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This proposal aims to outline and define three keywords. Each keyword will have the meaning explored and through this discussion a further idea will be developed, relating to a final question. This question will be pursued in the third year alongside a practice. These three key words will intertwine accordingly while also showing a range of understanding through thorough investigation which will showcase a unique approach to the topics outlined. They will link to individual interests while still exploring the more theoretical sides of each to refine the overall proposal question. The words that will be discussed in this proposal are 'music', 'colour' and 'emotion'.

Music

The first keyword within this proposal is 'music', something that is used within everyday life and has been prominent in human culture since it has been discovered (Killin, 2018), it has evolved throughout time creating new ways to evolve this prominent artform and create what is known today. Exploring how it has such prominent and strong connection with the arts is enticing, this has inspired many artists to create pieces linked to music. This makes me want to analyse how music has this effect on us as humans.

The quote "All art constantly aspires towards the condition of music" (Pater, 1983) encourages me to look at the meaning of it within the world of music and art, showing how they both live side by side, continuously bouncing off one another to inspire and create beautiful artworks/ compositions based on the rhythmic melody's musicians have produced.

"When a musician crafts a soul-stirring melody or delivers an electrifying performance, it has the power to evoke emotions, stir imaginations, and ignite the spark of inspiration in artists across various disciplines" (Arn, 2019)

Music is part of everyday life no matter where you go within the world you will always have music and art alongside each other. Music is something that can be tailored toward anyone's specific taste especially within today's modern world there are millions of options to pick and choose from leaving so much room for inspiration. Arn discusses the work of Kandinsky within his article, describing it as "the most ambitious, the most literal, and, perhaps, the nuttiest attempt to merge art and music." (Arn, 2019).

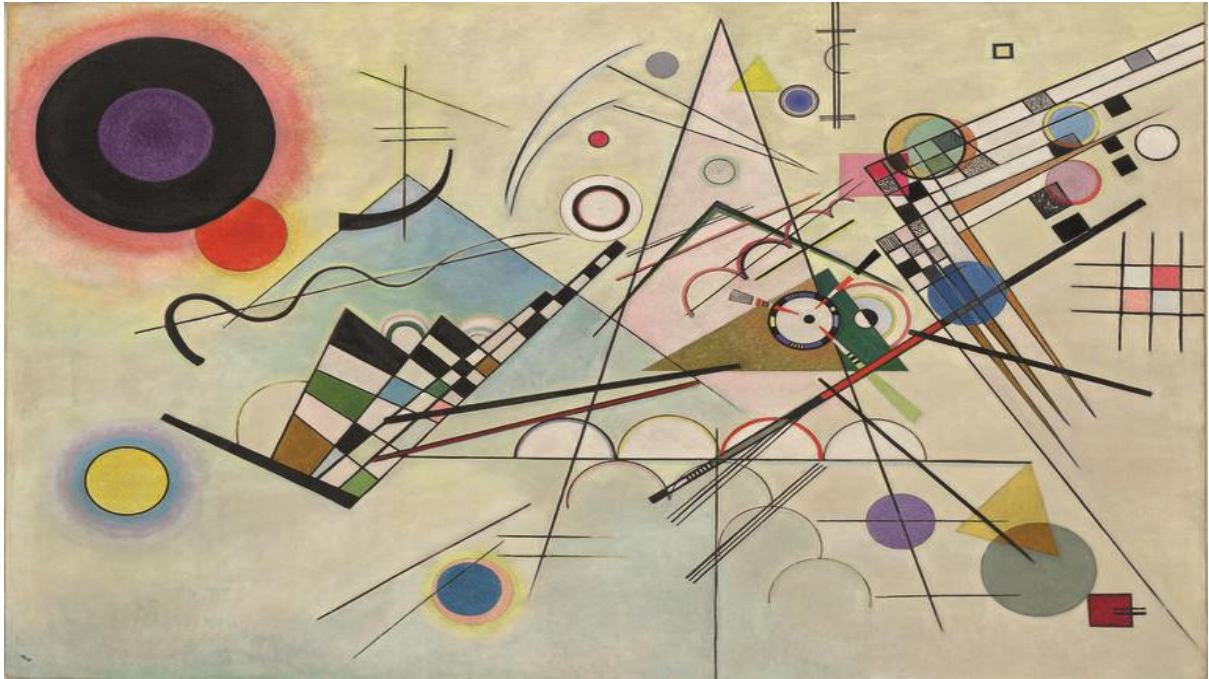


Fig. 1: Kandinsky, V (1923) *Composition 8*

This artwork may be one of the most influenced artworks by music in history. It is clear Kandinsky wanted to reflect the Bauhaus era and inspiration through his artwork and produce it in the same way a musician would, through naming it like a music piece composition and using music that inspires him within it. When analysing this piece closely it almost looks like the illustrated version of music, he has illustrated what he has heard using his own abstract thought. This concept is extremely interesting because if any person was to listen similar or the same kind of music while painting and became inspired from it each outcome would be completely different. This piece in music could represent how humans have unique individuality while some being inspired from the same thing - all having different stories.

Another example is pairing classical music and fine art together, seeing how it is portrayed in the modern day is much different as so many forms of music and art now exist as the possibilities are endless. One of the most creative things I have seen within art is taking

historical music compositions and merging them with another modern music form to which reintroduces the culture/history to another modern one which could be considered an artform in itself. An example of this was created by Red Velvet, a 5-member modern day girl group from Korea who samples *Air on the G String* by Johann Sebastian Bach (Wolfe, 2022).

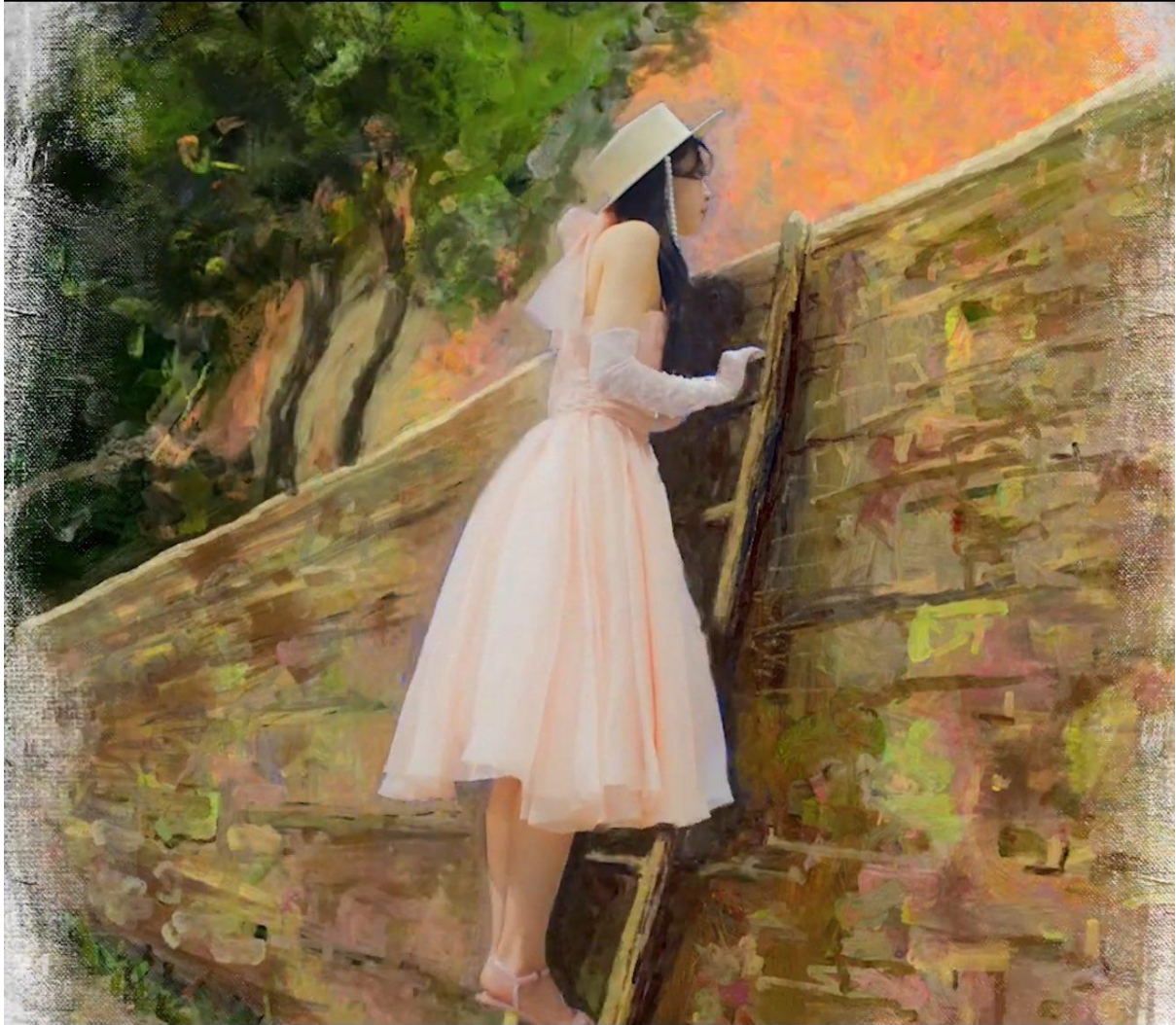


Fig. 2: SM Town (2021) Red Velvet 레드벨벳 'feel my rhythm' MV



Fig. 3: Philippoteaux, P.D (n.d.) *Lady Looking Behind the Walls*

Displayed in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 is a comparison of a scene from the *Feel my Rhythm* music video to a Phillippoteaux painting that seems to have hints of inspiration from the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood style.



Fig. 4: Millais, J. E. (1951-52) *Ophelia*

On top of this, several artworks such as *Ophelia* (Fig. 4) appear throughout the video that push everything together, combining the girls' beautiful harmonies - on top of the classical instrumental – into a flawless tribute to previous eras. By bringing historical classical music and modern-day music together it has introduced yet again a brand-new concept of music and ideas that continue to grow and inspire others.



Fig. 5: Tillbrook, A. (2023) *Take Me Back to Eden*



Fig. 6: Unauthored (2019) *The ReVe Festival: Finale*

Fig. 5 and Fig. 6 have a quality and texture to them that give the idea of them being printed despite them being fully digital. Fig. 5 has connotations of 'death' and relates to the idea of the Grim Reaper and fallen angels due to the imagery of the cloak, wings and scythe. Fig. 6 has obvious connections to *The Wizard of Oz*, with the imagery of the yellow brick road, the

Witch of the East's legs poking out of the house and the roses that have likely been changed from poppies.

I want to explore these ideas and themes more to show how the music and lyrics of each album has inspired the concepts of each artwork through different artists. It shows its importance by bringing the story of the songs to life and concluding them within the cover artworks, it is also helpful to have album artworks as it is easy to differentiate themes of different albums, using the images above again as an example of that with the left one clearly portraying a darker more sinister image showing that the genre is usually linked with heavy metal/rock whereas the right one uses more soft tones and bright colours showing that the genre might be of something like pop showing the importance of art and music together.

The overall importance of music videos along with many artforms that music brings with it show how society over the years ever changing and evolving to suit its fitted generation while also still showing appreciation and gaining inspiration from historical music. "The artist was just one amongst the many that Debussy admired, and who inspired him in his compositional work" (Music Street, 2022).

Colour

The second keyword in relation to this essay is colour. This is a word used in everyday life and something we are taught from when we are young. Colour is notably such an important part of art as it breathes life into art if one wants it to, but also the absence of it can show extreme meaning when analysing works and creating them:

“There are many considerations that lend some plausibility to the fancy that future times may see the birth of a new art that shall appeal to the emotions through colour alone, in the same way that music makes its appeal through sound.” (Schooling, 1895, p. 125)

Schooling states within his analysis that there are many associations for different colours such as “the gay effect of bright hues and the sombre influence of dark”. This section will showcase how the usage of colour can affect interpretation.

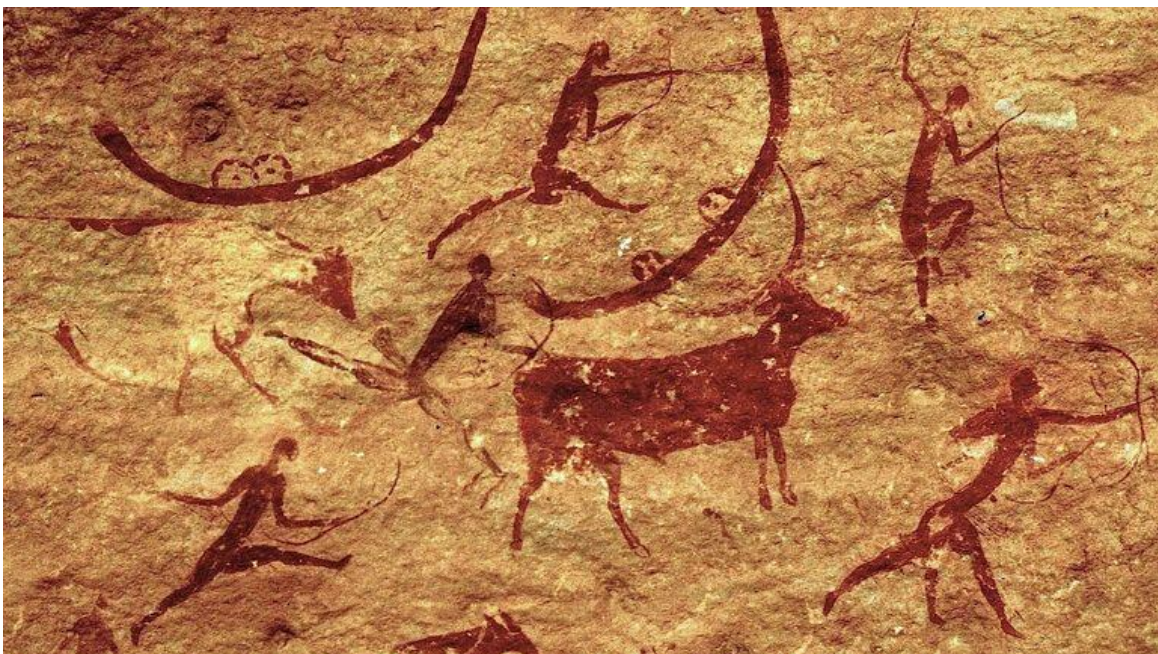


Fig. 7: Unauthored. (5000-2000 b.c) *Section of Rock - Wall Painting*

This image is a good example to really show how colour has evolved from the first time it has been used to create art. Gottesman states that “The invention of new pigments accompanied the developments of art history’s greatest movements from the Renaissance to Impressionism” (Gottesman, 2016), explaining how this image is showing the true history of art and how humans have evolved creating so many colours in the process in unique ways which could be considered a craft in themselves. The image also shows how symbolism and

art was used as means of communication throughout history making it a universal language all can understand it tells a story and still is used to do that exact same thing today. The use of red within this painting allows for a massive contrast against the light coloured wall, making the images depicted easy to see. The use of this colour wall clearly purposeful for this reason.



Fig. 8: Van Gogh. V (1889) *The Starry Night*

The Starry Night (Fig. 8) by Vincent Van Gogh is a Post-Impressionist piece well known for the intense colours and brush strokes. Gogh uses colour to truly reflect what he sees in an abstract yet realistic manner. "All art makes use of shape and colour in some way." (Tate, 2021) By adding these bursts of colour such as the bright yellows, dark blues and whites gives the impression of an illuminated scene whilst giving the artwork a livelier feel and

sense of emotion to it. The colours used are quite comforting in a way that they are quite soft and gentle while also having the harsher shapes create that windy abstract look.



Fig. 9: Hughes. A (1865) *In the grass*

Throughout history in many cultures different colours have had different representations and have been linked in with different moods and emotions when used or looked at. For example, cooler tones usually give off a duller feeling when warmer brighter tones give of a happy good feeling (Schooling, 1895, p. 125). I wanted to use the above example by Arthur Hughes to explain how colour makes us feel emotion when analysing artwork. Allowing the viewer to reminisce the season of summer and youthfulness. Stanton in her article on colour states “orange is an energetic attention-grabber, like red, but isn’t as overpowering. It’s inviting and cheerful” (Stanton, 2023). The colours used in these paintings definantly help

create that feeling of relaxation and warmth along with the symbolism of the flowers and grass, with the overall colours creating a happy feeling when viewing this painting.

Emotion

The final keyword within this proposal is 'emotion'. This word intertwines with the previous key words due to their connotations to each other – this allows for the key words to flow naturally. Triggering emotion is important as it allows for the viewer to properly connect with the piece and thoroughly understand the piece as a whole, as “an emotion is just one of the various kinds of state that are characteristically felt” (Gaut, 2007).

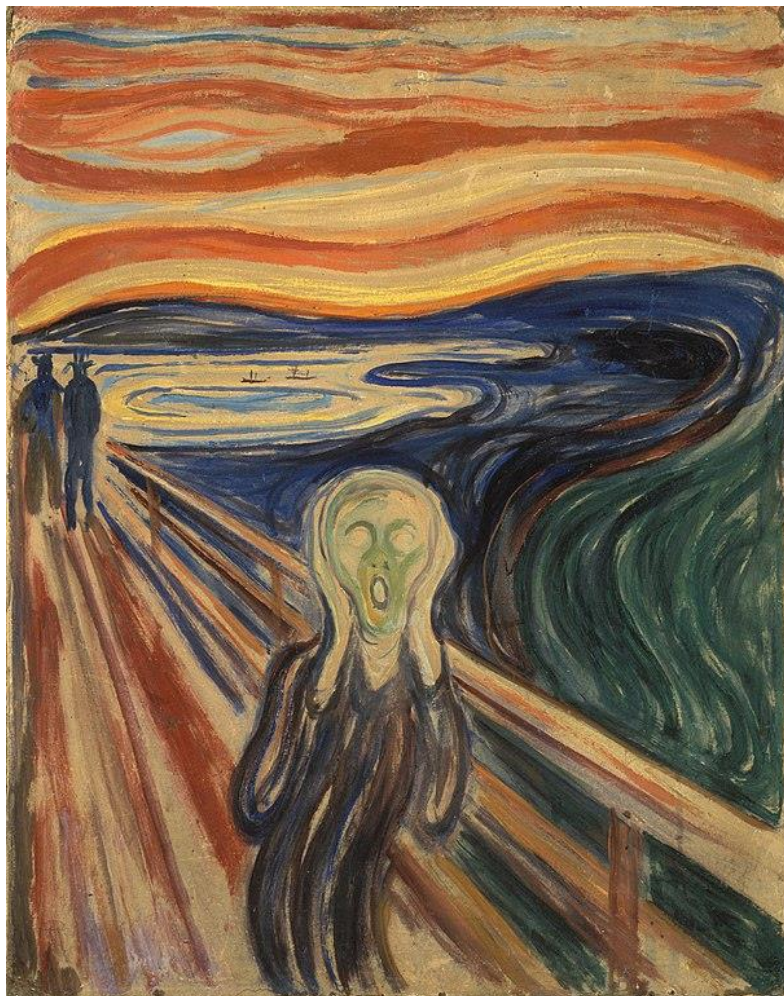


Figure 10. Munch, E (1893) *The Scream*

This well-known art piece by Edvard Munch is one of the first painting I can remember properly analysing when i was younger and really looking into the deeper meaning behind the artwork. A typical perception of this painting is that “The Scream represents anxiety”. (Rajvanshi, 2022) as the emotion depicted in this painting perfectly represents anxiety within the artwork the use of abstract strokes and colours, along with the shocked face. This gives the painting an unsettling feeling – making the viewer uncomfortable. The curved lines and long perspective of the image gives a feeling of dread and also a dreamlike (in this case nightmare) feel to the experience on top of this. This painting is a good example of the impact of emotion within a piece. By looking at and analysing the colour, shapes and backgrounds it is clear to see the intention of the image.

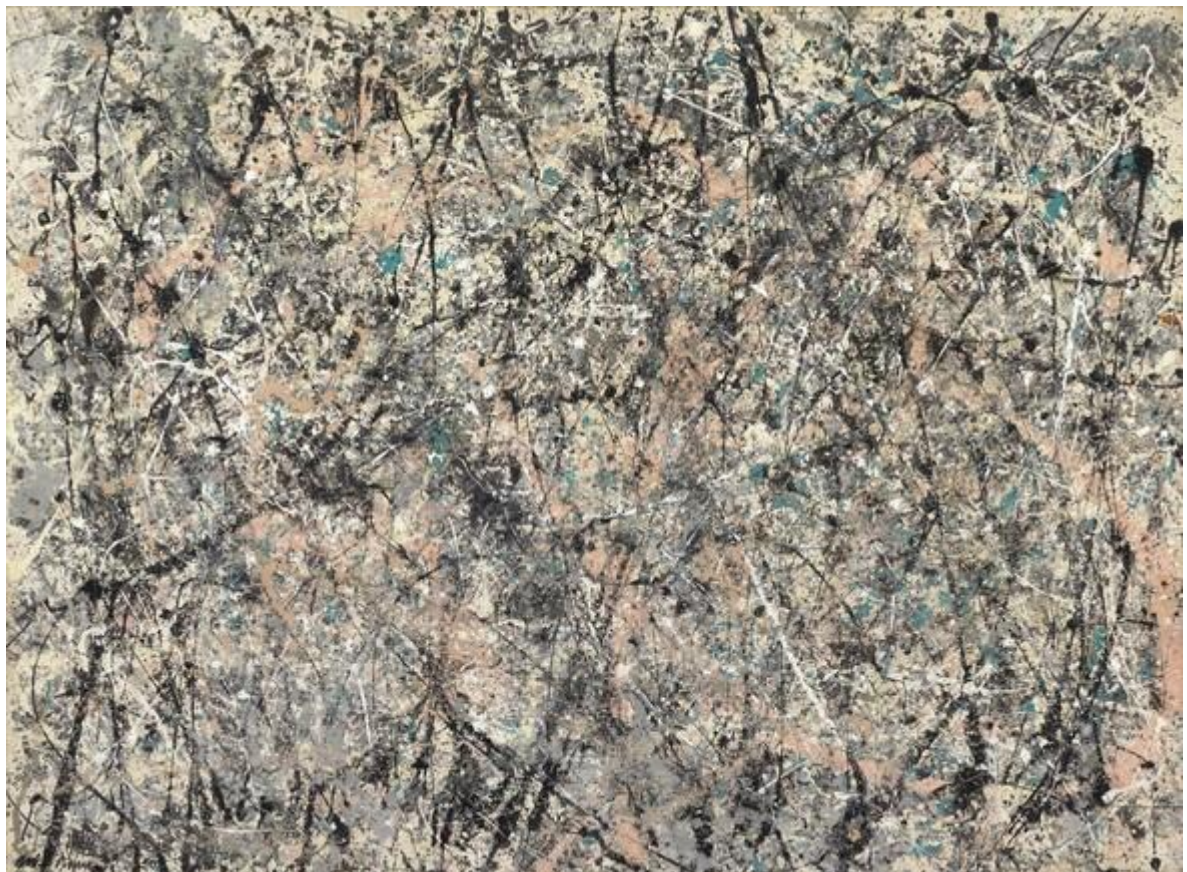


Fig. 11: Pollock, J. (1950) *Lavender Mists*

Another painter that comes to mind when speaking of emotion within art is Jackson Pollock - a painter who suffered various mental illnesses and alcohol addictions (Devan and Farahani Englefield, 2023) through his time that created paint pour artworks such as the one above (Fig. 11). The emotion pouring through his work is clear through the lack of colour as displayed in Fig. 11 as an example. The drip and splatters of his work really create an impact and show how he portrays his emotion through his work as well as the colour choices that reflect that. Many artists who suffered mental illness have expressed work through extreme emotions which is what makes some art so enchanting to look at as the viewer is seeing someone's personal self-reflecting from the work itself.

There is no piece of art in the world - in my opinion - that has no emotion at all. Art is created with something in mind, be it more passionate or less passionate than some, but all art is created using emotion and is impossible to do otherwise. By exploring this keyword I am also helping open myself up to include more of my emotions and real feelings into future works within the third year.

This proposal has delved into the meanings behind several interlinking topics and explained the ways in which they are connected. Next year I am hoping to delve more into the world of art and music looking into music video illustrations, album artworks and more musically inspired illustrations. Looking individually at each keyword I have gained more knowledge helping me progress in my final year: by looking into the keyword of 'music' I am actively learning and researching the area that is suited toward my own illustration style. By also

understanding 'colour' and 'emotion' I can use my knowledge to further evoke the correct feelings when doing my practice in the third year. I would like to discuss the question 'How does music influence our emotions when creating art?' for my dissertation and for my practice I would like to create a print inspired by an album with a lot of emotion behind the lyrics. I found that these three keywords guided me to my question quite well and because of this I am going to spend more time researching these topics before narrowing down on key examples of music's influence while creating art.

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