

Assignment #4 _ Art History Emulation

For this project you will begin with research. The impressionist movement marked a shift toward modernity in painting. The new style broke academic tradition and created a division in art history. You are to select 2 painters with contrasting styles. They need not both work in acrylic, but this will be your primary means of expression. You will research each painter's technique and subject matter. The effort is to create a hybrid painting emulating both selected artists in some way, while emphasizing contrast. Contrast can embrace visual dissonance or clash of content, or both.

Keep in mind you are not performing a mere copy of these artists' styles, but embracing their techniques and content to create your own painting.

Pictorial Composition

As you study paintings from past and present, take note of their compositions. What makes a strong composition? When borrowing elements from existing paintings, be sure to crop and arrange as to ensure a successful composition. Perhaps all that is borrowed is a visual arrangement, employing new imagery.

Process / Application

Your research should divulge information about your selected artists' technique, process, style and subject matter. Embrace these elements in effort to adhere to their mode of painting. Research order of operation, painting techniques and mediums employed. Visual analysis of a painting will only provide so much information.

Materials

This painting will most likely be of a medium to large size. Although there is no required sq. footage, make an attempt to stay in line with your selected artists' usual canvas sizes. This is an ideal project to build your own painting substrate. The painting must be on a substantial substrate such as stretched canvas or wood panel. The painting must employ the use of acrylic paints primarily.

*A process-folio of this painting is required upon completion.

Artist Presentation

Since this painting will employ the techniques of previous painters, research is necessary. Start by scouring texts, the web, magazines, etc. to acquire two artists. Continue your research by familiarizing yourself with their biography. Continue on, studying their technique and praxis. How do they achieve a certain aesthetic? What is their mode of working in the studio? What kind of things do they paint? You will need to answer these questions and more; not only to achieve accuracy in your own painting, but to present this information to the class. The critique will double as an academic presentation. You will provide background on the selected artists, showcase examples of their work, explain their technique and its relevancy, as well as field questions about your selected artists and your own work. This critique will differ from previous in that you will have the undivided attention of the entire class with no other visual distractions.

One artist/presentation at a time. The painting studio has a projector, and a computer, but it may behoove you to supply your own laptop for flexibility in presentation, and to ensure the proper software is available.

Presentation should be around 3-5 minutes and include:

- Background information about artist's life.
- Description of work and stylistic analysis.
- Utilization of color images for reference.
- Explanation of how the two selected artists offered up contrast.
- Appropriately transition into personal work via influence.
- Ability to field questions from instructor and class / defend work.

Grading

- The final painting and all supplemental documentation will constitute one grade
- The visual presentation will constitute another project grade weighted the same as a final painting.