



Comparative Study

In this comparative study I will be analysing the work of an international artist, Frida Kahlo, a Surreal artist. I will also be analysing the works of two local artist, Gertrude Abercrombie, and Fred Stonehouse. It will be looking at Swap Bucks by Fred Stonehouse, as well as Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo and Untitle-19 by Gertrude Abercrombie. In this study will be analysing formal qualities, for example the use line and color, composition, and cultural context. All three of these artists have had an influence on my work. Since they are different in many ways, in this comparative study will be discussed the influence it had within my artworks.

Cultural Context: Frida Kahlo



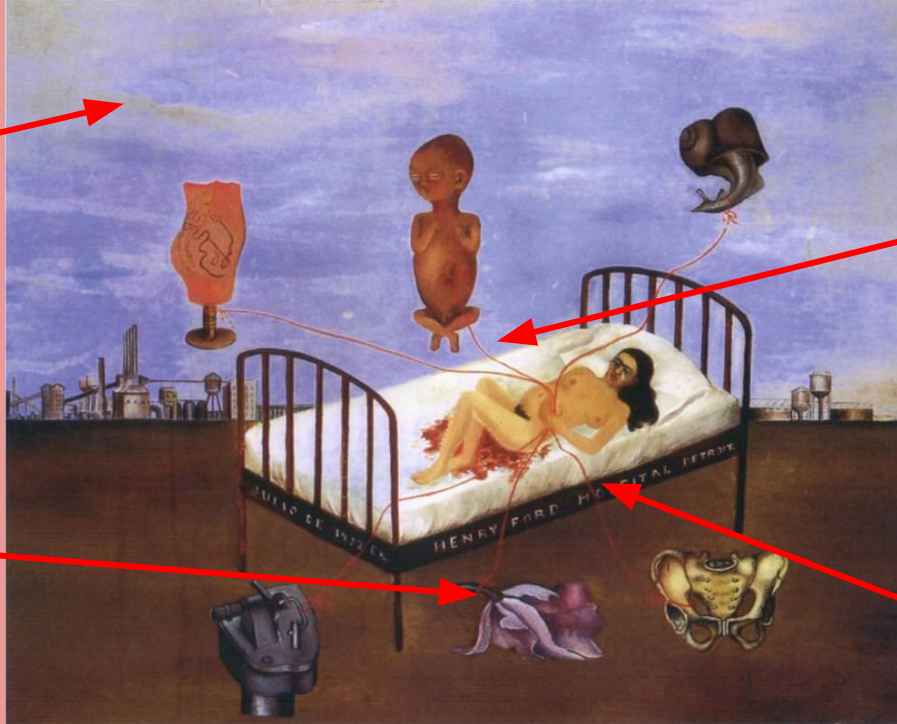
Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo

The 17th and 18th movement that was seen as a literal and an artistic movement which is known as the Surrealist movement. This movement was proposed to be an enlightenment which was influenced by the century. This particular movement would challenge both reason and individualism. Which would then dive in the the superior qualities of irrational and the unconscious mind. The basic goal of a surrealist artist would be to incorporate the human experience through the oppression boundaries of rationalism.

Frida Kahlo is a famous Mexican artist who got recognized for her self portrait, especially her self portrait that she created after her accident in the bus. In the year 1932 Frida Kahlo started to incorporate more surrealistic elements into her paintings. Then in 1932 she also created the painting Henry Ford Hospital. This painting was the first painting Frida had used sheet metal for support as well as where she incorporated surrealist elements. During the accident Diego Rivera wanted to help Frida Kahlo feel in a way better and so he then suggested to start painting on panels. Taking his advice she decided to paint but could not think of anything particular to paint so then Diego suggested to paint about what had happened in her lifetime. This painting mixed reality and fantasy and portrayed a straightforward message about what she had been through.

Analysis and formal qualities; Henry Ford Hospital

The sky has various tones of color this makes that viewer depict that time is passing by creating that feeling of remorse and pain. The stroke of the clouds also depicts that time is passing by.



The dead flower has a bright and low contrast giving it the feeling that she lost something precious.

The color of the baby is a brownish red which gives a death feeling because the baby also seems like it hasn't fully developed. Which would go back to the fact that she had a miscarriage. There is a string connected from the stomach to the embryo and also the baby showing the development of the baby.

The tear has a great contrast to the rest of Frida's naked body. This high contrast of the tear was manipulated to show that Frida did not want to lose her child.

Cultural Context



Untitled- 19 by Gertrude Abercrombie

Gertrude Abercrombie was born in 1909 in Austin, Texas. She is a surrealist artist that conjured a vivid imaginary, gothic view in her paintings. Her paintings contained a very flat figure and expansive landscapes, which would give a bright contrast to the sky. Untitled-19 by Gertrude Abercrombie was created in the year 1947. She was an American painter who spent most of her life in Chicago. Being called, “The queen of the bohemian artist”. Gertrude was involved a lot in the Jazz scene in Chicago since she had many musician friends, which this led to the inspiration of her own paintings.

Analysis of formal qualities; Untitled- 19

There is a great contrast between the black shadow and the lightness of the sky. This overall gives the piece more value.

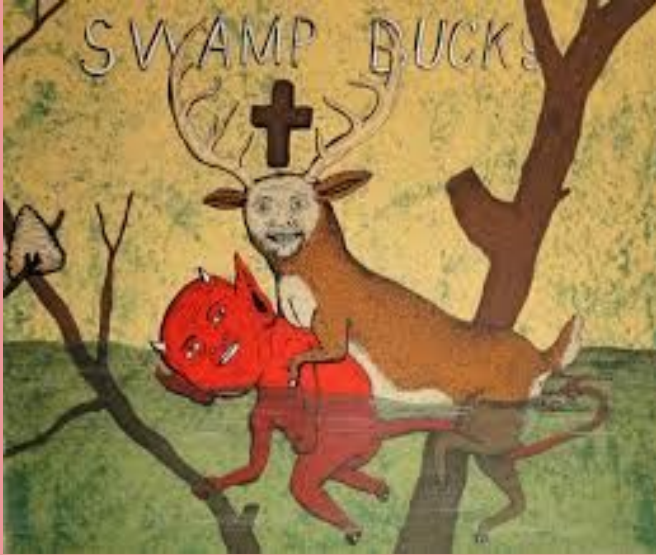


The line in this piece seems to be thin. They have a horizontal look to the type of line this artist used for the sky.

There is a certain balance in the piece in this case it would be the floor. At the beginning of the painting there is grass but towards the end there is less grass and more dirt.

This piece has an organic shape. Now this piece has a woman going toward a well.

Cultural context



Swamp Bucks by Fred Stonehouse

Fred Stonehouse was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Even though he was introduced to many movements of art he decided to stay with surrealism. He was able to get inspired by various movements which led to be able to find his own twist in art. His art would contain detail animal and human imagery in a flattened space. He would create paintings with dreamlike meanings to go along with the paintings also giving it humor and sadness within this complicated world. He had his first solo show in Chicago in the year 1982.

Analysis of formal qualities; Swamp Bucks

There is texture in the background of the piece creating the illusion of a more forest look. This is also because the texture is done with a green color.



Its a mixture of both a geometric and organic shape. This is due to the fact that it is a face of a man and the body of a deer. There is also a biblical feeling to it due to the cross on the top of the deer.

The color of the water is transparent giving it almost clean look, yet the color is green which is not complementing the idea of clean water.

In this section of the piece the red of the devil really pops out to the viewer and this contrasts from a blend background to something bright in the middle.

Comparing and contrasting; Frida Kahlo and Gertrude Abercrombie

When it comes to Frida Kahlo and Gertrude Abercrombie they share both artistic and personal similarities as well as differences. Some of the similarities of the two artist is that they are both surrealist painters. Considering the fact that they both paint within the surrealist movement they also both paint very dark theme paintings whose message can be straightforward or figurative.



Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo

Since both of the artist have similarities they also have differences. Some of the differences between the two of the artist is that Frida Kahlo was born in the year 1908 as for Gertrude Abercrombie she was born in the year 1909. Other differences between both of the artist is that Frida Kahlo is a Mexican artist as for Gertrude Abercrombie is an American artist. Both of the artist paint within the same surrealist movement but Frida Kahlo painted more about the tragedies about her life and Gertrude abercrombie painted more about sorcery.



Untitled- 19 by Gertrude Abercrombie

Comparing and contrasting; Formal qualities Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo and Untitled-19 by Gertrude Abercrombie



Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo

Frida Kahlo and Gertrude Abercrombie to a certain extent have similarities as well as differences. Some of these similarities within their formal qualities is that they both contain organic shapes. They also both add line strokes for the depiction of the sky. Both artists also have bright colored skies and dark floors.

They have similarities but they also have vast differences some of the differences are that Frida Kahlo has more of a realistic figure in her painting. Frida also had more of a blended look as well as there is more vibrant colors in the painting. With Gertrude Abercrombie she has more darker colors and hues. She also painted more sorcery and that is noticeable in this particular painting. As well as her palette seems to be repeated by this I mean that the colors are almost all the same.



Untitled- 19 by Gertrude Abercrombie

Compare and contrasting; Formal qualities Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo and Swamp Bucks by Fred Stonehouse



Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo

Frida Kahlo and Fred Stonehouse to a certain extent have similarities within both of their artworks. The main thing that they have in common is that they are surrealist artists. Another thing that their pieces have in common is that both of the pieces take place in water. They also both have organic faces and the texture of both of the pieces also seem to be similar.

The same way that they have similarities they also have differences. Some of these differences would be that Frida Kahlo has a warmer palette all throughout her painting. She also has a more organic figure and she also added way more color in her piece. Some of the differences with Fred Stonehouse would be that he has more texture in the background of his painting, he also has a more limited painting palette. He also uses more cool tone colors and he combines both geometric and organic shapes.



Swamp Buck by Fred Stonehouse

Compare and contrasting; Formal qualities Untitled-19 by Gertrude Abercrombie and Swamp Bucks by Fred Stonehouse



Untitled- 19 by Gertrude
Abercrombie

Gertrude Abercrombie and Fred Stonehouse to a certain extent have similarities. Some of those similarities would be that they both have a limited color palette. Another similarity would be that they have a mixture of organic and geometric shapes in their paintings. They are also similar in texture since they use thick brushstrokes.

Just like similarities both of the pieces also have vast differences. Some of these differences would be that Gertrude Abercrombie has more dark hues, she also contrasts more between dark and light colors. Gertrude also uses lines in the sky and in the ground. The differences with Fred Stonehouse would be that he uses more of a warm tone color palette. He also uses popping color for example the color red pops out a lot. As well as the texture of the painting seems different to Gertrude's painting.



Swamp Buck by Fred Stonehouse

Compare and contrasting; Significance

Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo and Untitled-19 by Gertrude Abercrombie



Untitled- 19 by Gertrude Abercrombie

Frida Kahlo and Gertrude Abercrombie to a certain extent have similarities as well as differences. Some of this similarities within their significance qualities is that they both contain a more sad message to their paintings. Another similarity would be that they deal with more serious issues that happened in their lives.

There are also vast differences within their significance in the paintings. Some of the differences are that Frida Kahlo deals with a miscarriage message in her painting. She interprets the pain of what a mother would have if they also went through a miscarriage. Another difference would also be the illusion lost within the piece. The differences in Gertrudes piece would be that her painting has a religious detail in the back, also its about sorcery. Another difference would be that her Gertrudes painting has a more scary scene to it.



Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo

Compare and contrasting; Significance Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo and Swamp Bucks by Fred Stonehouse



Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo

Fred Stonehouse and Frida Kahlo to a certain extent have similarities as well as differences. Some of this similarities within their significance qualities is that they both contain a dark look into their paintings. Another similarity would be that the have a dark message within their painting.

There are also vast differences within their significance in the paintings. Some of the differences are that Frida Kahlo deals with the illusion of grief and pain. She also shows herself crying over her child that she lost, and the main significance would be that it deals with a miscarriage. The difference with Fred Stonehouse would be that he has a more christianity look to it. Now this would be because he drew a devil in his painting. Another difference would be that it almost looks to be scary by the face of the man.



Swamp Buck by Fred Stonehouse

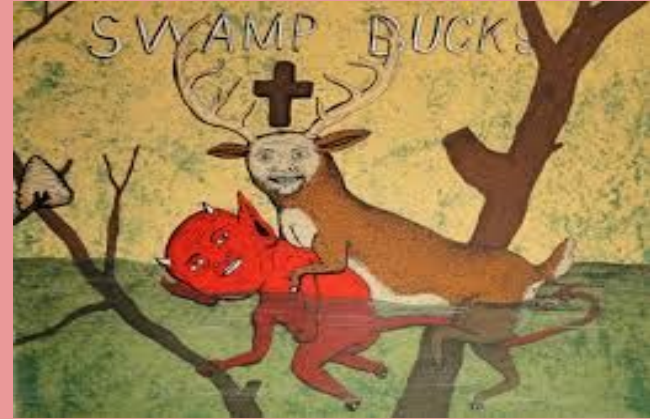
Compare and contrasting; Significance Untitled-19 by Gertrude Abercrombie and Swamp Bucks by Fred Stonehouse



Untitled- 19 by Gertrude
Abercrombie

Fred Stonehouse and Gertrude Abercrombie to a certain extent have similarities as well as differences. Some of this similarities within their significance qualities is that they both contain a religious figures in the back. Another similarity would be the depiction of a tragic event.

There are also vast differences within their significance in the paintings. Some of the differences are that Fred Stonehouse painting is a biblical symbol. Another difference would be that it has an evil message to it as well as the limited color palette. With Gertrude Abercrombie the differences would be that she has a religious figure in the back. Her painting is about sorcery as well as her painting has a dark meaning.



Swamp Buck by Fred Stonehouse

Connecting to my own work: Frida Kahlo



The Truth of Me by Mayra Torres



Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo

In *The Truth of Me* I was inspired by Frida Kahlo's *Self-Portrait*. I have always loved Frida Kahlo's work ever since I was little. My parents were the one to introduce me to her work. My parents are also big fans of her work, growing up with her presence around my house made me love her. Little by little she became part of me as well as being part of my culture. So I decided to include her in my portrait because I wanted people to know that she is part of me. With her self-portrait she uses a hummingbird as a sign of hope, which I also interpret it like that because I am wearing it all the time. I haven't lived a long time to experience grief, but I believe that even like that, using the hummingbird around me symbolizes that I will always find hope even in times where I believe like nothing is worth it.

Connecting to my own work: Frida Kahlo

I decided to add animals into this ainting since it is something that is commonly seen in her paintings.



The Truth of Me by Mayra Torres

The thorn around her neck also is a sad connotation bringing that sadness to the piece.

There is contrast between the light colors and the dark colors. This can be seen especially in the shirt as well as the butterflies.



Henry Ford Hospital by Frida Kahlo

Connecting to my own work: Gertrude Abercrombie



For my artist inspiration, I was inspired by Gertrude Abercrombie Untitle-19. I decided to use this to piece as an influence for my negative illustration. Due to the fact that I wanted to show how someone is can portray to be happy but in reality they are not. Some of the people we admire are going through the pressure of being this perfect model. Suffering shows the effects of anorexia it shows the pain they go through to be a certain way. In the painting Desires I used it as an inspiration because since my illustration is about a model they are always getting measured and fitted for their outfits. Yet big industries make one size so as a model you are suppose to maintain you weight at a minimum to be able to fit in the outfits the stylist have made.

Listen to Them by Mayra Torres

Connecting to my own work: Gertrude Abercrombie

In this painting there is no sky but I do have walls, and these walls I decided to have a mixture between color and dark color.



Listen to Them by Mayra Torres

The floor has almost like a brush stroke look to it as well as it is a dark brown color. I decided to incorporate this to reflect what Gertrude had done in her painting.

In this piece I also decided to include a woman she is the main focus in the painting. But she also resembles a dark connotation which in my painting is anorexia.



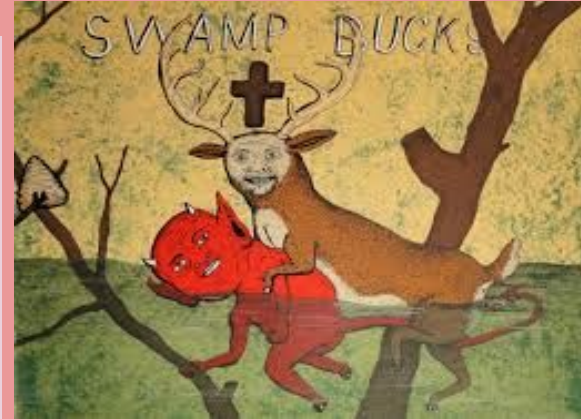
Untitled- 19 by Gertrude Abercrombie

Connecting to my own work: Fred Stonehouse



In my mixed media piece *Conquering* is a piece that displays what we have conquered in society and how far we have come. It also represents the self image of the people have been fighting along in the long battle of gender roles. This piece was heavily inspired by Fred Stonehouse. Since he would incorporate a lot of animal references to his paintings I decided to also do the same. In this piece I actually decided to make it come to life which is a mixed media piece. Incorporating other items in order to be able to create a meaning and message to my piece. I did not make it in a humorous message like he likes to do but I decided to make it in a more serious message in what is happening today in the world.

Conquering by Mayra Torres

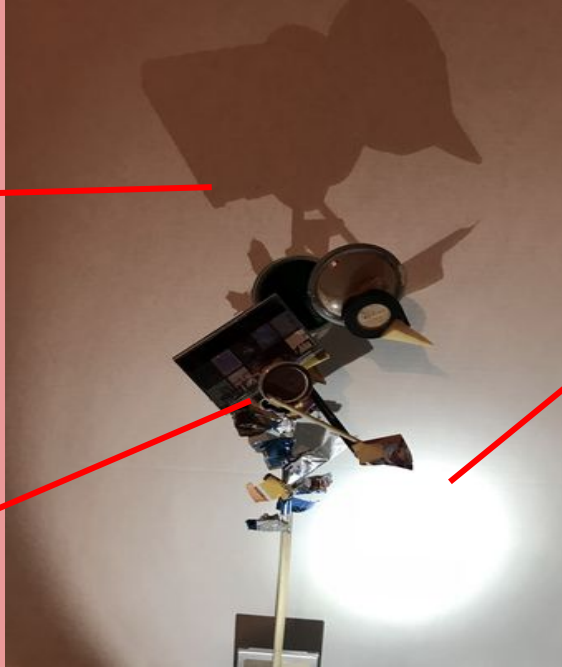


Swamp Buck by Fred Stonehouse

Connecting to my own work: Fred Stonehouse

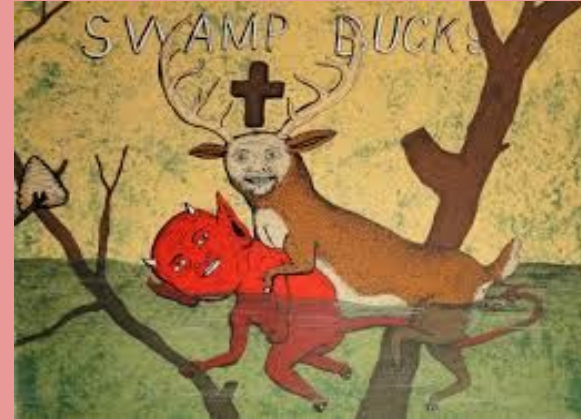
I used more of a serious intake for my piece in order to make a piece about a world issue. Which Fred did a lot of his paintings instead he would do a more humorous intake.

I also incorporated animalistic look in order to get my message across which is seen in a lot of his paintings.



Conquering by Mayra Torres

He does also include a lot of color in his paintings but because I was doing a sculpture I decided to include literal light to give it more depth to the piece.



Swamp Buck by Fred Stonehouse