

Student Name: Emilia Sliwinska

Student: 2017 0279 31

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- Studio Site & Context Year1

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Module: ADAD4018

Ways of Thinking Lecturers:

Prof Tim Davies & Alex Duncan

Task 1: Observational Writing

Task 2: Manifesto Writing

Task 3: Practice-based Writing

Task 1:

“Observational Writing”

‘Ways of seeing’

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“If paintings are a type of mark, representing in either of these senses, then as part of the whole category of signs they are comparable to words. But - and this is one of the concerns of the semiotician - they seem able to attach themselves more strongly to what they represent than words can”. (Book 1)

“The picture was traditionally defined as a natural representation” (Book 1)

Semiotics is the study of signs , how signs create meanings. They have influenced recent theories of art. Because of our different experiences , different ideologies , expectations we all will react differently to the same thing.

Denotation makes up a form of communication , but connotation is the key to how we understand things, symbolic.

One of the first to produce semiotic theory was a french linguist Ferdinand de Sussure (1857-1913). He stated that a sign is made up of two parts, the signifier and the signified.

Signified is the meanings or thoughts , the viewer interprets.

Another famous American philosopher Charles Sanders Pierce (1839-1914) stated semiotics to be the relationship between a symbol ,icon ,and an index. It is both the theory and analysis of sign and signifying practices.

Important stage in understanding a piece, see how others work , how they influence each other. Something shaped by another called intertextuality. It is an emotional response to what is being experienced. Intertextuality involves looking at the sources and influences of text to identify the origin. It is a term used to describe the ways that meaning is shaped by others. Artists are influenced by numerous things that link together. They help us feel a sense of familiarity with the world they are creating for us.

If something takes the place of another meaning we call displacement .Something irrelevant takes center stage.

A metaphor states one thing is another thing. Compare with something else which has the same quality. It is not literally true ,but helps explain an idea or make comparison. Primary and secondary subjects are brought into relation together in a metaphor.

Visual metaphor is an image that the viewer is meant to understand as a symbol for something else. Artists often include metaphors in their works. One of the metaphors is a personification -an idea or thing given human attribute or feelings.

A metonym can be an expression ,a word, name used as a substitute for something else with which it is closely associated.

A metaphor and metonymy are similar ,and have various aspects. The major difference is that a metaphor substitutes a concept with another, metonymy select a related term.

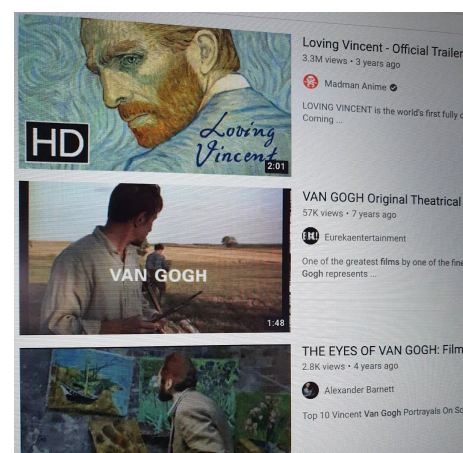
Since I was small I wanted to be an artist. I collected magazines about artists. Remember my mum bought for me fist from all series about Vincent van Gogh. I have loved it since I got it in my hand for the first time. Read and watch all pictures probably a hundred times.



Fig 1, 2 & 3

I even attempted to paint some of his paintings.

I chose for my deconstruction and analysis perhaps most famous for Vincent van Gogh painting “Starry Night” (figure 6). I watched movies about van Gogh and his life which I found very fascinating and inspiring.



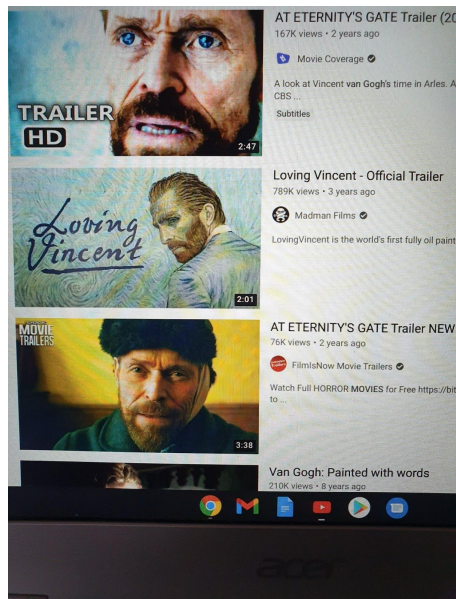


Figure 4 & 5

This artist mainly painted locations with personal meaning and were familiar to him. This painting is a representation of what van Gogh could see and reproduce. The details of his work haven't been created at random. Not directly observed by the artist were recreated from his imagination and from his drawings.

The artist's strange use of colors could be a representation of his medical condition. His lack of blending creates a broken color effect, gives a sense of movement, his expression uses the imagery of swirling motion.

Metonymy I think is that he shows the night sky because he had passion for nightlife.

Denoted will be what we receive: a picture with a tree on the left side, bottom village which dominates church and big blue sky with bright yellow stars and moon. Everything is very symbolic.

Cannot he has communicated from the painting that night time is not just about darkness. It is a unique interpretation of the world, he creating dramatic and cosmic power of the sky is compared with a peaceful village. Painted from his window in Arles Asylum a year before he died in 1990.

Expressive brushstrokes visualize his emotions.

"He was introduced to many of the Impressionists although he used colour very differently from them, primarily to express his feelings. He painted in a frenzied manner, his passion serving to convey a sense of real excitement in his work." (Book 2)

All elements have their own meaning. Intertextuality. The church in the village gives the impression of isolation. Emotions of isolation and his struggle artist unappreciated artwork.

The cypress tree which is the most eye-catching element ,typically found in graveyards ,cemeteries. It is a connection about life and death metaphor how close they are. The cypress tree is the darkest figure in the painting, nearly rising flame to the sky.

A form of Metaphor personification in the darkest years of his life symbolizes a hope. Hope to help him with his mental health issues. He accepted his death eventually. He shows that even in complete darkness there is a light to guide you. Also Metaphor for hope.

The color ,contrast and the style made this painting so unique.



Figure 6

Bibliography:

Book 1 "What is Painting?" Thames & Hudson
Julian Bell page 24 chapter 1

Book 2 "The History Of Art" A. N. Hodge page 128

Information about philosophers - internet wikipedia
Semiotics,etc. definitions from session my own notes and internet search

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Figure 1 & 2 Magazines I collected When I was small

- Figure 3 Print at my home now, bought on local car boot sale
Figure 4 & 5 Stills from Youtube Movie Trailers about Vincent.
Figure 6 Vincent Van Gogh painting "Starry Night"

https://www.google.com/search?q=starry+night&safe=strict&rlz=1CAIRZH_enGB924&sxsrf=ALeKk03q7EotafQsKaLDhA8DYUn7cEHgsQ:1608125039367&source=Inms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj01-bNzNLtAhVYZxUIHVlcAy0Q_AUoAXoECBQQAw&biw=1670&bih=820

Task 2:

“Manifesto Writing”

‘Ways of thinking’

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BA FINE ART - Studio Site & Context Year1

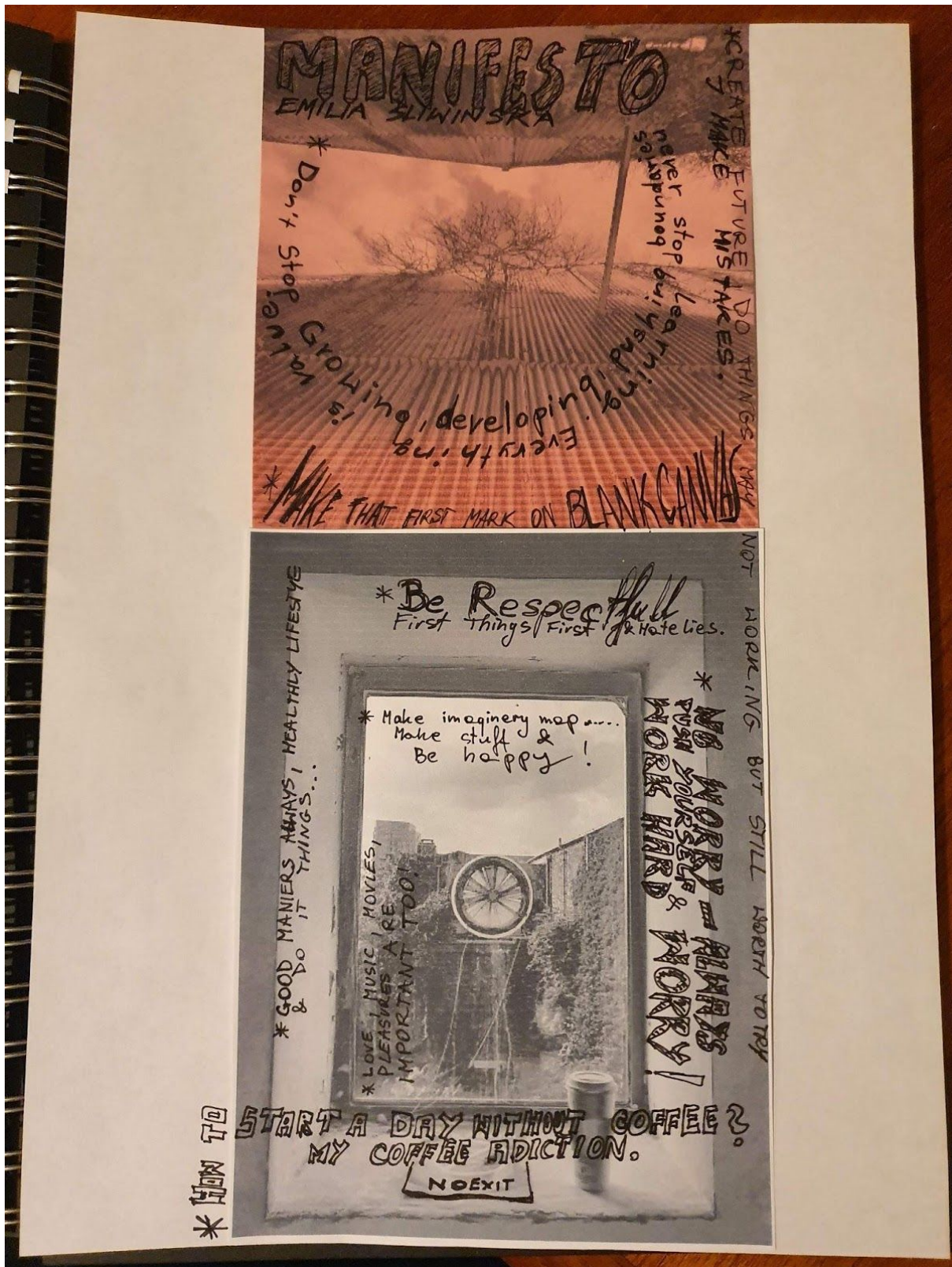


Figure 1

8 Points Manifesto Writing

- How to start a day without a good coffee ? My addiction (found that funny - I put my coffee cup next to 'NO EXIT' sign) . We like things which make us happy. The meaning behind is... I always say I drink too much coffee , but do nothing eventually to stop it. I say , I will be painting a lot and be a creative artist and I do not do as much as I should to become one. Energy boost (like a coffee) to my artistic life is needed. Influences and motivation everyday.
- Make an imaginary map... Make stuff and be happy. Productivity . Imagination . Feel and understand. I am not a very confident person. When I am happy I don't worry so much about things I usually do. If I am sad and unsure , lack of confidence wins. Taking control. Push yourself. Work hard. I am always trying to do my best . Give more every time. Push and try to step up out of your comfort zone.
- Be Respectful. Respect other work, even not like it , appreciated.
I hate lies. I will have respect for You , but You don't lie . Simple, important rule.
- Always have good manners. Healthy lifestyle is good . More things you do , the more time you have for other things.
- Don't stop growing , developing ,pushing boundaries , never stop learning. Everything is valuable.
- Make that first mark on a blank canvas. It is for me to don't get lazy with my body and my mind. To do that first step, then I enjoy making it , painting, drawing whatever it is , just do it.
"Don't be afraid to fail, Be afraid not to try" (internet found quote - pinterest)
- Create the future, do things that may not work but are still worth trying . Make mistakes . Learn from your mistakes.

I began drawing and painting as a very young girl, a very shy kid with passion, drawing pictures for friends in my class , proud when my pictures went for the walls of primary school.

I grew up collecting magazines about painters, watching very inspiring movies about artist Vincent van Gogh and Frida Kahlo. I had a book from my bestfriend about the surreal world of Salvador Dali . Those artists stay in my memory 'forever' and become my favourite artists. Since I was a child I knew I wanted to be an artist. I finished Art College in Poland. I had an amazing experience and learned a lot. But a real experience and more consciousness came doing my Foundation Course in Art ,

2016-17. When I really appreciate it, I have a second chance in life to be somebody I want to be. Now continued at University.

I like my artwork to capture emotions. When I am nervous I draw fast, strong powerful lines all over the page. When I am calm I concentrate on all details slowly , get to perfection.

My inspiration comes from music , movies , life experiences , everyday situations, places and emotions.

“8.People cannot escape from their essential needs and emotions...”. (Book 4, p.453)

“...like Wassily Kandisky, used other art forms such as writing or music as a starting point.” (Book 6,p 141)

I love music . It makes me feel better. I can go from a bad mood change to dancing and singing mum in the middle of the kitchen or alone cry in the corner.

Singer Lady Gaga has said “The music is intended to inspire people to feel a certain way about themselves, so they’ll be able to encompass, in their own lives, a sense of inner fame that they can project to the world” (Book 1, p.48)

Things I draw or paint are things I usually see everyday. I want people to see, what, and how I see. I try to create emotional interpretations.

“13. Painting pictures is human communication in a pre-packaged world...”(Book 4, p.453)

“When we call the results ‘a painting’ , we mean that a set of the resulting marks comes together to claim our attention” (Book 2 , p.22)

I am experimenting with colour , forms and composition. Focused on investigate identity , human bodies , beauty of nature, urban environment.

“7. To be challenging in art today presents no challenge at all.To be revolutionary in art today is to be a reactionary.To be unconventional is to conform. All the barriers that need to be broken have been broken already. The need today is to find out and affirm what is valuable ,in the face of contempt.” (Book 4, p.453)

My favourite to use are acrylic paint , but different mediums allow me for experiments widely. I like figurative style, also abstract paintings on canvas, or mix that in between.

“In the decade and a half between the mid - 1970s and 1990, an unusual quantity of aesthetic energy was invented in the concept of the ‘ready-made’ ... Marcel Duchamp... allowed him ‘to reduce the idea of aesthetic consideration to the choice of the mind, not to the ability”. (Book 3,p.73)

Art is very valuable. I try to be all time aware about aesthetics. Appreciate beauty around us.

My work is a constant search to interpret ideas. Inspiration, knowledge everything changes.

“Conceptual art is not about forms or materials, but about ideas and meaning. It cannot be defined in terms of any medium or style, but rather by the way it questions what art is. In particular, Conceptual art challenges the traditional status of the art objects as unique, collectable or saleable.” (Book 5, p.4)

“The war made artists more consciously political.” (Book 5, p.243)

I am more ethically concerned , than politically motivated.

I believe in important rules of having respect for people, for their work and I don't like lies. I am interested in equality, women fighting for social justices , metaphor.

“Some art interventions certainly had an effect in raising consciousness about specific issues.” (Book 5, p.243)

In my own research of artists I fell in love with a few contemporary artists for example: Andrew Salgado or Tim Okamura. Both Canadian artists use mixed media in their paintings. I am fascinated about story-telling through portraiture and their unique methods of painting. Contemporary motifs , combine realism with rawness.

We are so different but we shouldn't build walls between us, we should make the world a better place. We need value as kindness, tolerance, honesty.

I found one more book I need to write about “The atlas of Beauty” photographs of true beauty, about being yourself, authentic. Let people see yourself.

Also, appreciate more , what we have in life, which we often forget.

Under the photographs were things those women said, I found that very touching.

“I had many broken bones, some smashed organs - but also, plenty of angels by my side” Berlin, Germany (Book 7, p.14)

“I would love to see your book. But I don't know if I will still be alive when you publish it” Kurdistan Region, Iraq (Book 7, p.178)

Bibliography:

Book 1 “Lady Gaga Extreme style” 48	Lizzy Goodman	page
Book 2 “What is Painting? Thames & Hudson 22	Julian Bell	page

Book 3 “The Art of Today” 73	Brandon Taylor	page
Book 4 “100 Artist Manifestos” 453	Alex Danchev	page
Book 5 “Phaidon” Conceptual Art , 243	Tony Godfrey	page 4
Book 6 “The History of Art” 141	A.N.Hodge	page
Book 7 “The Atlas of Beauty” 14, 178	Mihaela Noroc	page
women of the world in 500 portraits		

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Task 3:

“Practice-based Writing”

‘Ways of thinking

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I would like to write about my own experience from an exhibition in London on a trip with the Foundation Art Course in 2016.

We went to London to many galleries and institutions, for example the National Gallery , Tate Modern, British Museum. However the most striking experience for me was a small gallery show on Trafalgar Square, a temporary solo exhibition of the contemporary young artist Andrew Salgado.

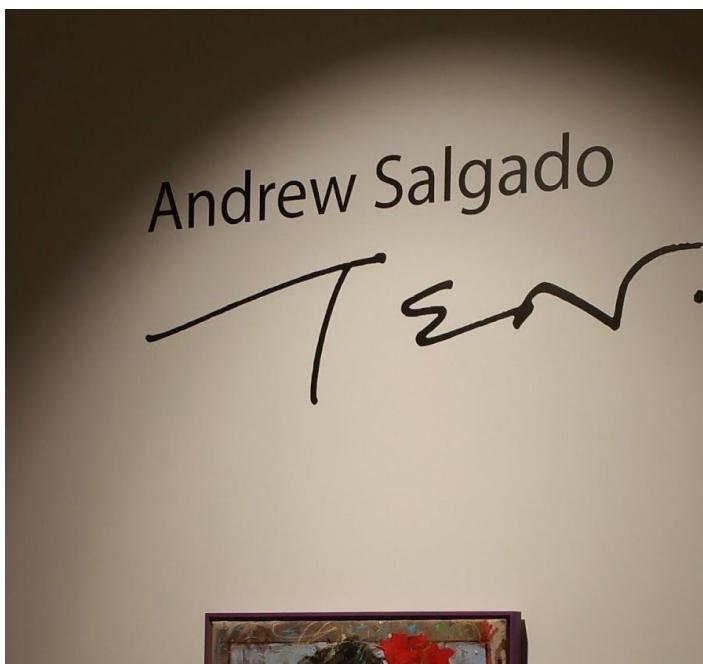


Figure 1

Author's image *Salgado , A.*

2016

Figure 2 Author's image *Salgado , A.* 2016



Figure 3 My sketchbook page about this artist.

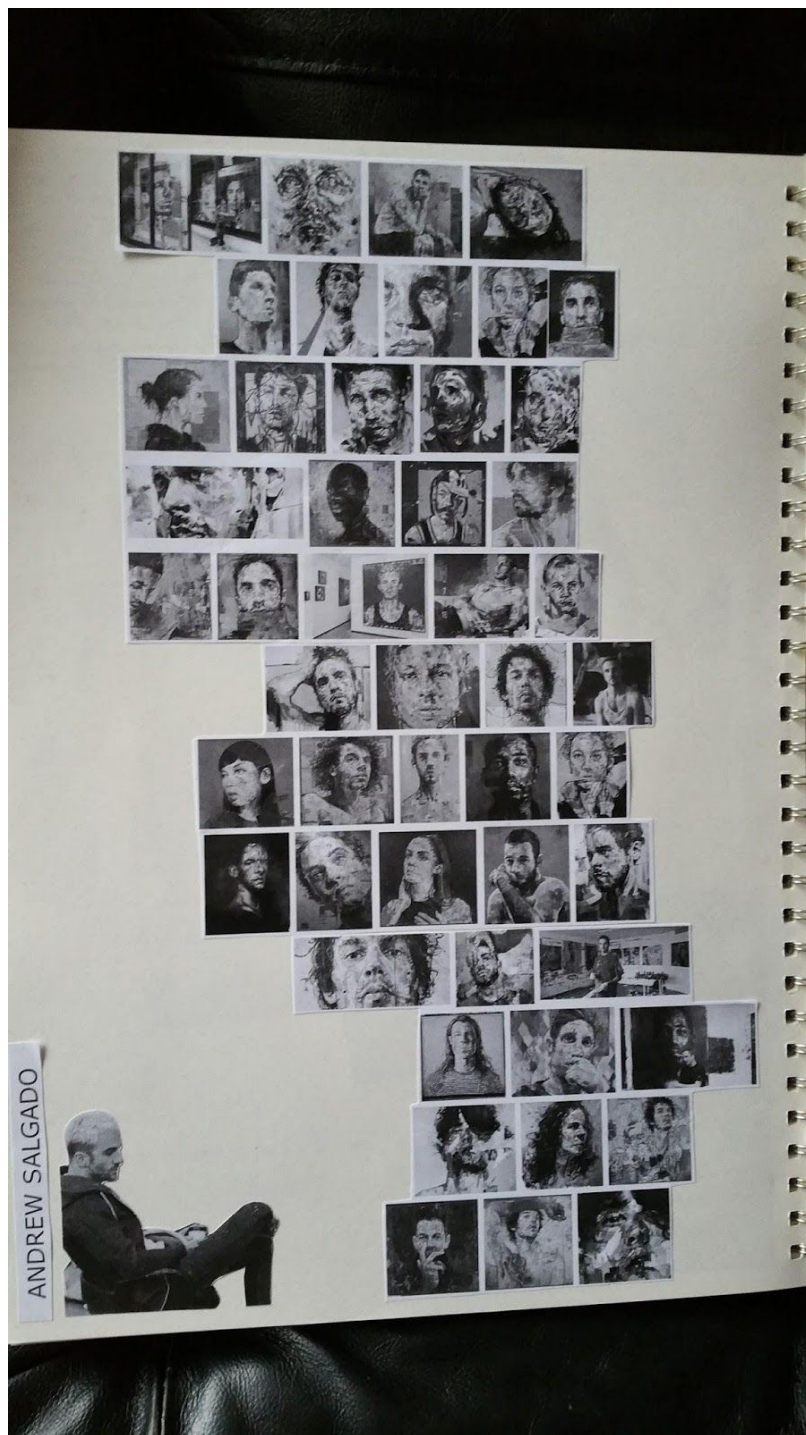


Figure 4 My sketchbook drawing based on this artist artwork.



Figure 5 Drawing of myself influenced by this artist.



Figure 6 Author's image *Salgado , A. 2016*



This exhibition entitled TEN , celebrates the artist's career with modest selection of his work from 2006-2016 and is curated by David Liss.

This exhibition space was small, but had a very homely feeling . Lights only on large scale figurative paintings. This visit to the gallery was very memorable to me. Since that moment I wanted to know more about this artist. I like painting portraits myself . I was really impressed by what I saw. Seeing the world

re-presented through the eyes of an artist encourages seeing new and different ways. It brings fresh and different perspectives. I read about his life and his brutal experiences he had.

Being around art and in the company of creative people makes You more creative. Nothing boosts your creativity more than visiting art galleries. Also if you open yourself up to art , all worlds of creativity transform you as a human being. Looking at art you can become conscious of what you're thinking and feeling.

Some reasons for going to art galleries for example will improve Your memory, educate people of all ages and give you a lot to talk about, which makes you feel more interesting. The secret is in always feeding yourself new and exciting things to discuss. Also it gives powerful conversation starters. Galleries creating ecosystems where people , art ,and space interact.

We are learning from the past. Museums can provide a complete picture of past events , tragedies , lessons we can learn are priceless. It brings communities together.

Artists telling personal stories.

Andrew Salgado's work gives a mood that suggests both aggression and vulnerability—two feelings made by an act of violence committed against the artist in 2008.

The curator of exhibition David Liss : (GSN article, Feb 2017)

“He sees a sense of positivity, spirituality, and healing replacing the emotions in earlier paintings. Broken, wounded, vulnerable boys had given way to resolute, powerful men.”

His paintings incorporate elements of abstraction and symbolic meaning. I like his colorful artwork.

Gallery spaces were adapted to suit modern looks with white walls creating a pure clear look.

Advancements in technology have also made museums more accessible than ever. People struggled to attend, there are other solutions such as digital guides, virtual reality, apps, and digital videos. Available to everyone. Opportunity and possibility.

That trip we went to other museums too. If I should say about artwork I do not fully understand probably will be a few pieces I saw that time. For example this.



Figure 7

Looking at art is never just about "looking". One moment you start thinking about what you're looking at or noticing your emotional responses. Some of art doesn't make much sense. At least until you give it some interpretation.

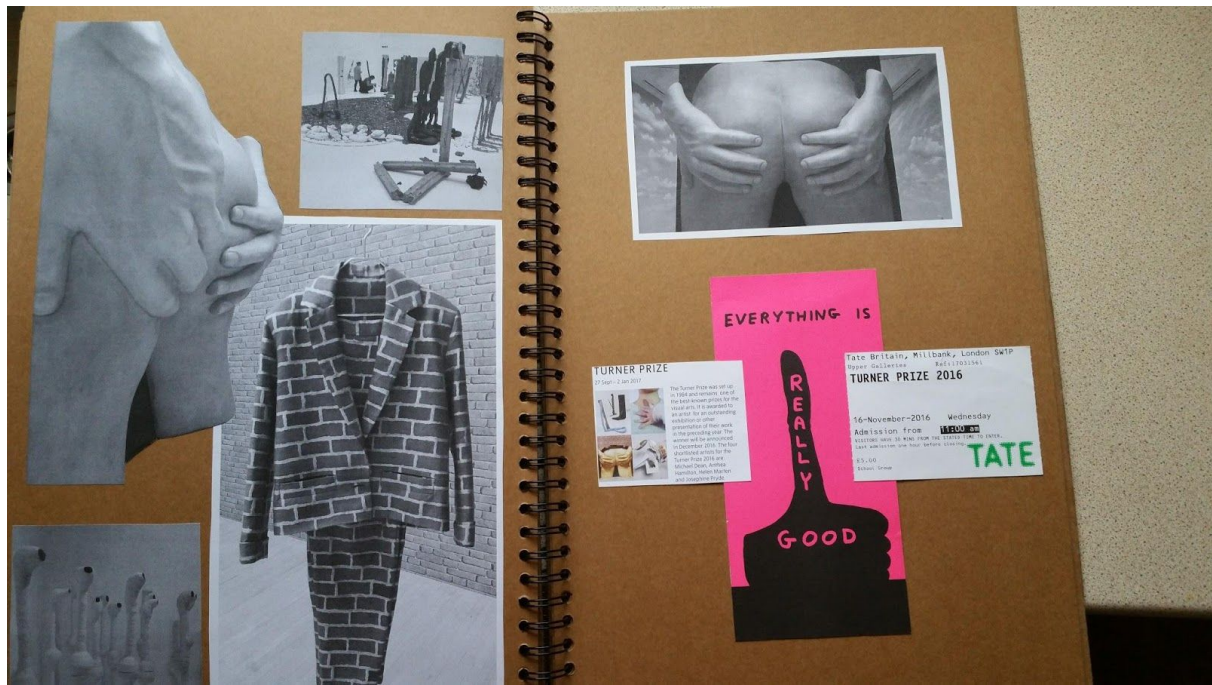


Figure 8

That was my sketchbook response for artwork I less understand that time. I used a leaflet. “Everything is really good” and placed under the other massive in size artwork.

I found that challenging to understand. Maybe that could be clearer.

“An enormous pair of buttocks, the cheeks held apart by a pair of hands, towers against a wall midway through **Anthea Hamilton**’s installation”

(The Guardian, fig.7&8)

In this 12min video nearly all viewers smiled. It was funny and provocative.

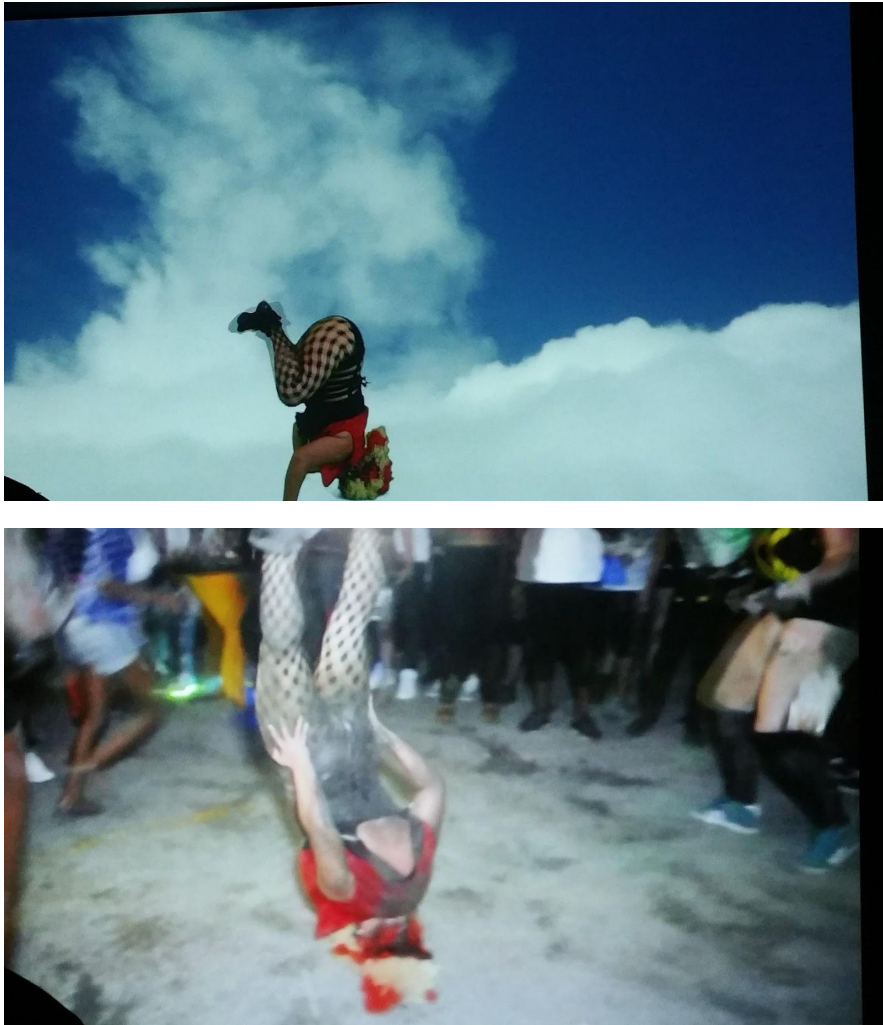


Figure 9

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<https://www.gaystarnews.com/article/attacked-eight-men-career/>

Article from THE GUARDIAN, "Turner prize 2016 exhibition review-bleak and baffling, but no bum deal"

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2016/sep/26/turner-prize-2016-review-tate-britain-micheal-dean-anthea-hamilton-helen-marten-josephine-pryde>

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Figure 7 *Anthea Hamilton*'s installation, Turner Prize 2016

Figure 8 My sketchbook page about Turner Prize installations

Figure 9 Jeremy Deller & Cecilia Bengolea

'Bom Bom's Dream' 2016 12 min video projection, colour, sound,

THE INFINITE MIX Hayward Gallery Southbank Centre

<https://theinfinitemix.com/>

