

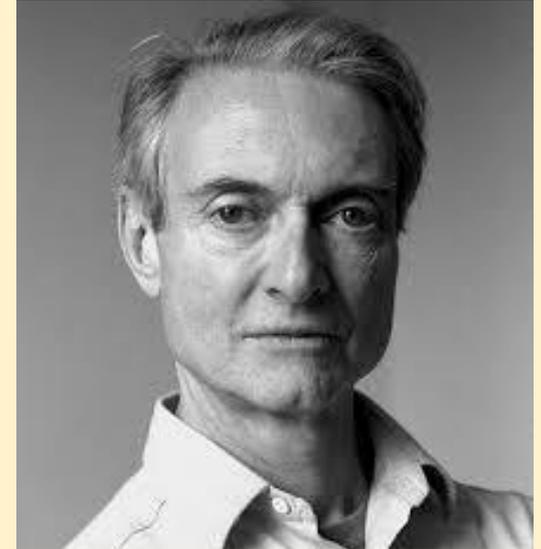
Comparative Study

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My comparative study focuses on analyzing both Melissa Lee Johnson as well as Roy Lichtenstein and a total of 3 artworks. Roy Lichtenstein is an artist from New York and Melissa Lee Johnson is a local artist from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The both artist and their works have similar and contrasting elements, that includes the time period, art movement significance of the piece/meaning for example the over exaggeration of love. I will be analysing artistic techniques including the use of color, line in both my artworks, Lichtensteins and Johnsons.

Evaluation Of Cultural Significance of Roy Lichtenstein:

Roy Lichtenstein was criticized by people that didn't really understand what pop art was which is a movement of art that's based on popular culture, the media. His art work was criticized several times due to people not really understanding the concept he was trying to portray in his art which was mostly an over exaggeration of love. In his early art work he ranged in style, he created artwork that seems to be influenced by comics, other artists like Van Gogh and created artwork that was influenced by subject matters like love. He demonstrated his understanding towards modern art and was considered America's first Pop Art artist. His technique involved stencils as well as the use of thick lines. Pop Art is a movement that represents the exaggeration of something, someone, or even a moment in someone's life. It is highly influenced by media and popular culture. Roy Lichtenstein uses Pop Art as a method of interpreting a situation, or someone in an exaggerating way using many components that makes pop art the art movement that it is such as color. Pop Art is well known for many things, one of them being the role that color has. Most Pop Art artists such as Lichtenstein use very bright color to emphasize the artwork, in Lichtenstein's case he uses primary colors.



Interpretation of Function and Purpose:

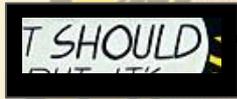
Annotation of “Hopeless” by Roy Lichtenstein

- Lichtenstein emphasized color in his piece. He uses bright colors (mostly primary colors in his pieces such as red, blue, yellow) that pops to the viewer's eye, and catches their attention of the piece. It also demonstrates a technique that Lichtenstein is well known for doing which is using primary colors in all of his pieces. It's also an example of the art movement and demonstrates how color has an impact on the overall work of an artist. Pop Art inspired paintings are known to have bright colors to emphasize the pieces meaning and emotion.
- In his artwork he also emphasizes emotion. In this painting he demonstrated emotion by the way he painted the girl's expression and the position of having her lay down. He created her with a sad expression, demonstrating tears in her eyes as well as demonstrating a puddle of her own tears.
- The fact that he created her laying down in her own puddle of tears can be the main contributor in how the viewer grasps the concept of emotion in this piece.



Interpretation of Function and Purpose:(Continued)

Annotation of "Hopeless" by Roy Lichtenstein



Lichtenstein also demonstrated emotion by adding words to his painting. He paints, "*That's the way it should have begun! but it's hopeless!*". Right away we notice that the text conveys a sad tone to the piece. It demonstrates a tone of hopelessness as well as sadness. This can be demonstrated in many ways:

- **Punctuation-** He uses exclamation points to exclaim emotion in the piece whether it be both anger or sadness.
- **Bolding words-** He bolded two words in the saying which give it emphasis. For example he bolded the word *Should* which can convey a sense of obligation or demand on something.
- Emotion conveyed over all is something that is really important in both Roy Lichtenstein's art and the Pop Art movement because it gives the piece a better sense of meaning and can have an impact on how the viewer analyzes the piece .

Interpretation of Function and Purpose:

Annotation of 'Drowning Girl' by Roy Lichtenstein

- Lichtenstein uses minimal color such as black, blue and grey. This is important because it sets how color is demonstrating emotion in this piece.
- The painting demonstrated the emphasize of emotion and exaggerating. It demonstrates the emotion the woman has, which is sadness. This can be demonstrated by the tears in her eyes as well as what she is saying in the work.
- The saying other than conveying emotion in this piece it can be demonstrating a theme of gender roles and how in social media and popular culture these days males are always seem to be rescuing females from a dangerous situation and how back then it was rare to see a woman stand up for themselves and protecting themselves without the help of a male.
- What Lichtenstein might of wanted to demonstrate was woman would prefer to "drown" than have a man save to stay away from society norms.



Lichtenstein, Roy. *Drowning Girl*. 1963. MoMA Learning. Web.

Interpretation of Function and Purpose: (Continue)

Annotation of 'Drowning Girl' by Roy Lichtenstein

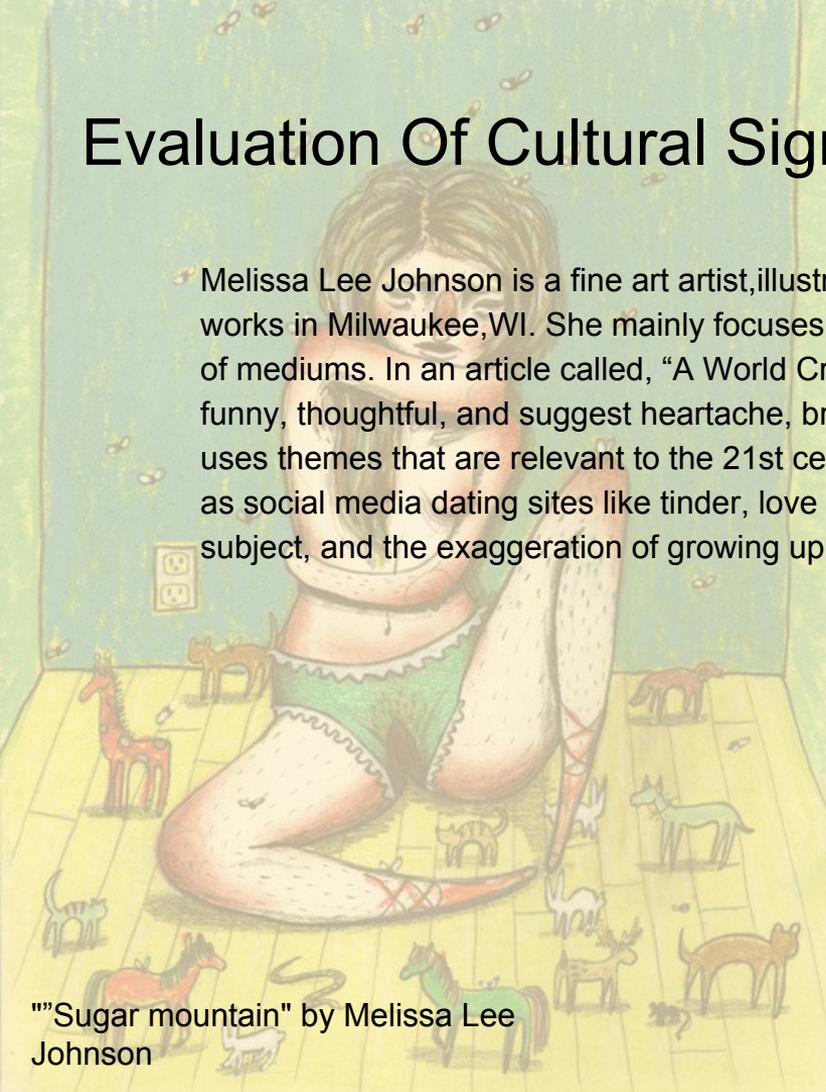
- Something else that is well demonstrated in Roy Lichtenstein's artworks especially in this one is the creation of movement in the piece. Movement can play a big role in an artist's works, because it is what guides the viewer's eyes across the piece. You can tell he creates movement in the waves. The waves help in a way guide the viewer's eye the woman no matter where you look first. The movement can have a great significance in this piece because it also guides the viewer's attention throughout the whole piece not just the woman's face.
- The way that Lichtenstein creates movement is by the repetition of lines, in many aspects of art line has large and important significance. In this artwork Lichtenstein used thick lines to also help convey movement. Line overall is well emphasized in this piece and in Pop art in general because it can give huge emphasis in many aspects the piece.



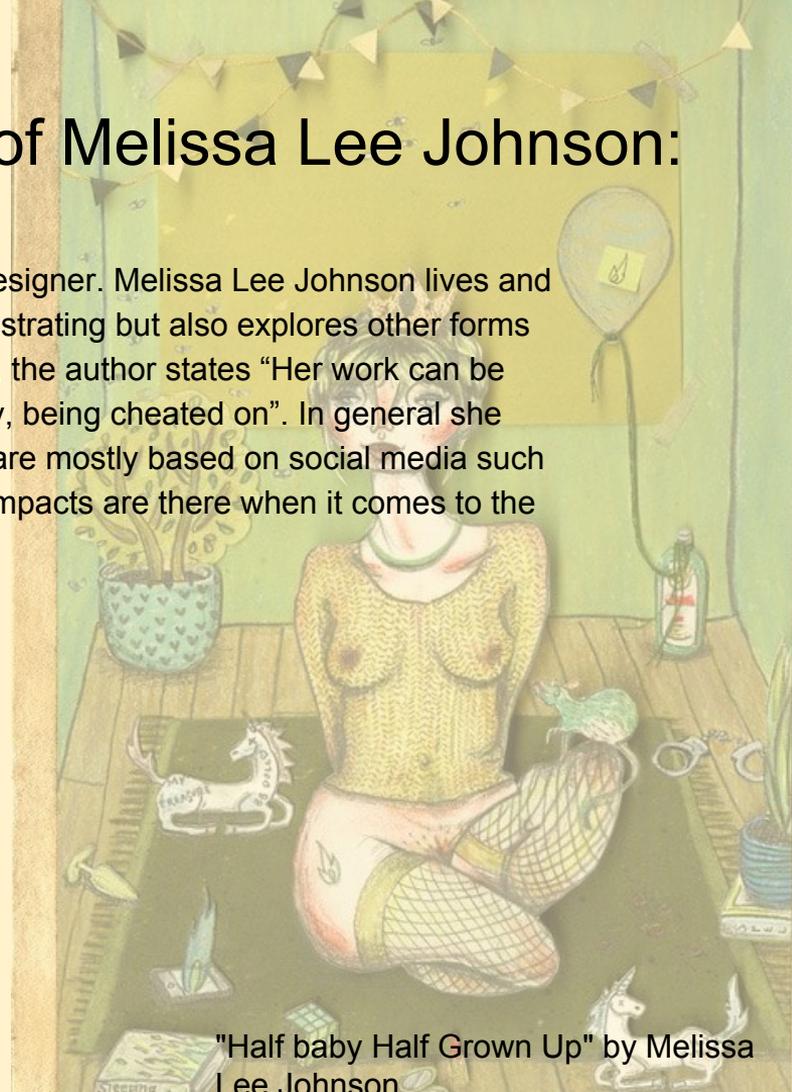
Lichtenstein, Roy. *Drowning Girl*. 1963. MoMA Learning. Web.

Evaluation Of Cultural Significance of Melissa Lee Johnson:

- Melissa Lee Johnson is a fine art artist,illustrator and graphic designer. Melissa Lee Johnson lives and works in Milwaukee,WI. She mainly focuses on drawing and illustrating but also explores other forms of mediums. In an article called, "A World Created By A Pencil", the author states "Her work can be funny, thoughtful, and suggest heartache, breaking up, jealousy, being cheated on". In general she uses themes that are relevant to the 21st century. Her themes are mostly based on social media such as social media dating sites like tinder, love and what modern impacts are there when it comes to the subject, and the exaggeration of growing up.



"Sugar Mountain" by Melissa Lee Johnson



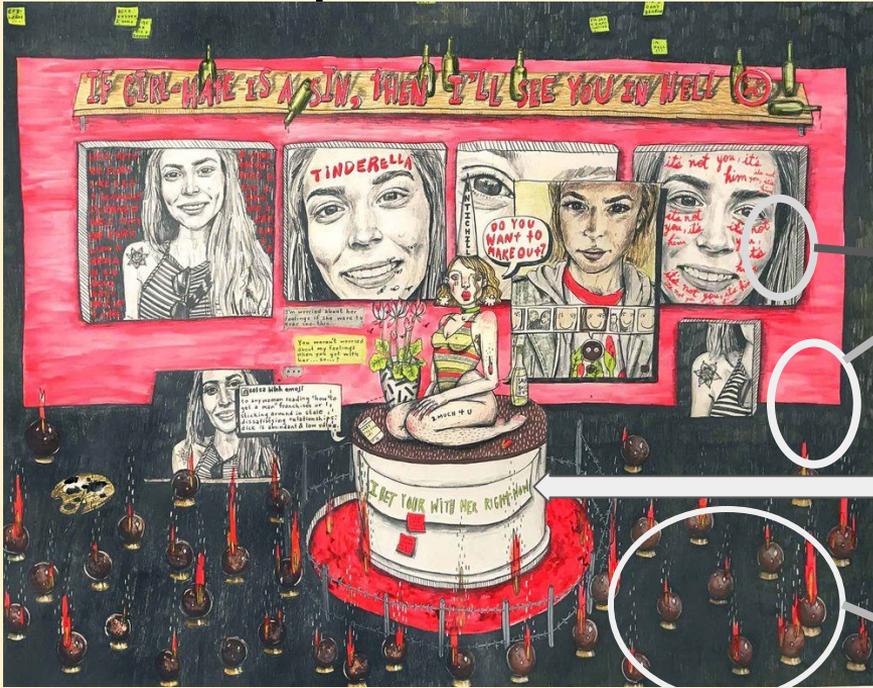
"Half baby Half Grown Up" by Melissa Lee Johnson

Interpretation of Function and Purpose:

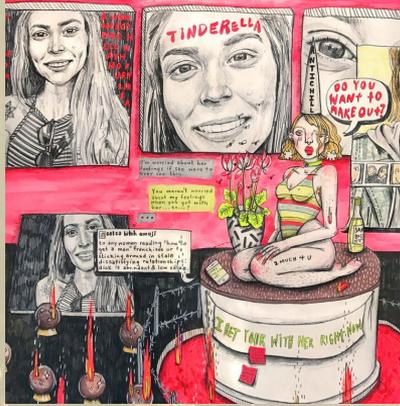
Annotation of “Tinderella” by Melissa Johnson.

- Most of her artwork including this one is inspired by graphic novels.
- Created using Chalk pastel, Pencil and Color pencils.
- The use of pencil helps create texture for example in the walls as well as in the floor. Another place where you can see how texture is created is where she used pencil in creating the hair.
- Her lines done by pencil are thin and neatly done.
- Johnson uses different kinds of symbols in her work, for example the island that seems to be isolating her and keeping her from leaving which represents online dating can at times take over teenagers/ young adults lives. It's an overall chaotic piece. She uses repetition of certain objects such as what seems to be bowling balls on fire, and having multiple places in where the view can focus their eye on.

“Tinderella” by Melissa Lee Johnson.



Analysis of Formal Qualities of Melissa Lee Johnson:



- Overall Melissa Lee Johnson has multiple meanings to her pieces such as love, effects on social media and social media dating, as well as societies views on a woman.
- She Uses symbolism such as the bowling balls on fire the girl being trapped in the middle. She also as well as text
- She uses text to emphasize emotion and help conclude a meaning to the piece
- Her artwork is also very chaotic and she focuses a lot on 21st century themes of love and mostly 21st century love and how teens now of days exaggerate situations alot more .

“Tinderella” by Melissa Lee Johnson.

Comparing Artistic Style:

- Roy Lichtenstein and Melissa Lee Johnson were both influenced by the look of comic books which lead to their artworks resembling a comic book.
- Both artist use text in their artwork for emphasis. Whether it be to express emotion or to demonstrate a common theme like the ideas of love.
- Both artist have similar themes of heartbreak. Although demonstrated in way different ways they both demonstrate emotion on the causes of heart break as well as, for example in *Tinderella* on what can lead to heartbreak.
- The use of line has a great impact on the piece as well it creates movements and texture. Both pieces are really composed of lines that can create texture and shape in the piece and can contribute to where the viewer's eye travels around the work.

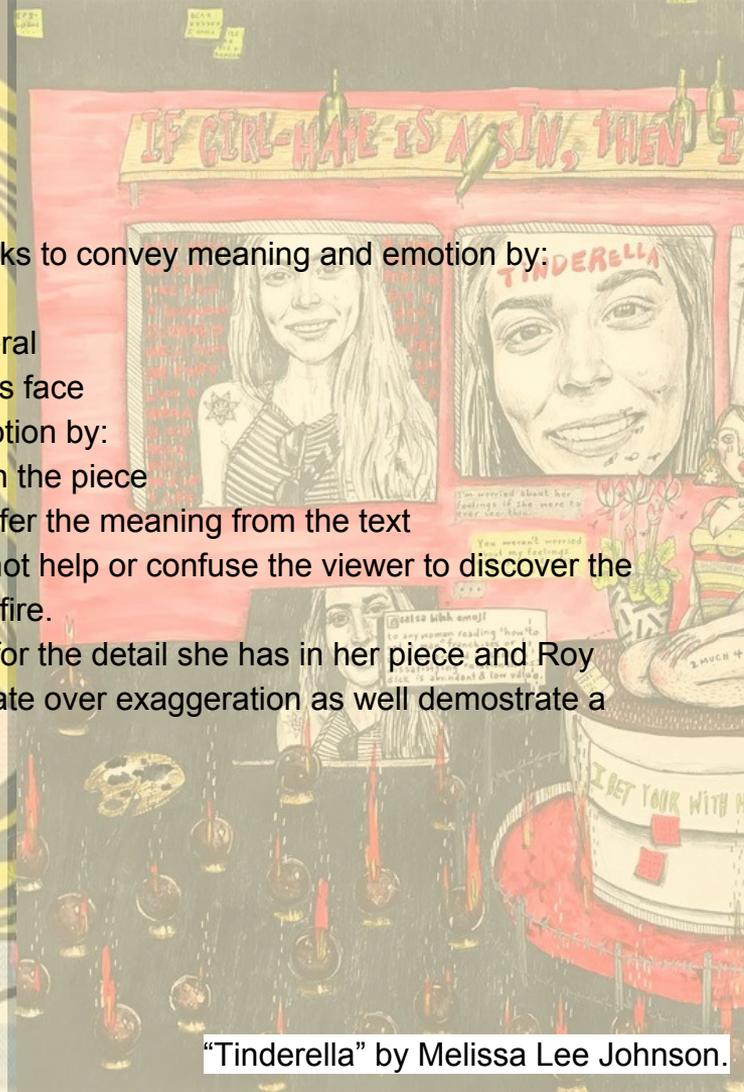
Lichtenstein, Roy. *Drowning Girl*. 1963. MoMA Learning. Web.

Lichtenstein, Roy. *Hopeless*. 1963. Wikiart.org.

"Tinderella" by Melissa Lee Johnson.

Contrasting Artistic Styles:

- Roy Lichtenstein takes more of a dramatic approach in both his art works to convey meaning and emotion by:
 - Creating Puddles of tears
 - Punctuation in the text demonstrated and the text in general
 - The straightforward emotion demonstrated in the women's face
- Johnson takes a more chaotic and difficult to convey meaning and emotion by:
 - Having a repetition of multiple objects or just one object in the piece
 - Making text really small which makes it difficult to try to infer the meaning from the text
 - Incorporating multiple symbolisms in the piece that may not help or confuse the viewer to discover the actual meaning of the piece such as the bowling balls on fire.
- Melissa Lee Johnson's work is a composed of thin lines that are great for the detail she has in her piece and Roy Lichtenstein uses really thick and dark lines that are great to demonstrate over exaggeration as well demonstrate a great example the Pop Art movement he was apart of.



Lichtenstein, Roy. *Drowning Girl*. 1963. MoMA Learning. Web.

Lichtenstein, Roy. *Hopeless*. 1963. Wikiart.org.

"Tinderella" by Melissa Lee Johnson.

Comparing the use of emotion:



"Tinderella" by Melissa Lee Johnson.



Lichtenstein, Roy. *Drowning Girl*. 1963. MoMA Learning. Web.



Lichtenstein, Roy. *Hopeless*. 1963. Wikiart.org. Web.

- Roy Lichtenstein and Melissa Lee Johnson use text to express emotion in their piece by:
 - The both use terms that can be relevant to the emotion for example, *Hopelessness*.
- Both focus a theme like heartbreak to express emotion
- Both mostly focus on the sad parts of life in their artworks
- They both use facial expressions to demonstrate the emotions surrounding the piece. They use facial expressions of sadness to convey that emotion to the person viewing the pieces.

Contrasting the use of emotion:



"Tinderella" by Melissa Lee Johnson.



Lichtenstein, Roy. *Drowning Girl*. 1963. MoMA Learning. Web.

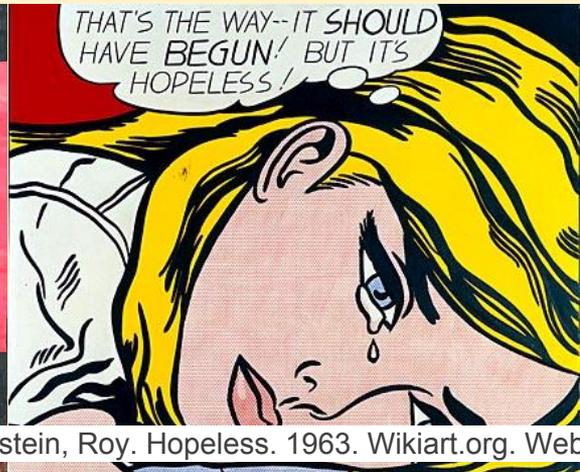


Lichtenstein, Roy. *Hopeless*. 1963. Wikiart.org. Web.

- Emotion is mostly a given in Lichtenstein's work; it is demonstrated more straightforwardly than Johnson's. She would most of the time have the viewer analyze components of the piece such as words to see what emotion the piece conveys.
- Lichtenstein is more straightforward in demonstrating emotion; he uses facial expressions and body language to express the emotion. Both of his artworks above demonstrate sadness, and we can infer that due to the tears in the lady's eyes.
- The way that both artists demonstrate emotion is in a way a representation of the time period and events happening.

Overview Analysis of both Roy Lichtenstein and Melissa Lee Johnson

Both artists have pieces that are influenced by different art movements. They both focus on the topics such as love, and heartbreak. Lichtenstein and Johnson were both influenced by comics/graphic novels which is demonstrated in the aesthetic of the work. Although both use color in their art works, Roy Lichtenstein uses color to demonstrate emotion more than Johnson. The use of line has great significance on both artists, Lichtenstein uses line to create movement and the thickness of the line represents the influence Pop Art had on both the artist and their art works. Johnson uses line in her work to create texture and uses thin lines to achieve this.



Lichtenstein, Roy. *Drowning Girl*. 1963. MoMA Learning. Web.

"Tinderella" by Melissa Lee Johnson.

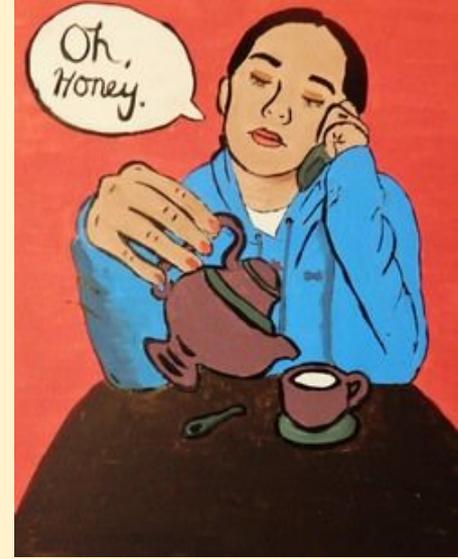
Lichtenstein, Roy. *Hopeless*. 1963. Wikiart.org. Web.

Formal Introduction to Own Work:

“Oh, Honey”, is inspired by Roy Lichtenstein



“Oh, Honey” is inspired by Roy Lichtenstein, the pop art movement, and a song my 15 year old cousin wrote. This piece was created using acrylic paint and canvas board. It was mainly inspired by my cousin song, she's 15 and her song talks about heartbreak and I choose Roy Lichtenstein and pop art to also inspire my piece because both the artist and the movement exaggerated emotion, color and much more. I wanted to demonstrate the idea of young love and the exaggeration of heartbreak.



“Finsta”, is inspired by Melissa Lee Johnson

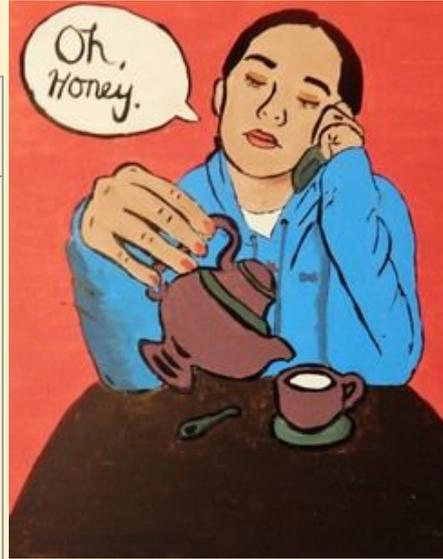


-This artwork was inspired by Melissa Lee Johnson and one of her art works called “Tinderella”. The piece is a combination of pencil, color pencil, pen and watercolor similarly to my artist inspirations work. She uses a combination of different mediums some including pencil and color pencil. This piece is a representation of teenager and how they are chained to social media, for this piece as decided to concentrate on Instagram. I choose Instagram because it seems that many millennials are into sharing their life through



Comparing and Contrasting Own Artistic Styles to Roy Lichtenstein:

<u>Compare</u>	<u>Contrast</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → The idea of over exaggeration is demonstrated in body language → The use of speech bubble to incorporate a sense of emotion → The movement used is pop art → Facial expression demonstrates emotion in both piece → Line, in both my art and Lichtenstein's the use of thick lines is incorporated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → The use of color. (Lichtenstein uses primary colors in his piece and I choose to use warm colors because I felt it fit with the emotion I was trying to convey) → The feeling conveyed from each artwork differs. Lichtenstein conveys more of a dramatic feeling → I consider that my artwork has symbolism and Lichtenstein doesn't. My symbolism in the idea of her pouring the tea which for teen it means spilling drama or gossip



Comparing and Contrasting Own Artistic Style to Melissa Lee Johnson:



Compare

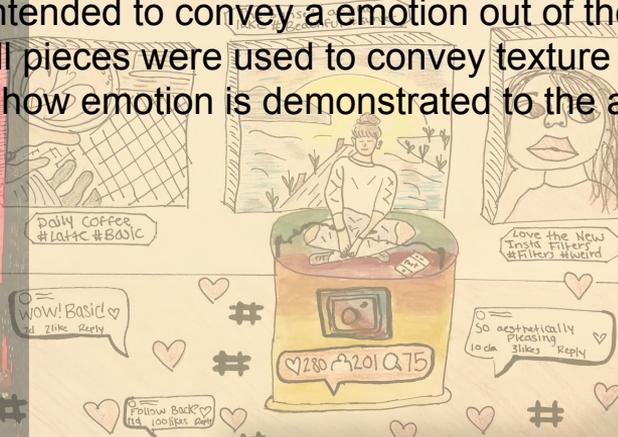
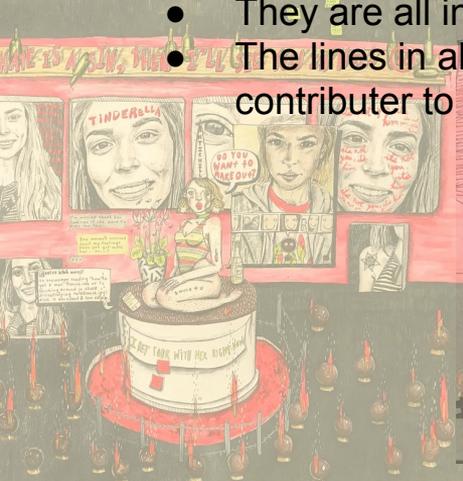
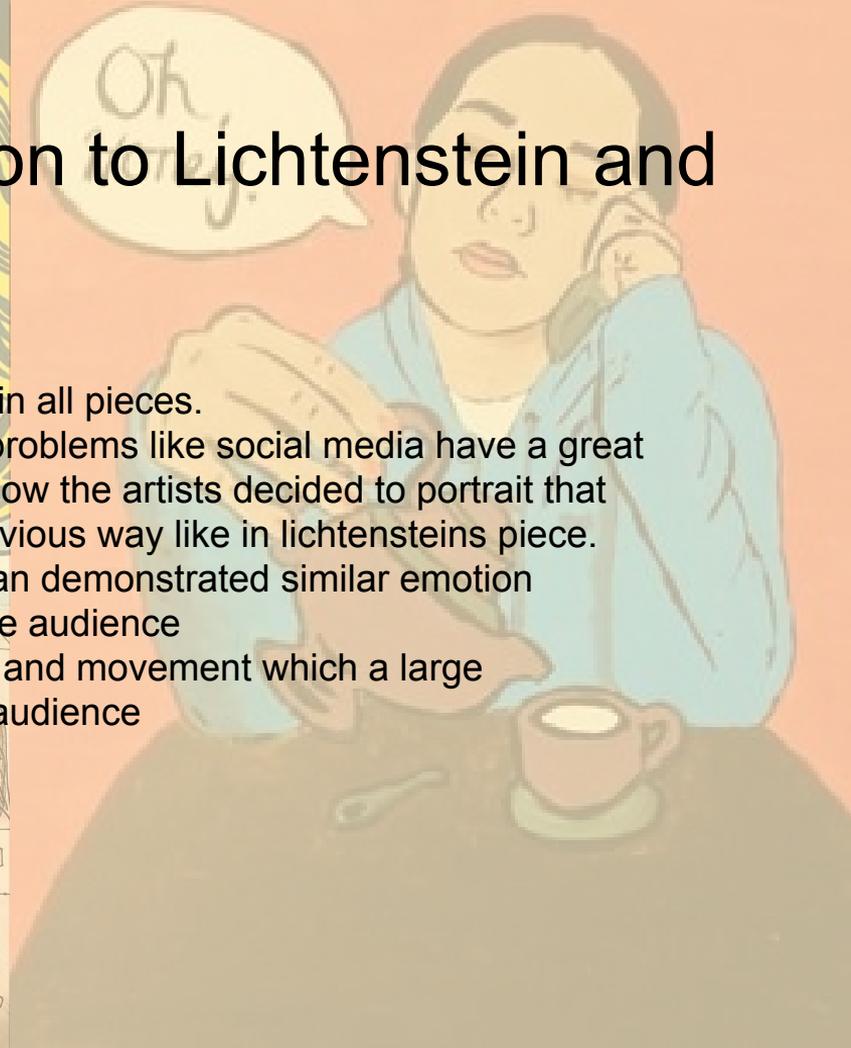
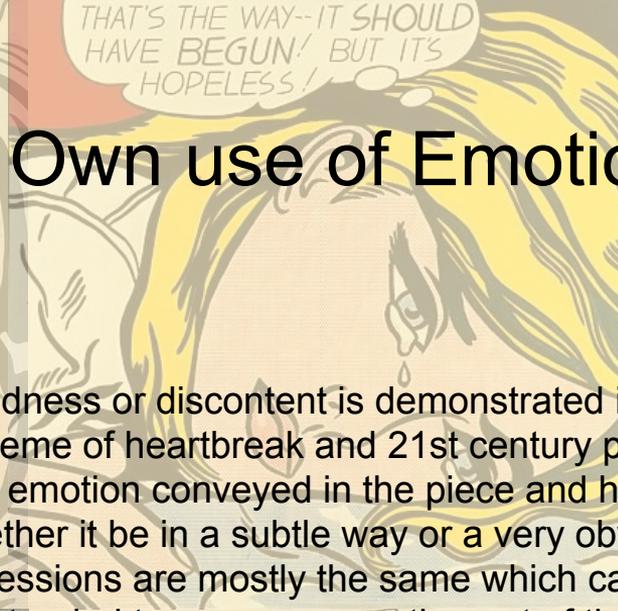
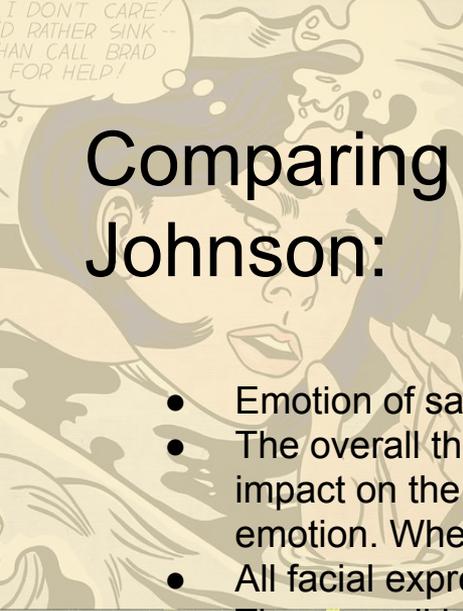
- Both focused on a 21st century theme which was social media
- Used mostly all the same materials to create this like pencil, pen, color pencil.
- The placement of the person is the same
- The use of repetition (I repeated the hearts and hashtags and she repeated the bowling balls on fire.)
- The use of text in both pieces
- Both are trapped

Contrast

- Color (I used a more light color palette and he used two colors which are black and black. I also have more color in my piece)
- Her piece seems to be more chaotic than mine
- My text is easier to read
- My lines are much thicker than hers
- My piece was based on instagram because teens now of days are so obsessed with the idea to share mostly everything in such an aesthetic way. She did tinder.
- My Girl is chained to the platform hers is “caged”

Comparing Own use of Emotion to Lichtenstein and Johnson:

- Emotion of sadness or discontent is demonstrated in all pieces.
- The overall theme of heartbreak and 21st century problems like social media have a great impact on the emotion conveyed in the piece and how the artists decided to portrait that emotion. Whether it be in a subtle way or a very obvious way like in lichtensteins piece.
- All facial expressions are mostly the same which can demonstrated similar emotion
- They are all intended to convey a emotion out of the audience
- The lines in all pieces were used to convey texture and movement which a large contributor to how emotion is demonstrated to the audience



Contrasting Own use of Emotion to Lichtenstein and Johnson:

- Emotion of sadness can immediately be demonstrated in Lichtensteins work than any other work.
- I would consider that symbolism has a role in emotion conveyed in my piece “Oh, honey” as well as in “Tinderella”
- The boldness of the lines in Roy Lichtensteins work and my piece “Oh,honey” send a different sense of emotion than Johnsons piece and “Finsta”. Emotion with the thicker lines is given more straightforward because thicker lines are bold they have a stronger connection to the emotion that the artist is trying to convey.

