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Task 1: Manifesto Writing- 455

Task 2: observational writing-478

Task 3: practice-based writing- 459

Over all- 1392

Task 1: Manifesto Writing

1. Tattoo art is a valid form of art.
2. When looking at a piece of art the emotion behind it could be completely different to what to what you expect.
3. Body modification is an amazing way to express yourself.
4. You can get inspiration from everywhere you look.
5. Whether or not you like your work there will always be someone who takes interest in it.
6. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.
7. You need to make mistakes to learn where to improve
8. All forms of art have worth

Body modification is an amazing way to express yourself

There are many ways of expressing yourself with body modifications as in tattoos there are so many styles of tattooing like realistic, portraits, Japanese. Also, there is piercings, scarification and implants for people who are into that, it boosts their confidence in themselves 'A study by Carroll & Anderson has suggested that individuals who were moderately to heavily tattooed have an increased sense of self-confidence. '(YOGA PANTHER ,2012). To me this is has helped me with my confidence a lot over time getting new piercings and tattoos the more I feel myself and hopefully will be heavily modified someday. To this day some body modifications are still very popular like stretching your ears and scarification although these practices have changed over time, they are very popular.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder

Everyone has their own opinion on beauty you either like something or you don't people are more accepted these days than the old days where it was not ok to look different but now it is more accepting for people to look different 'This is simply the nature of the beast; fashion is constantly evolving, dying and then reinventing itself as something completely new' (Simpson, 2021). Now people feel more confident to get lots of piercings, tattoos to wear alternative clothing like goth, hippy, emo and steam punk and people can walk out their houses feeling comfortable without feeling uncomfortable about themselves. For people that don't like the way people dress or body modification they have it's not your body if you don't like it, it's not ok to make that person feel uncomfortable everyone is beautiful in their own way and I find the more unique very interesting and beautiful.

Tattoo art is a valid form of art

Tattooing is a valid form of art as you create something beautiful and permanent on someone's body, there are so many unique and different designs 'A tattoo artist is a professional artist that will create and apply tattoos based on a client's request.' (Career Explorer, 2022). These art pieces have so much emotion to them for the person and that it's permanent on their body makes them so unique. It's so interesting to see what people have tattooed on them they might be for a loved one, pet or favorite film. Looking at tattoo artists portfolio in the waiting room is really interesting to see all the pieces that the artist has created and the range of styles that are so different to other artists. Also, on social media you find new tattoo artists all the time as it's a growing community and will continue to grow in popularity.

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Observational Writing

Semiotic is a part of everyday life even though people don't take notice, it is often applied to art semiotics can take visual forms of words, images, and objects these have no meaning till you give it a deeper to them. Life in a semiotic way of thinking is so different but at the same time it's the same ideas of life you have been force on you but because the meanings of different things in life have been said one way you believe it to be, if you think in a semiotic way then things in everyday life will change in a way but that's because you should think your own mind. Like the meaning of yellow being danger on a building sign or electrical sign.



Fig.1: Picture of Monami Frost.

In this monochrome photo you see a heavily pierced and tattooed lady who is facing to the side. The contrast between the black against white accentuates her facial features, making them stand out especially her make up and tattoos. Also, because of how light and soft the background is it gives a define outline of her. The word 'devotion' is tattooed above her eyebrow, as she wanted a strong word, but she didn't want to get the word love because lots of people have it tattooed. So, she chose to get devotion as it is love you devote yourself to something you love like family. *She has a neck tattoo which is inspired by the movie Sleepy Hollow which*

resulted in her having the headless horseman on the other side of her neck and on the side, you can see is his horse (Frost,2016). This lady's piercing is very distinct, her ears are stretched to 43mm and wears so many beautiful plugs in them it is not common to have such large, stretched ear like hers as it is very difficult to stretch them to this size (Frost, 2016). She also has her cheeks pierced and the medusa which is a piercing through the cupid's bow. There is a lot of issues against heavily tattooed and pierced people like getting jobs, it is very difficult for people with lots of tattoos and piercing because a lot of people find it inappropriate and unprofessional in a work environment. I think this is not true because tattoos and piercing don't affect people's working ability, yes people look different, but it should not change for someone who is covered in tattoos and piercing to a person that doesn't have any it's not fair as they can still work as hard and just as well. We are all

humans we shouldn't be treated any different any other person it hurts the people who just want to be accepted in society we just want to walk around and not get funny look and abuse for looking the way we want to.

List of Figures

Figure_1: Frost, M. (2016) *Picture of Monami Frost*. [digital image] Available at: listal.com (Accessed: 10 January 2022)

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Frost, M.(2016), *NECK TATTOOS / MY MOST PAINFUL TATTOO*, Monami Frost, 5th May, *available at* *NECK TATTOOS / MY MOST PAINFUL TATTOO – YouTube* [Accessed on: 9th January 2022]

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Practice-based writing

The object I have chosen is smokey quartz this object is used in many different ways, this crystal is found in Australia, Scotland and many other places. Smoky Quartz can be a range of different tones, they are normally quite dark brown in color but also can be very clear, these are my favorite crystal and I use them in my everyday wiccan practice, this crystal helps me with getting rid of bad energies around me. 'Like all dark stones, one of the key strengths of Smoky Quartz is its ability to banish negativity. It "absorbs" the bad vibrations of negative energy surrounding you, leaving the way clear for you to improve your life.' (Lucas, n.d). I am someone who struggles with anxiety and depression especially in those types of situations, this crystal can help to figure out what's going on without negative emotions overwhelming you. This stone is very forgiving because its close connection to the physical world, the crystal will help improve your connection to the earth, wearing a piece of smoky quartz can help you connect to nature. 'If you have Scottish ancestry, or an interest or personal connection to Scottish culture or heritage, a kilt pin made of or decorated with Smoky Quartz can be a personally meaningful and psychically powerful object. Wearing a decorative one as a brooch (or using it to pin your kilt if you wear one!) can attune you to the powers of Scottish mythology and culture.' (Lucas, n.d). Smoky Quartz properties calming, focusing, grounding, nourishment, and purification.



Fig.1: *smoky Quartz.*



Fig.2: *Positive vibes.*

While looking at images of smoky quartz I was given inspiration to create the drawing in which is to the right of the page, to create this piece I used watercolor and pencil as I thought the combination would create depth and texture to the piece. I got the idea for my piece of the smoky quartz absorbing negative energy that's what the cloudy misty energy spiraling around the quartz is, this symbolizes the quartz attracting the bad energy's and taken them to leave a clear space for the good energy's. I decided with dark browns and greys to create a deeper texture, I created different shading to the surroundings of the crystal to show energy wrapping itself around it as a way of it absorbing the bad energy around. I tried to catch the same lighting that the photo of the smoky quartz has and the opaque color it has but my piece turned out a lot darker in tones there for doesn't have a lot of highlights like in the photo does. If I was to do this task again id use more imagery of smoky quartz as inspiration instead of one single image.

Bibliography

Lucas, C.(n.d), *Smoky Quartz: Meaning, Properties and Powers*, Crystals & Jewelry.com, n.d, available at

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List of illustrations

Figure 1: Jem. (2021) *Smoky quartz*. [digital image] Available at: crystals-online.co.uk (Accessed: 10 January 2022)

Figure 2: Pryde, C. (2021) *positive vibes*. [pencil]