Visual Art Critique

Your Name:

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Section Number:

Visual Art Critique

In late October, I happened to attend the Texas Arts and Music Festival that was held in Brenham, Texas. The event had a lot of activities that involved both arts and music which made the event colorful and quite fun to attend. The Texas Arts and Music Festival was a spotlight for both conventional and traditional art. However, my attendance was class-related and I went live in the art fair to learn and observe visual art. In this paper, I will choose three arts of work that I viewed and create a critique for them. The visual arts chosen for the critique were conventional and were particularly chosen by renowned artists.

**Art I: Mona Lisa (1503-1506)**

Leonardo da Vinci created the piece of art and its genre was under the category of renaissance portrait art. The movement it propagated was the high renaissance. While at the festival, this piece of work is arguably the optimum example of portrait art.

**What is being said?** The painting speaks of a wife of one of the most wealthiest Florentine dignitaries who was also a merchant at the time. According to the artists exemplifying the art, Leonardo had to make her amused and this helped in developing the enigmatic smile viewed in the painting. “Art is made up of; products, process, and experience is like a chain” (Sporre 12). The painting says much about Leonardo's impact on oil painting art.

**Is this Canonical art?** Mona Lisa is a canonical art considering that it is still being viewed many centuries after it was created. Leonardo makes it easy to critique the art and to answer questions related to it.

**What was the work rating?** The work deserves a nine rating on the scale due to the technique and charisma applied by Leonardo in creating the art.

**How can you rate the Experience?** I would give an 8 on the rating scale when it comes to my experience while observing Mona Lisa at the festival.

**Aristotle’s Six Elements of Tragedy**

Plot: The plot of the painting revolves around mystery, which stems from varied factors. The enigmatic half-smile creates mystery as to why the artist chose this particular pose. Her hands seem slightly unreal and it is as if they belonged to a different body. Mona Lisa represents one of the aesthetics of the High renaissance.

Character: The character of Mona Lisa is portrayed as serene and this is illustrated through the use of a muted color scheme.

Thought/Ideas: An air of mystery is portrayed by the thought put by the Mona Lisa’s artist.

Spectacle: The painterly technique of the art involves an imperceptible and smooth transition from one distinctive color to another through subtle tonal gradations.

**Art II: An Allegory with Venus and Cupid (1540-1550)**

Agnolo Bronzino created the mythological painting during the mannerism movement. The medium utilized was oil on a wood panel and is considered as a masterpiece. Spoore (14) states, “processes in the art refer to creative thoughts, techniques, actions, and materials to create a product that is the artwork" So much technique and thought was used by Agnolo in creating the painting.

**What is being said?** The artist speaks of the evils that were taking place during the mannerism movement. At the time there was an epidemic of sexual immorality and the artist chose the painting to portray what was taking place and the results that emanated from those ills.

**Is this Canonical art?** In my perception, this is not canonical art since the artist is too explicit in his drawing hence his target audience was the people carrying out the evils.

**What was the work rating?** The work rating is exemplary and can be rated at 5 due to the style used in relaying the primary message.

**How can you rate the Experience?** The experience while observing this image can be rated at 6 due to the complexity involved.

**Aristotle’s Six Elements of Tragedy**

Plot: The plot in the painting is complex and portrays an erotic allegory that involves emblems and symbols of mythology.

Character: The characters of the painting have much symbolic meaning. Venus is commonly known as the goddess of love while the son on the image is known as Cupid. Unchaste love is seen between the characters and this leads to obscurity.

Thought/Ideas: The painter who preferred lusty adventures promoted this ideology in the “An Allegory with Venus and Cupid”

Spectacle: The mannerist painting is quite consistent and shows an erudite and cool culture.

**Art III: Weeping Woman (1937)**

**What is being said?** Pablo Picasso who tried to represent the Cubist movement created the painting. The art talks of anti-war themes against the bombings that took place during the Spanish Civil war.

**Is this Canonical art?** This is canonical art since the message would want his art to be historically remembered centuries later. The character used portrays the grief that was felt by civilians during the ancient war which is a reminder to the people of their ancestors who suffered for them to enjoy the freedom they have at the moment. “The common factor in all art is the humanizing experience, artiste need other people to whom they can convey their perception of human reality.” (Sporre, 16).

**What was the work rating?** The work rating is 9 since the artist is able to illustrate his thoughts coherently.

**How can you rate the Experience?** The experience was emotional and heart-melting while watching the image. The rate for this was 9

**Aristotle’s Six Elements of Tragedy**

Plot: The painting is an illustration of successive stages that took place during the Spanish war.

Character: The character of the painting is a weeping woman who releases copious tears of the suffering she endures at the time. She plays a great role in portraying the message from the artist.

Thought/Ideas: The viewpoints of the art was that the civilians should stop suffering from war repercussions.

Spectacle: A manifestation of suffering is viewed from the image that makes the viewer sympathize with the weeping woman.

References

Sporre, D. J. (2003). The creative impulse. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.