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Programme of Study: BA Hons Illustration

Module: ADAD4018 Ways of Thinking

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Word count:1305

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Manifesto

1. Art is a way to express opinions and feelings
2. Art allows me to disconnect from the world when I need to
3. Art is non discriminate
4. I use multiple types of media when creating a piece
5. I think that all artists should experiment with different mediums, types, and themes in order to get a better understanding of others and their own work
6. Art shouldn't be censored
7. As an artist I shouldn't compare my work with others, art is not a competition
8. Art is in everything we see

Key word 1: Censored



Figure 1, painting by high school student, 2017

“Suppression of ideas and of artistic expression leads to conformity, the limiting of diversity of expression to a narrow range of “acceptable” forms, and the stifling of freedom.” (2019)

Art has been censored throughout history and is the most common violation of freedom of expression for artists. Most cases of censorship are due to political and religious groups opposing artists and their work due to them being ‘offensive’. For example, the painting shown in fig 1 by high school student, David Pulphus, was repeatedly removed from an exhibition by republican lawmakers without permission as they said it violated rules about depicting “subjects of contemporary political controversy.” Many free speech organisations appeal against the republicans and the artist filed for a lawsuit, ending with the removal of the painting being uphold. I strongly believe that censoring political subjects, especially like the one shown in figure 1 is an unjust suppression of that person’s beliefs and freedom of speech.

Key word 2: Express opinions and feelings



Figure 2, painting by Frida Kahlo, 1946

In our society art has been used to portray opinions and feelings of the artist producing the piece. The painting shown in figure 2 by Kahlo depicting her head on the body of a deer being hunted, creates an emotive and sympathetic response to the piece as she has humanised the animal as well as dehumanised herself as her head was on a deer. She did this in order for us to relate more to the situation. Kahlo was a very vocal activist on feminism, and this piece especially expressed her opinion on how women were treated at the time.

“It is generally assumed that art and emotion are inextricably linked, as it's shown by even the most cursory account of the history of critical thinking about music, painting, literature, or theatre.” (Hjort,1997)

As an artist I feel strongly about presenting by opinions and feelings like the ones Kahlo expressed in her work as I believe the visual expression is more impactful than saying it with words.

Keyword 3: Non-discriminate

“I can't think of anything more rewarding than being able to express yourself to others through painting. Exercising the imagination, experimenting with talents, being creative; these things, to me, are truly the windows to your soul.” – Bob Ross

Throughout history art has conveyed every single part of society, both good and bad parts. Gender, race, religion or sexuality have all been shown in art and its important to accept and celebrate these things without prejudices. Our society still holds prejudice against some of these things however and found that ‘It's not the quality of the art that matters’(2019) it sometimes been the gender of the artist that effects the ‘quality’ and worth of the work. I believe that to discriminate against someone's art over their gender is pure stupidity and that prejudice is outdated.



Figure 3, sketch by Ani Eastwood, 2010

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(Assessed 16th November)

Art does not discriminate (2020):

<https://www.cheswoldparkhospital.co.uk/post/art-does-not-discriminate>

Women's place in the art world (2019): <https://news.artnet.com/womens-place-in-the-art-world/pull-quotes-womens-place-art-world-1655308>

Emotion and the Arts (1997): Hjort, M., 1997. 1st ed. Oxford University Press,

Figure 1: Painting by high school student, 2017. Accessed: <https://ncac.org/resource/art-and-culture-censorship-timeline> (assessed 16th November 2021)

Figure 2: painting by Njideka Akunyili Crosby, 2013. Accessed: <https://www.artnews.com/art-in-america/aia-reviews/njideka-akunyili-crosby-62059/> (accessed 28th December 2021)

Figure 3: painting by Frida Kahlo, 1946. Assessed 21st March 2022

Semiotic Analysis

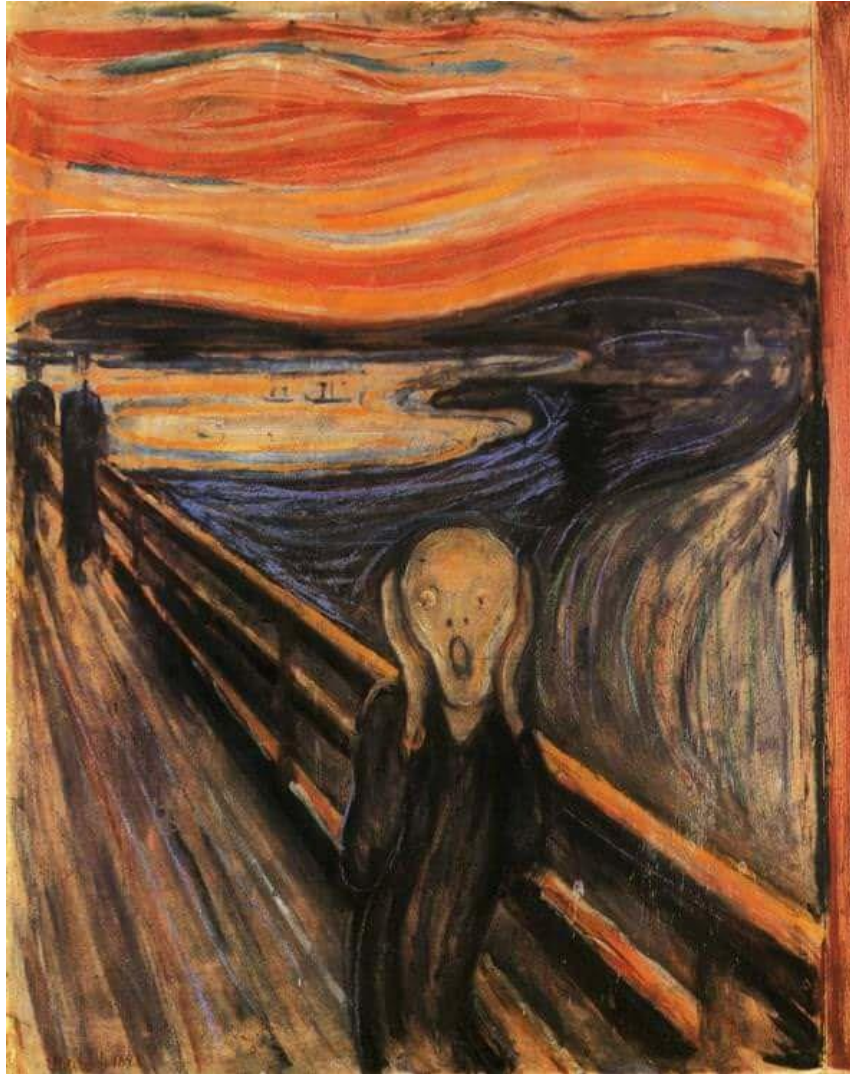


Figure 1: The Scream by Edvard Munch (1893)

The Image above depicts an anxiety filled man portraying the true fear of the human condition. The expression Munch has created with the gaped mouth as well as the distortion of the way he applied the paint shows the continuation of the fear and madness. As well as this it is understood that the chaos will not end as the 'madness are not only flawed but are, paradoxically, making us sicker' (Harpin, 2018). Although red can 'imply bravery' (Osbourne 2018) the contrasting vibrant red to the deep blue shows the chaos that Munch wanted to portray as a mirror of his own state of mind. The 'brightly saturated' (Shabi 2002) red sky adds to the madness as the bold strokes Munch has used allows the painting to 'move' as well as show the scrambled mind of the artist. 'Munch could no longer be considered "a serious

man with a normal brain' (Dönges, 2022) after the creation of this piece due to its freaky depiction of the human mind at the time and showing madness was a taboo. The contrasting 'bluish black fjord' (Shabi, 2022) is a representation of Munch's feelings about himself as he describes it as his "soul painting." (Shabi 2022)

The focus of the painting is 'a panic-stricken creature, simultaneously corpselike and reminiscent of a sperm or foetus, whose contours are echoed in the swirling lines of the blood-red sky' (Zaczek, 2022) situated on a bridge and was created from a panic attack that Munch suffered in 1892 (Zaczek, 2022). Another aspect to the painting is that the other two people on the bridge are not engulfed in the madness of the painting and that the trauma came from his own mind, rather than the world outside (Zaczek, 2022). This shows how Munch was deeply affected by his mental health in that it could shift and distort his surroundings but not have an effect on others, implying that he felt unseen and unheard by society. Mental health in modern society is widely talked about and supported compared to when Munch was alive.

When I first saw this piece, I thought that it was depicting a man screaming from fear of something we couldn't see, possibly a monster or another man. However, after analysing the painting I now understand that it is a depiction of an unstable human mind struggling with anxiety and mental health at a time where it was not understood or treated for and therefore just thrown aside and branded as madness.

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Harpin, A., 2018. Madness, art, and society

Osbourne, R., 2018. Telesio and Morato on the Meaning of Colours

Shabi, K., 2022. Meaning of The Scream (1893) Painting by Edvard Munch: Art Analysis. [online] Legomenon.com. Available at: <<https://legomenon.com/meaning-of-the-scream-1893-painting-by-edvard-munch.html>> [Accessed 27 April 2022].

Zaczek, I., 2022. The Scream | Description & Facts. [online] Encyclopaedia Britannica. Available at: <<https://www.britannica.com/topic/The-Scream-by-Munch>> [Accessed 27 April 2022].

List of figures

Figure 1: <https://www.edvardmunch.org/the-scream.jsp> (assessed 27th April 2022)

Practice Based writing



Figure 1: Stargazer (2021) Rosie Banks

My chosen work to explore is an ink on paper illustration using a monochrome colour palette as the main element. I really enjoy creating work in a monochromatic style as I think it allows you to focus on the image and what it consists of rather than always having an array of colours, which can sometimes be distracting and not portray the meaning behind the piece. Whilst some would argue that monochrome pieces don't require the same level of skill, I agree with the statement that 'a monochrome painting is "only as good as the question it asks."' (Cohen 2022) The focal point of the piece is the 'man' in the moon and my space travelling Rabbit character asking the unanswered questions of the world. The gradient of the dark black to the pale grey and then the bright white of the face allows the moon to stand out and 'creates an illusion of depth' (Flicker 2020) The lack of colour also gives the painting a mystical and strange sense of wonder as if it was unfinished or has a part missing.



Figure 2, Memory of Bedford Square at Night by Laura Footes

Laura Footes was an artist that inspired and influenced my work (Stargazer 2021) as I was amazed by her skill with ink and her imaginative composition. Her use of gradient to highlight parts of the painting allow each component to stand out without the use of any colour. As there is no colour, the piece has an emotive and melancholy feeling and any use of 'colour presents a tragic contrast' (Bubenik 2019). The way Footes has drawn the road and paths in a sort of scratchy, messy linear way make it appear to be moving. This also gives the piece a sense of depth using the gradient again having the darker shades in the foreground of the piece. The lighter circles around the lamps on the street portray an eerie feeling to the scene, creating an uneasy atmosphere to the entire painting.

Both of these pieces have a mysterious sense to them due to their simplistic, monochrome palette. As well as showing depth by using gradients which then allow the paintings to have an atmospheric effect.

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Figure 1: Painting by Rosie Banks (2021) [ink on paper]

Figure 2: Painting by Laura Footes [ink on paper]