

Art Theory/ Art Practice

The two theorists that closely relate to my practice are Hegel, and Nietzsche, and I briefly mention Heidegger. All these theorists combine clearly connect to perceptions to the painting I present. Some of the points I will go over in this essay express, the meaning of objects, the significance of history and culture, and how aesthetics in art move beyond the physical state at which its presented.

My paintings have a surreal feel to them. There is a process of layering images and transparency quality to the work. Usually whatever object I am portraying holds a deeper meaning. The past has a huge influence in my work. My paintings in some way always depict time. Memory is a huge focus of my work, how we see a memory, relate memory, and remember memory. The objects in my paintings move beyond the physical state and have a whole conceptual side.

Heidegger believes that experiences, and history give the art world its content and modes to exist and present itself. He believes that art is an imprint of someone's interpretation of history, and experiences. As Heidegger believes that history is told from many different perspectives, much like art. Humans question there existence on earth, which Heidegger calls dasain "being in the world" Where objects are just objects endless we have prior experience with an object. At this point when an object becomes more meaningful, it changes our perception on the world. Hegel argued that the abstract notion of an "I," separated from the world and free to choose as it wished, led to a series of unresolved and irresolvable problems about how the subject could realize its essential nature through any engagement with the world.

“Hegel was following Schelling’s argument who believed that any actual subject is always already involved with the objects of the world. Taken as the observation that any thought requires actual content, and that this content will always have some external component, this is a wholly unobjectionable point. However, for just that reason, it also doesn’t provide any sort of answer to the question of what sort of content a subject ought to affirm, or in the language we have been using, what particular norms reflect our nature as free beings.” (Hegel: social and political thought/ <http://www.iep.utm.edu/hegelsoc/>)

Hegel put together his Kant’s theory and Nieches theory together. Hegel believes that cultural values have a profound affect on our ideas of value, judgment, perception and decisions on how we feel about art, music, politics, and human characteristics. Hegel is talking about “the ways in which these cultural developments and changes can be understood as more (or less) rational. Because Spirit refers specifically to those norms that individuals in a particular culture understand as shared, important, and worthy, the individuals affirming the particular norms need to be able to give a rational account of what gives the norms their importance and their worth. Hegel’s deeper claim is that such a rational account is just a historical story that describes how the norm came to be affirmed in that particular culture a story that itself traces the pattern of self-realization we have already described.” (Hegel: social and Political thought/ <http://www.iep.utm.edu/hegelsoc/>)

Humans are made up of many different parts, one very significant part is culture, where a person comes from makes up their identity. It may even judge taste, interest and perception.

Nietzsche’s investigated the true meaning of beauty and aesthetics. The idea of

“free will”, gave viewers no boundaries on interpreting what is beautiful. Beauty expresses freedom, what Nietzsche means by this is this statement was that there is no one sense of beauty, suddenly the notion of beauty was up to the viewer, giving free will to interpretation. I think because philosophers figured out that there is no way to judge what is true beauty. This where one’s experience and past affects what is their sense of true beauty.



Image- 24X36

Vellangi Stringos

Title – Empty Bond

Acrylic Paint, Photo, Gold Spray

Adhesive

The materials that I used are canvass, drawing charcoal, and acrylic paint. I think to truly be a successful artist; it is a combination of many different components coming together. Art is expression with out words, but through images that tell a story to another

human being. A work is only strong when one can create an experience for the viewer. I don't believe its solely up to the artist to create a controlled reaction, but its up to the artist to emotionally move the viewer in some way, through sculpture, paint on canvas, or through thought provoking images. The theory of surrealism is a huge affect on my artwork.

Surrealism brought art to a whole new perception of various realities. Surrealism caused people to question the meaning behind objects. It also made people question and challenge the elements of art. Objects with in an image, colors usage, texture and the most important content. Content of art was pushed viewers to face new ways on seeing art and new perspectives. This brings up reification, which challenged representation and reality.

My process of working is about compiling images together to read a story or an emotion. I will spend a week evaluating images before I even buy canvas and paint. It is essential that to my process there is a process of addition and subtracting, until the image reads the way that I need it to. With a photo or an image that I have created I create a photo transfer on the canvass.

The image on the canvass is a women holding up a child. The background is a layer of design, charcoal and paint. The background is representing the ideal life, or the perfect picture. Every child hopes for a safe, caring, comfortable home. Unfortunately a lot of children do not experience such a reality. In the background sits a sunset, mountains, and scenery that show's beauty and calmness. Parts of the painting are scratched off and then layered back on. Where the figure is holding the baby, parts of the

canvases are left exposed. The symbolic meaning in this painting is expressing the empty expectations that we feel our life should have. As children we have expectations of how our parents should be, and environment. My work explores the bond between mothers and children. This painting is showing the absence of the bond, or just the imprint of memory, and a moment in time.

Surrealism fits the theory of my painting Random objects coming together to make a logical sequence. Nietzsche believed that aesthetics of a painting could move a viewer beyond the physical state. Aesthetics can always emotionally move us. Hegel believed that objects could represent much more than what they were made for, through symbolism and representation in art. According to Hegel said “that relationship between self and otherness is the fundamental defining characteristic of human awareness and activity, being rooted as it is in the emotion of desire for objects as well as in the estrangement from those objects, which is part of the primordial human experience of the world”. (Hegel: Social and Political Thought <http://www.iep.utm.edu/hegelsoc/>)

Philosophers started to realize is that the purpose of art started to go beyond documentation, and made for decorative decor. Art started to have hidden messages, the concepts with thought provoking images started to make people think much deeper, but most importantly it started to move viewer's far past aesthetics. Artwork started to have a strong presence in society changing the times with each image and art movement.

References

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www.cambridge.org

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