ART CRITICISM

LEARNING ABOUT A WORK OF ART

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ART CRITICISM - IS AN ORGANIZED APPROACH FOR STUDYING A WORK OF ART MADE UP A FOUR QUESTIONS.

DESCRIPTION: STEP ONE

What do I see in this artwork?

- NOTICE THE SUBJECT, OBJECTS, AND DETAILS.
- WHAT CAN BE SEEN IN THE WORK. (HAND, BOOK, REFLECTION, TORN EDGE, ETC.)
- SIZE, MEDIUM & PROCESS USED TO MAKE IT. (FOUND IN THE CREDIT LINE)



ANALYSIS: STEP TWO

How is this work organized? What art elements & principles are used?

WHAT COLORS ARE USED?

WHAT TYPE OF LINES ARE USED?

DOES IT HAVE ANY TYPE OF TEXTURE, BALANCE, CONTRAST, EMPHASIS, ETC.?



INTERPRETATION: STEP THREE

What is the artist trying to communicate?

- MAKE GUESSES ABOUT THE WORK, SUPPORTED BY WHAT YOU SEE.
- USE YOUR IMAGINATION, AND INTELLIGENCE TO MAKE AN INTERPRETATION.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS PERSON?

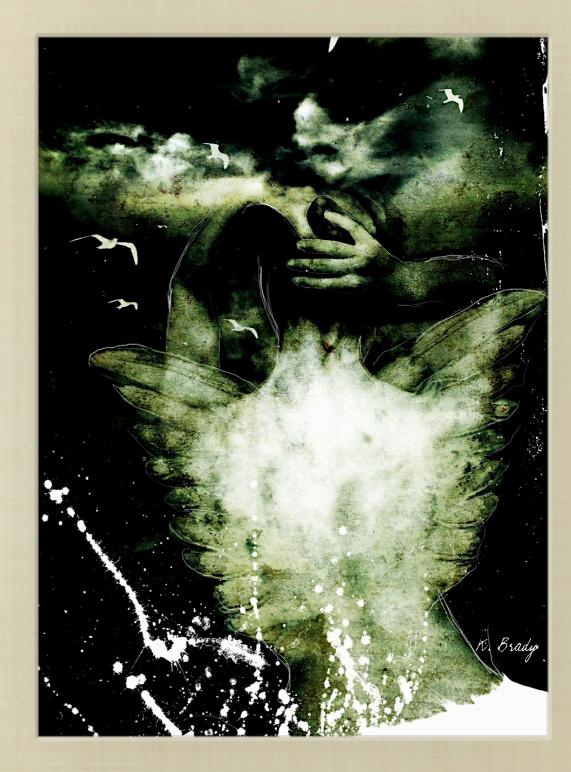


JUDGMENT: STEP FOUR

Is this a successful work of art?

- THIS IS THE TIME TO MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION.
- THE FIRST LEVEL IS PERSONAL.
 DO YOU LIKE THE WORK?
- THE SECOND LEVEL, YOU USE AESTHETICS TO DECIDE.
- A WORK MAY BE VERY SUCCESSFUL AESTHETICALLY, BUT YOU MAY STILL NOT LIKE IT PERSONALLY.

ASK YOURSELF, IS THIS A WORK OF ARTISTIC MERIT? IS IT SUCCESSFUL?



THINKING ABOUT A WORK OF ART

- AESTHETICS: IS A PHILOSOPHY CONCERNED WITH THE NATURE AND VALUE OF ART.
- TODAY, ARTWORK IS JUDGED BY A SET OF CRITERIA AND A GOOD WORK OF ART IS CALLED SUCCESSFUL.
- Some successful works of art may not look pretty, but they may be well-organized, and/ or give emotional responses from viewers.

3 QUALITIES OF ART

WHEN DECIDING ON HOW SUCCESSFUL A WORK OF ART IS YOU WILL LOOK AT THE literal qualities, THE formal qualities, AND THE expressive qualities of WORKS OF ART.

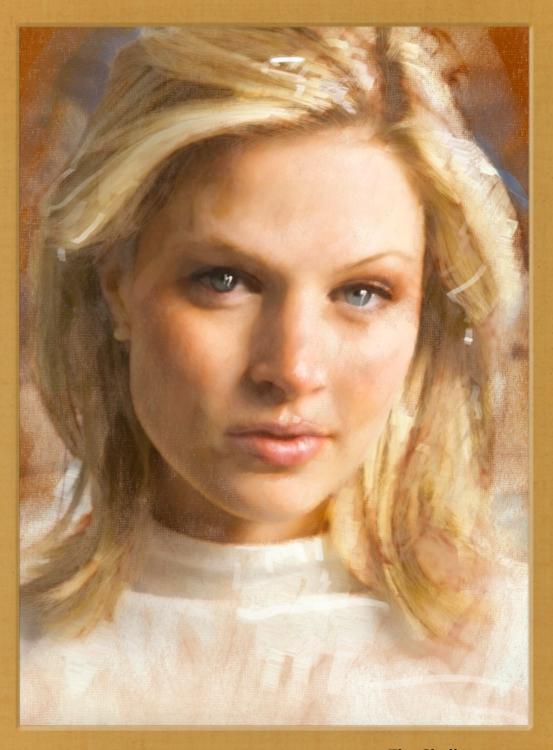
THESE ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE PROPERTIES OF ART: SUBJECT, COMPOSITION AND CONTENT.

3 AESTHETIC THEORIES

THE THEORIES THAT RATE THESE 3 DIFFERENT ART QUALITIES MOST HIGHLY ARE CALLED:

Imitationalism, Formalism, and Emotionalism

IMITATIONALISM Focuses on realistic representation of the image.



Tim Shelbourne *Portrait* digital oils with Painter 9

FORMALISM

PLACES EMPHASIS ON THE DESIGN QUALITIES. (ART ELEMENTS & PRINCIPLES)



Derek Lea *Elinavas* digital image

EMOTIONALISM

REQUIRES THAT A WORK AROUSE A RESPONSE OF FEELINGS, MOODS OR EMOTIONS FROM THE VIEWER.



Kevin Brady The Tragedy, 2003 digital image