Midterm Paper: Final Submission

[Name of the Writer]

[Name of the Institution]

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**Title of the artwork**: The Appetizer

**Name of artist**: Pablo Picasso

**Date of artwork**: 1881-1973

**Place where you saw artwork**: “I was unable to look ahead for a tour to the museum to search for a painting, so I used my internet browser to have an online visit to different museums. I undergo vigilant research of different museum as well as the paintings in a particular museum. Then I search for the "Columbas Museum of Arts," and there I found a picture painted by Pablo Picasso.

**Date you saw it**: 11-02-2019



The painting by Pablo Picasso depicts a man and a woman. Both the entities are well dressed and relevant features of surroundings add to the "context" of painting. The more one focuses, more is the attention towards facts and figures that are highlighted. The most suitable theme for painting is “man and his society”; the subject can be assessed from each angle of this picture. I observed that there is an apparent "coordination" and actual "discoordination” between the lady and man. Taking into account the perception imparted by Percy, (2003) "You are all lost generation," the original stance of perception can be found in painting. I observed that the couple is completely lost within its surroundings. I observed that the attire and dress code highlights "revolution," adhering to the adaptation of modern trends. The external beauty highlights the connection of “man and his society". Man is the product of society side by side, society is reshaped by men, and this painting depicts the strong essence of this fact. "Art is not an application of a canon of beauty, but what the brain and instinct can perceive beyond any canon”. (M & Author, 2003). It affirms that my understanding is quite suitable in the context that canon of beauty is just a tool to highlight the devastation that man and his society has undergone. Apparently, the man is smoking, but I think smoking is an insight into the slow poisoning that is made by the obsessing and overwhelming trends, taking into account the negation of morals and ethics. Side by side the smile on the face of man affirms that this beauty and welcoming attribute to revolution is as devastating as the smile is impressing. In the same context, the beauty of female highlights the beauty of trends that change with the passage of time but here, “the smoke of cigarette’ is a tool that affirms the approaching destruction accompanied by violation and deterioration.

It is important to note that the attire depicts the social framework where people are masked with social standards around and struggling to adhere to violence from inside. If the facial gestures are brought into insight, it can be affirmed that the two individuals are reflecting present time violence as there is a continuous narration of the present events such as gatherings, get together and parties, that shape individuals as "mechanical entities," fulfilling the requirements of time. The two persons are somewhat looking ahead to "avenue of novelty", taking into account that they are not interested in each other. It would not be wrong to say that this painting is limelight for both, past and present addressing the evolution of man towards mechanical world where individuals are robots in the hand of trends and traditions. If I analyze the basic texture of painting, I observed that cubism is a stance that affirms the "abstraction and disconnections of features" yoked to "give shape." (Percy, 2003). If the abstractions and sections that are jotted to make this painting are considered, it would not be wrong to say that today; man is trying to feed on minute pieces to complete the obsession of modernism and revolution. The broken and incomplete stages depicted by the pictures highlight that man is always open to reformation, and it can be well understood by chair. The chair depicts two sides of a single coin of reality, at one side there is, "awaited approach" and on the other side, there is an "ending approach." In a simplified form, the coin of reality is human beings in society, taking into account that today every individual is in a battle where we seek reformation, but we are reluctant to the abstract of reformation.

Picasso created, "a world with the reality behind and reality beyond." (M & Author, 2003). The painting is a detailed description of an idea, taking into account that there is a profound narration of reality behind “destruction and violence” and reality beyond affirms the apparent depiction with peaceful and appealing gestures and environment. The analysis of painting made me realize that there is a consistency in the themes, although it seems to belong to 18-century but the reality of present time and social happenings are same; there is a continuous stream of consciousness accompanied by the unconsciousness of human nature where violent burdens are carried with personal will. In a nutshell, the painting depicts the social construct of human beings as well as the similarity between past and present where one can trace a baseline of “depression and devastation” masked with a pretense of modernism. “What is this loss, what is this failure?" (Percy, 2003). The painting attracted me because of its violent themes and hidden realities of life where appearances are united, but spirits and consciousness have left long, and every individual is busy destroying itself under the complex of trends and traditions.

References

M. author. (2003). Picasso [Ruiz Picasso], Pablo. *Oxford Art Online*. <https://doi-org.proxy.library.ohio.edu/10.1093/gao/9781884446054.article.T067316>

Percy North. (2000). Bringing Cubism to America: Max Weber and Pablo Picasso. *American Art*, *14*(3), 59. Retrieved from <https://proxy.library.ohio.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=edsjsr&AN=edsjsr.3109363&site=eds-live&scope=site>