

Womanly

I will base my exhibition show on the female gaze in Art. When I think of feminism, I think of more 'female gaze' rather than protesting feminism. I like the idea of female empowerment, because I think it is now more relevant than the traditional take on feminism which is usually protesting. But in the current day, we don't need to protest for equal rights but rather normalize gender fluidity to stop social roles and stereotyping. I believe that there is more discrimination against women through normalized behavior in society. There are slightly more women in the world than men. About 52% of the world's population is female, but many high profiled job roles are obtained by men. (Ted Talk). It is found that many Art Galleries are consistent of male artists and lack the female artists yet many of the portraiture paintings are off women; this is showing how it is completely normal that men can paint women, but women cannot.

The Guerilla Girls made a piece about how women are undermined in the art world. 'Less than 4% of the artists in the Modern Art sections are women, but 76% of the nudes are female'. In many cases, women are marginalized when it comes to the art world. The term 'Male gaze' was recognized in 1975 by British film critic Laura Mulvey in her essay titled 'Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema', in this essay she empathizes how most of the time, Men are shown as the viewer in films and women are the viewed. She acknowledges that the Male gaze is universal, and any other perspective is not seen as presentable.



Patience (Taylor, 1906)

Oil on Panel; (7.5 x 6.5 in.)

I loved this piece and wanted to include it because it is a traditional style oil painting yet portrays gender fluidity by influencing reverse gender roles. Page 7, 'Man thinks of himself without woman; women cannot.' (Beauvoir, 1949, p. 7) Femininity in art is usually expressed through tone and subtle detail. How women paint the female body different to how men paint them. Gender roles is a social construct to benefit patriarchy, it is seen by capitalists as a 'stable structure' yet it is discriminative against women due to its undermining outlook. This has caused the social construct of what is

feminine and what is determined as masculine. When women work labor jobs or participate in certain sports, it is usually frowned upon or expressed to be ashamed of. This is why I wanted to incorporate an art piece along these similar lines. Where the look of the piece is traditional; yet defies gender roles in society. Even though it is only a woman playing Poker, it is the positioning and placement of the Man and the Woman in the painting that is effective.

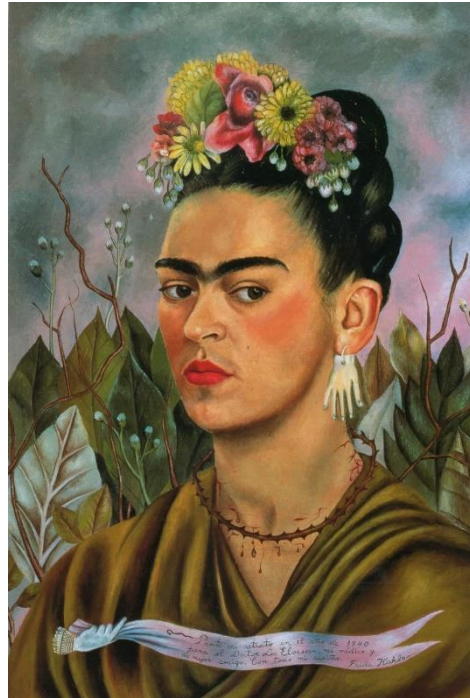


Monumental Still Life with Roses, Tulips, Lillies and other Flowers in a Brown Vase (Scacciati, 2015)

Oil on Panel; (58.2 x 79.9 in)

An Italian artist who is very experienced with Still Life paintings. I have included them in my exhibition because I love their use of colour and vibrancy in the piece. To incorporate colour scheming into the curation, I wanted to use a piece like this and base the colours around them. There are many art pieces that can influence the topic of female empowerment just by the composition of the piece. This is why in order to present this topic in an exhibition, I would like to mainly focus on positioning, colour schemes and the way that the artwork is presented.

‘The problem lies not so much with the feminists’ concept of what femininity is, but rather with their misconception- shared with the public at large- of what art is: with the naïve idea that art is the direct, personal expression of individual emotional experience’. (Nochlin, 1971, p. 28)



Self Portrait Dedicated to Dr Eloesser (Kahlo, 1940)

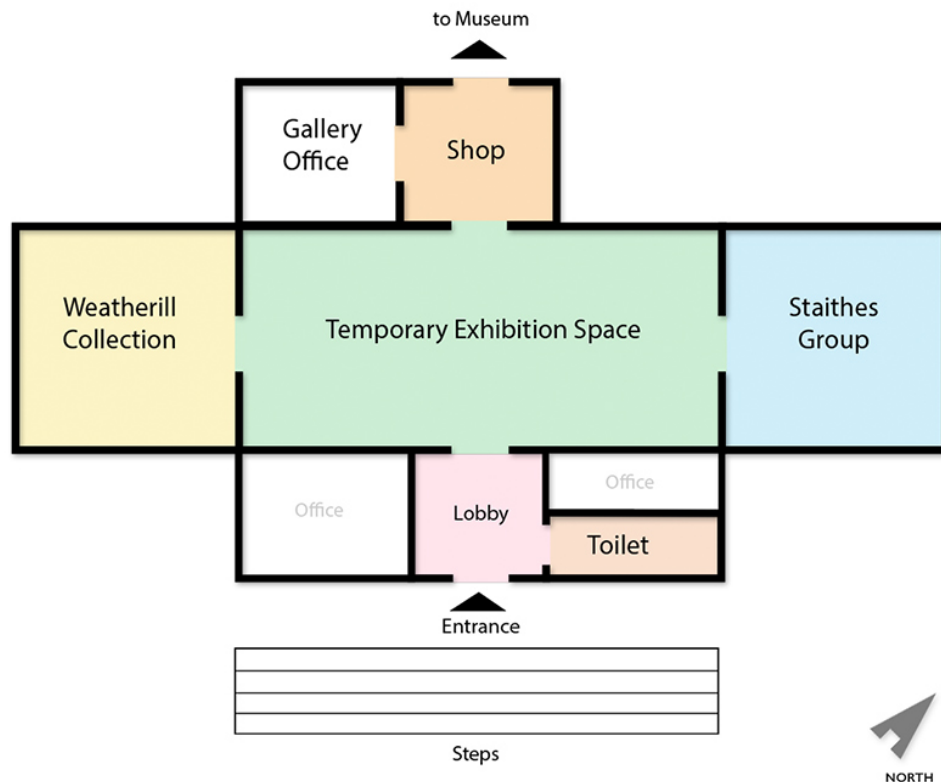
Frida Kahlo de Rivera was best known for her uncompromising and brilliantly coloured paintings. Kahlo was a big activist of her time. Her art is still relevant and used for inspiration from others. She broke many stereotypes during her years, she was open about her being bisexual and a feminist despite being a Mexican woman.

Curation.

For my Curation, I wanted to have a mix of the paintings I have mentioned. I want them to be in traditional gold big frames to give the impression that they are older paintings but more modernised. The concept behind this is to have the 'female gaze' paintings be more prominent than pieces created by Men. Showing that the female artists are not marginalised. I wanted to keep it simple yet effective. Basing the pieces on colour scheming and composition but only representing the female gaze rather than the male gaze. I will put the pieces together by putting them in a straight line, 'Patience' painting by Leonard Campbell Taylor on the left,

Pannett Art Gallery, Whitby

I have chosen to use this Gallery because the Pannett Art Gallery is dedicated to featuring artists whose work represents a mix of progressive styles, social commentary, experimentation, and innovation. The gallery provides exhibition opportunities for visual artists, musicians, poets, and performance artists. The Pannett Gallery does supply a floor plan. This floor plan shows the main exhibition room accompanied by a shop and other collections in the Gallery. I liked this idea because the Gallery is quite small, but it offers a lot which I think can be more effective when it comes to exhibiting artwork to an audience.



In the exhibition, I want to place the art pieces on the opposite wall. When people walk through the building, it will be the first thing they see. In the 'Temporary Exhibition Space' on the top wall by where the shop will be. The floor plan and Pannett website also explains the accessibility in the building. They explain that there is a front door slope to help get access into the building and inside there are no steps so it can be viewed by everyone.

Bibliography

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