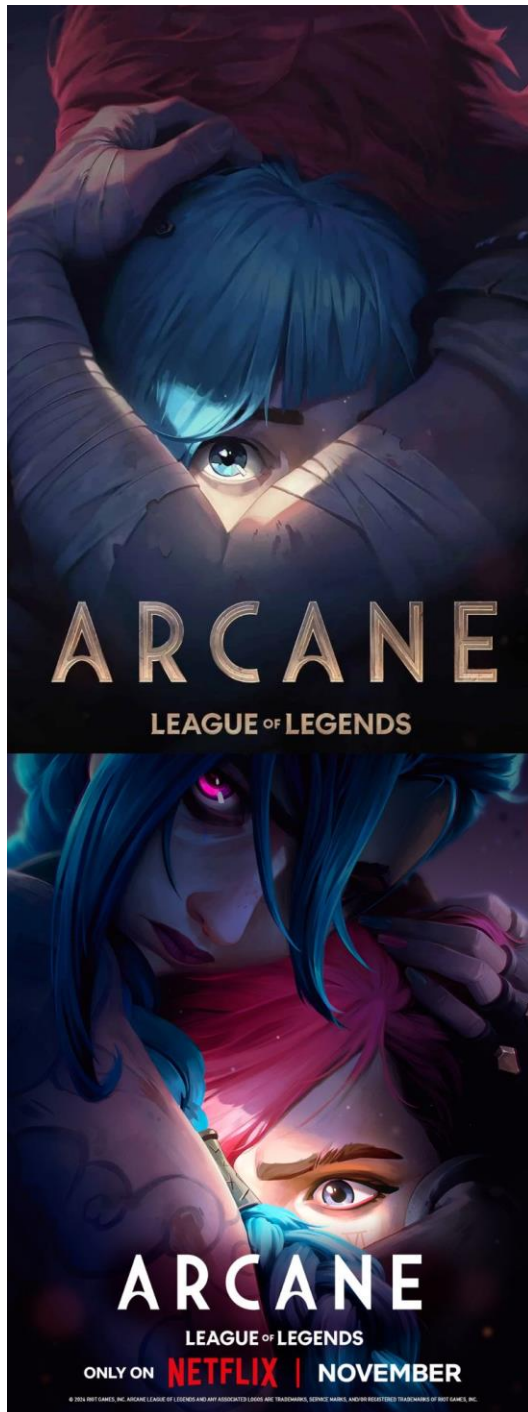
Creativity and organization are important aspects of the lifestyle of an artist. Every artist works differently, some thrive in chaos while others drown in it. It is extremely important to find what works for the individual. I believe that micromanagement style teachers kill the creativity and passion in young artists, pushing a certain medium of creativity or overworking the pupil to get the grade they need. Colour, sketching and the process of

creating art in surface pattern and design are huge reasons for why I am passionate about my practice in the first place. However, my passion has had its fair share of assassination attempts by perfectionist teachers in the past. Freedom to create work I can be proud of is why I enjoy creating. Which is why this manifesto is a breath of fresh air from the usual suffocating lifestyle of working for a grade.

Task 2

What is semiotics? “semiotics, the study of signs and sign-using behavior.” states Britannica. (*Semiotics* (2024) *Encyclopædia Britannica*.)

I chose to investigate these 2 posters of the Netflix series *arcane* season 1 compared to season 2 using semiotics.



The first poster (which is on the top) shows the older sister protecting the younger one with her arm. This is the complete opposite compared to the second poster (which is on the bottom) when the younger sister is protecting the older sister years after they've grown up.

In both posters one of the sister's eyes are highlighted, this indicates which sister could be the focus in the season. The person being protected in both posters has one of their eyes visible and highlighted by a light while the rest is shrouded in darkness. This could show a want to protect from harm, truth or fear while the person being protected is still able to see it, thus their attempts to protect them from harm being fruitless.

In the first poster, 'powder' is small and naive, vi in the whole scene is trying to protect her. In scene 2 Vi's eye is highlighted instead, despite being the older sister and having established a role of being the protective character, she is now the one being protected by powder aka Jink. There was some speculation about whether she was protecting vi or if she was being over possessive of her. If you focus on their facial expressions, Jinks look angry while vi looks scared. We are unsure if this anger is directed toward others or vi. The posters are very juxtaposed where they are opposites yet exactly mirrored. This is a common style choice throughout the series mirroring the characters progression throughout.

There is also a hidden message in 'powder's' hair, this spells out 'Jinks' which is her villain name, this foreshadows her turning into the evil version of herself in season 2 where we can see her eye colour changes to pink. The color of the two sisters' hair also plays a part, the older sister has red hair, and the younger one has blue. Historically blue and red have symbolized an enemy relationship, an example being Starwars with the red and blue light sabers.

Denotation (what is there and obvious) -

Connotation (what is being communicated/ suggested under the surface

The Iconic Sign - is an iconic sign being used if so, how?

The underlying myth – is a bigger story/ fiction being created?

Context -

Colour how are the colors being used to communicate?

Research- what research have thy drawn on?

Signifire- signifie

Encoding (intended meaning)- decoding (audience interpretation

Task 3

Word- Lizan Frejsen

Adjective- Colour

For task 3 I chose this carpet made by Lisan Frejsen. She chose to create art from something that many find disgusting and a nuisance, mold growth, fungi, leakages and water stains on walls. Her ability to create art from something that others find irritating and ugly inspires me to find beauty in things others see as undesirable that I enjoy. She didn't just pay attention to the shapes of her inspiration but the colors as well. Some may look at this art piece for the first time and think, how could someone be inspired by this? Or how could someone think this is beautiful?

Colour has been a huge part of textiles, in the book history of colour in textiles it states that colour also represents status. Although we no longer use colour to represent statues due to our history we still use colour to represent status in theater and some politics. Colour



I read 3 books titled “the story of colour in textiles by Susan Kay Williams”, “Wild colour”, and “dying and screen printing on textiles”. These helped me to get a better understanding of dying fabrics with natural resources, better understand the process of Screenprinting and ways of perfecting this and the art and history of colour in textiles which helped me to understand the history of colours both as trends and ways of using it in fashion and surface pattern.

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