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Ways Of Perceiving

During this Essay I will discuss my view and opinion on artwork and artists that will relate to my own free house exhibition. These Artists have influenced me in a way as they are so expressive with their work. To begin as an Artist, it has it's negative outcomes but also positive outcomes and this shows through historic artists and contemporary artists artwork. It is important to discuss personal opinions on artwork and to understand young artists perspective's on historic and contemporary art. This will help to develop and create new ideas towards my personal exhibition. I would like the theme for my exhibition to be expression from one's self.

By researching throughout the movements expressionism and abstract art really took an interest to myself. Expressionism refers to art in which the image of reality is distorted in order to make it expressive of the artist's inner feelings or ideas. In reality every artist expresses themselves through their artwork but it interests me on how the public react to certain art pieces but more importantly with how it relates to myself and my feelings. As a young artist I want to understand more on how to promote my own artwork by introducing artists that use their feelings and emotions into their work which include their mental state. I will introduce a couple of suggestions towards artist invites for my exhibition and also view a couple of historical artists who I would take inspiration from.

Prior to the discussion of historical artists that influenced me "Abstract Expressionism" was never an ideal title for the movement which developed in New York in the 1940's and 1950's. "Abstract Expressionism" somehow was meant to be a combination of artists who filled their canvases with various colour and abstract forms but also attached their canvases with a vigorous gestural expressionism. This is what has been accepted in terms of the group the held much in common. All were committed to art as expressions of the self, born out of profound emotion and themes that were shaped by the legacy of Surrealism, a movement that they translated into a new style.trend to the post-war mood of anxiety and trauma.

Comparing the expressionism artists I found during the historic period I found that a lot of their works are similar towards each other. The way that these art pieces have been perceived in the eyes of others shows that the artists have a connection with health and well being that society would never see. This is how they have interpreted their own feelings and thoughts by creating their own expressive art work.

Francis Bacon



One of these historic artists that intrigues me is Francis Bacon as many of his works seems very alarming in a sense of trying to understand on what

he's trying to express. A variety of his works includes smeared or disfigured portraits paintings. Although his work changed from decade to decade he has been hailed as “grotesque” and “visionary”. While looking at his work I became aware that he was promoting powerful emotions and the struggle shown during his lifetime as an ever growing artist. His work has been influential in a way that despite of the hardships that life puts you through no one will truly see what happens behind the picture or in the mind of the artist.

“The best Part of beauty is that which no picture can express”

Francis Bacon. (n/a). *Francis Bacon Quotes*. Available: https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/francis_bacon_117825. Last accessed 08th April 2018.



Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion

Jonathan Barkan. (October 11, 2016). *The Grotesque Beauty of Francis Bacon*. Available: <http://bloody-disgusting.com/the-further/3409711/grotesque-beauty-francis-bacon/>. Last accessed 08th April 2018

“**Three Studies**” to which Russell refers to is the 1944 triptych known as “**Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion**”.

Based upon the Greek figures of the Erinyes, aka “**the Furies**”, the painting shows three figures each on their own panel, each appearing distorted and deformed. Their bodies look alien-shaped and they appear to be in a state of fear with pain coming from the darkish orange background almost like a picture from a hellish place.

In the image below shows “**Francis Bacon’s studio space with his last painting**”. This source shows that Francis was a messy worker and this attitude towards his work space would relate to myself as I see myself as a messy worker. Regarding the outcomes of his work I feel that the way he expressed himself was very broad and realistic.



Francis Bacon’s studio with his last painting, possibly the beginnings of a portrait of George Dyer, on the easel 1992. Photo: Perry

Ogden Hugh Lane Gallery © The Estate of Francis Bacon, all rights reserved, and DACS, 2008

Studio, vol.100, August 1930, pp.140-1

Tate. (n/a). *Francis Bacon*. Available: <http://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/francis-bacon-682>. Last accessed 08th April 2018.

For My exhibition Francis Bacon would have been played a key role in expressing different topics and emotions. By having him as a part of my exhibition the viewers would be able to see from the perspective of the artists process and thought process.



Edvard Munch

Moving onto the next historic artist I found was Edvard Munch. His work appeals to me as he has expressed his work through matters of human mortality **such as chronic illness, sexual liberation, and religious aspiration**. Munch had taken inspiration from Paul Gauguin and in turn became one of the most controversial and eventually renowned artists among a new generation of continental Expressionist and Symbolist painters. **His work includes “intense colours, semi abstraction and mysterious** The Scream, 1893 by Edvard

Munch subject matters.”

"I do not believe in the art which is not the compulsive result of man's urge to open his heart."

E. Munch

the art story. (n/a). *Edvard Munch*.

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<http://www.theartstory.org/artist-munch-edvard.htm>. Last accessed 09 April 2018.

Edvard's **The Scream** is sort of an icon for modern art say the Moana Lisa for our generation. He defines the way we see our own age, the way we feel in ourselves but how others are too blind to see it. Our own bodies and minds are built up with anxiety and uncertainty in life.



Alisdair Tait. (Nov 17th 2013). *Expressionism: Edvard Munch*. Available: <http://www.digital-reflection.com/expressionism-edvard-munch/>. Last accessed 09th April 2017

In my opinion I feel the pain in the scream and the unusual sensation of depressed state and no escape. This was how Munch was expressing the way he felt through an “experience of a scream piercing through nature while on a walk”. This would appear crazy to others and this would interest me in an exhibition. I understand the personal side to this piece as so much can get to one person and you feel like everyone would judge you or would class you as “crazy”. This gives the public an insight towards the mental state and pressures artists undergo during their careers. Society would be able to accept how hard it is to focus on one career with the aspects of not being able to live

David Padworny



Expressionist Oils on Canvas by David Padworny

Painter, draftsman, photographer and sculptor, David Padworny was born in Norristown, Pennsylvania and currently lives and works as a full time artist in New York City.

His mediums are oils, acrylics, watercolours, pastels, found objects*, crushed glass, mixed mediums, digital art, photograph and

assemblage*. His subjects include portraits, faces, figures, nudes, interiors, street views, animals, social commentary and pure abstraction – colour, shape, line and texture. Most of his paintings and sculptures have a heavy impasto or texture. His styles include Abstract Expressionism*, Expressionism*, Modernism*, Realism* (some photographs) and Surrealism*.

ask art. (n/a). David Padworny. Available: http://www.askart.com/artist_bio/David_Padworny/11291765/David_Padworny.aspx. Last accessed 12th April 2018.

David Padworny would paint the deepest emotions that all humans hide

away and no one will show in a **“psychologically compelling way”**. Only your inner self knows the feeling. While looking through his collection of work I can realistically see his perspective. Once again this piece of work feels real enough. Along with the mediums of his work I love the mix of colours and the sorrow behind each portrait. As many artists work behind closed doors inviting David to be a Part of my exhibition would be a bonus as he would be able to preserve self worth. By having him



there it will stimulates ideas and creates original pieces of work. Gathering with other artists who have similar thoughts and processes will be a key part in the research for my exhibition. Along with the age gap there will be different a different frame of mind or similar approaches to our thinking. It would be an interesting outcome if a couple of artists came together to create a mental state art piece.

David Padworthy. (n/a). *Padworthy* . Available: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/padworny>. Last accessed 09th April 2018.

**Painting The Contradiction:
Judith Peck & David Padworny**

Jennifer VonStein. (12th Sep 2013). *Painting The Contradiction: Judith Peck & David Padworny*. Available: http://chromaonline.com/paint_talk/painting_the_contradiction_judith_peck_david_padworny. Last accessed 12th April 2017.



Overall for my exhibition I would like it to be set in a house/ a large studio floor. My exhibition will include myself as a artist with the

influences of historic and also contemporary artists that use expressionism and their personal emotions in their work.



By using a house/studio that has say 3-4 rooms I could allocate a room to each artist including myself and inform them that they have free will to create whatever they like. This will then cre-

ate original work from the artists and also the public that are interested will feel the emotion from the artist. Artists could also sell their work and promote it with ease.

For the location for the exhibition, I have decided to use the Swansea University studio spaces as this gives me the opportunity to ask more peers/fine art students to showcase their work and also be apart of a performance of creating their own expressive art pieces. By using these spaces it would also be free and less time consuming with moving materials around and setting up. As many of my peers are all different age groups the outcomes shouldn't be similar.

I will also be inviting students to join in and collaborate with their views as this then shows the age gap between people. The exhibition will be free to enter as I would like to create a different atmosphere just to make people understand how an artists mind works. By using younger Artists it will show how it has all historically changed and modified to be modern. It will interpretative into something new, unique and will boost the self confidence for artists.

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