

Creative Curiosity

Hugo Domingo
(Hugh Clayton)

Intro: Who am I?

My name is Hugo Domingo AKA Hugh Clayton I am a 22-year-old British contemporary visual artist currently in my 2nd year of Fine Art at University of Brighton. I have created many different artworks and experimented with styles while being an artist. I have composed, Greek mythical drawings and paintings, large scale colorful psychedelic abstract paintings, abstract sculptures and wooden collages in the past. I will leave some of some of my past work



What is this project about?

For this project I will be researching into my favorite art genre, abstraction, more specifically I will be focusing on abstract painting. I will be researching into some of my favorite abstract artists and composing experimental creative responses to each artist. These will be smallish rough experimental pieces that are of a similar style to the artist I am responding to. This will lead up to my final piece which will be a large-scale piece responding to every artist mentioned in this project so I will be combining all styles into the final piece.

What is abstract art?

Abstract art uses shapes colours, forms and lines to create a composition that's usually does not depict anything realistic or suppose to look like anything. Abstraction focuses on the formal qualities rather than the subject matter of the artwork. For an abstract painting its all about the colours and shapes you use, where you place them and how they relate to each other on the canvas and what makes it a fine piece of work. Its more about

appreciating the aesthetic of the work and also finding a meaning in it. Abstract work is very ambiguous because many different people can interpret the same abstract piece but find a different meaning, feeling or purpose for that composition. This is what makes abstract art rather mysterious and spiritual if you ask me.

Many people do not understand abstract art, many people I know for example just say they dont get it or dont understand it but that is kind of the whole point. I think that is what separates it from most other art genres such as, realism, impressionism etc. I feel like abstract work is more intellectually stimulating compared to realism and impressionism because like i said, abstract work is mysterious, playful and expressive where as realism is just an artist copying a photo like a robot in a way, there is not much creativity there. Impressionism on the other hand i do appreciate because shares the same rules as abstract art in the way that you appreciate the colours and style of the work it is without a doubt

Examples of old abstract art.



Jackson Pollock
Untitled, CR1095
(after painting Number
22, CR344), 1951
Screenprint
23 × 24 in
58.4 × 61 cm
1964



Mark Rothko

b. 1903, Dvinsk, Russia; d.
1970, New York

Untitled (Black on Gray)

Date

1969-70

Medium

Acrylic on canvas

80 1/8 x 69 1/8 inches (203.3 x
175.5 cm)

Credit Line

Solomon R. Guggenheim
Museum, New York Gift, The
Mark Rothko Foundation, Inc.,
1986



Kazimir Malevich

Black Square

1915

Suprematism

canvas, tempera

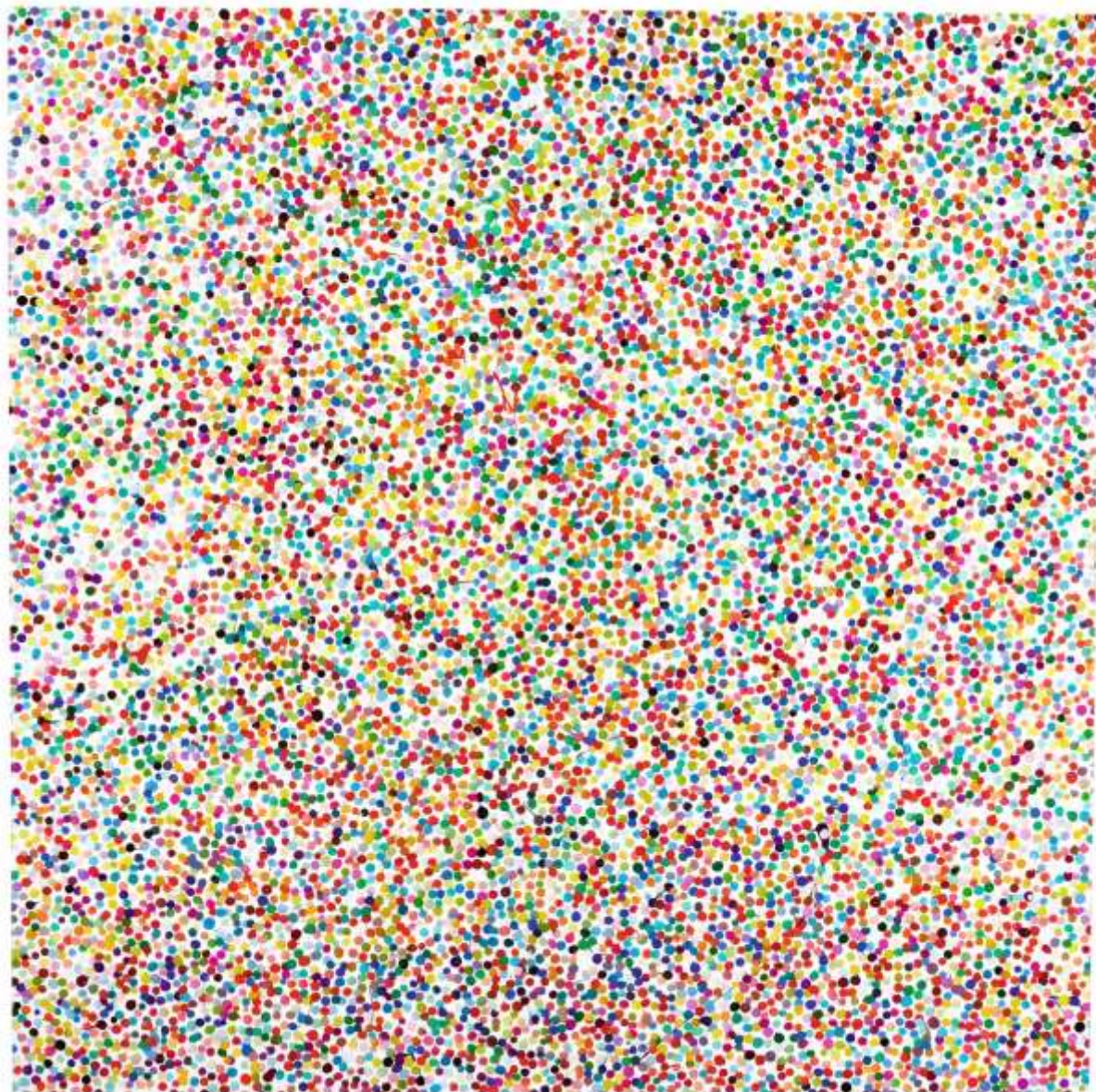
Tretyakov Gallery,
Moscow, Russia

106 x 106 cm

Examples of contemporary abstract art.



Frank Stella
Moksha (Singapore II),
1995
Miami Beach 2018
Marianne Boesky Gallery
Mixed Media
Paper collage
Artwork size
210.8 x 315.0 (cm)
83.0 x 124.0 (inch)



Damien Hirst
H5-1 Gritti
Giclee
Signed print
2018
89 cm x 89 cm



Cody Hudson
Pondering the
Forces that Shaped
the Planet (Folk
Medicine), 2020
Acrylic on Linen
24 × 18 × 2 in
61 × 45.7 × 5.1 cm

My 4 favorite abstract artists who I will be researching in this project will be Else Alfelts, Wassily Kandinsky, KAWS, and Franz Ackerman. I will be creating a respond or take some inspiration into my projectwork from these artists.

Examples for 2 of my favorite older abstract artists who I will be researching.

1. Else Alfelt
Kandinsky



2. Wassily



Examples for 2 of my favorite coteremporary abstract artists.

3. KAWS
Franz Ackerman



4.



1. Else Alfelt



Stjernetåger
Else Alfelt
Date: 1964
Oil on canvas



Points Reaching for the Sky
Else Alfelt
Oil on canvas

Else Alfelt born on 16th September 1910, was a Danish abstract painter known as one of the two female members on the CoBrA movement, the CoBrA movement is a Avante Garde movement that was active from 1948 to 1951. I feel that most paintings in this movement are abstract, vibrant, colourful and expressive. Observing styles from the CoBrA movement i would even say much of the work looks somewhat childish which is not a bad thing if you ask me. I can see that many artists have used their playful side and not neglected they're inner child when painting. As for Alfelt's work I feel her work is not childish because the use of colour is more organized and repetitive which gives it a more mature edge on most artists in the CoBrA movement.

I feel her work is much like some of my own in the way that we both use stubbornly cut ridged triangular shapes and spikes in our work. I just paint these shapes spontaneously because i like how harsh,

Here are my creative responses to Alfelt's work. These are both expressing charcoal abstract compositions on A3 paper.



2. Wassily Kandinsky



In the Blue
1925
Expressionism



Yellow-Red-Blue
1925
Expressionism

Wassily Kandinsky was a Russian abstract painter and is known by many as one of the pioneers of abstraction in art history. I have always been fond of Kandinskys work due to the similarities I share with the artists creatively. We both have a similar style in terms of colour, shape, playfulness and spontaneity in our paintings. I feel like when I paint with the mentality of doodling my work always end up looking like Kandinsky's. When I just paint subconsciously and enjoy going for it and taking that bold creative risk, I feel confident and sophisticated as an abstract artist because Kandinsky and many other abstract painters have used this method for creating impressive work. So I feel Kandinsky has really helped me to just do it and overthink about the outcome which is also very good advice for life not just art

Here are my creative responses to Kandinsky. These are A3 sketchbook acrylic and watercolour paintings.



3. KAWS



Armed Away
2016
Oil on canvas



Untitled (MBFT3),
2015
Acrylic on canvas
58 1/10 × 48 in
147.5 × 122 cm

Brian Donnelly aka KAWS is known for his work as a painter, product designer, toy maker and sculptor. His iconic street art aesthetic, powerful sculptors and abstract paintings are very recognizable and iconic. But I will be focusing specifically on KAWS's paintings in this project. The paintings are usually large scale and have large flat pure colours and shapes which are beautifully balanced and sophisticated, and people respond to them so much because we don't get this in nature, its something we depend on art to get. I am going to use some of KAWS's painting styles some of my own paintings for this project.

This is the process of my creative response to KAWS. Here I have used acrylic paint and Posca pens create a striking bursts of color



This is the outcome of my creative response to KAWS. I have concentrated carefully to paint these spikey ridged shapes with precision and accuracy.



4. Franz Ackerman



Facijs
Center, 2016
Oil on
canvas
82 7/10 × 63
in
210 × 160
cm



Valley, 2017
Oil on canvas
70 9/10 × 82 7/10 in
180 × 210 cm

Franz Ackerman is a German painter based in Berlin who specializes in cartoonish abstraction. Ackerman is probably my favorite contemporary artist at the moment and has been for almost two years now. Ackerman's large scale psychedelic paintings and collages are not only aesthetically gratifying to me but also have played a massive part in my creative transformation. Due to Ackerman's influence on my work my new main art style is usually vibrant, trippy, abstract and fluorescent, especially my paintings.

I find Ackerman's work quite ambiguous because it seems hard to grasp a purpose or meaning to this style of painting. There's so much going on, there's small shapes, large shapes, fluorescent colours, photography, snippets of city's, there's many different materials used like cut out pieces of wood and sometimes souvenirs from his travel and tourism around the globe. I love how he has modernized psychedelic art by applying abstraction to it but also has rationalized the meaning behind the work by making it about travel rather than having a typically spiritual or obviously drug influenced purpose. I am not saying trippy spiritual art is bad by any means. I love it. I am spiritual myself, but I do admire

This is the process for my creative response to Franz Ackerman.



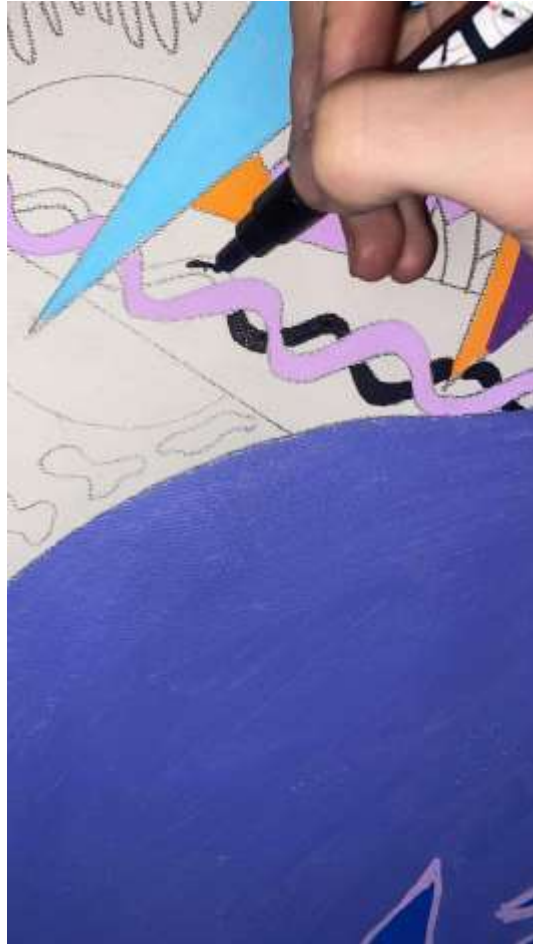
Franz Ackerman creative response outcome.

I feel I have taken much inspiration from Ackerman's work due to his use of florescent colours and overfilling yet satisfying to observe, abstract shapes and forms. I also have remained individual with my creativity and made sure this piece represents my unique personal style rather than just copying another





Now for my final piece I will create a large-scale painting using acrylic paint and Posca pen on canvas. This painting will be a creative response to all 4 artists I have mentioned. These artists are, Else Alfelt, Wassily Kandinsky, KAWS and Franz Ackerman.



For the process of this painting, I bought a large canvas and started drawing large abstract shapes, lines and separations in the canvas. I then went on to draw more details repetitive patterns in certain parts of the canvas.



Final piece: "Spikedelic"
142cm x 97cm
Acrylic and Posca pen on
canvas

Spikedelic is a large-scale psychedelic abstraction painting inspired by artists such as Else Alfelt because of the spikey triangular shapes, Wassily Kandinsky because of the spontaneous use of abstract shapes. It is also relevant to KAWS and Franz Ackerman due to the fluorescent large-scale cartoonish forms, vivid use of colour and high contrast. It's a real clash of the generations!



Reflective statement

This project is called “Abstraction” in this project I have researched into abstract art and given my opinion and answer to what I think it is. I have also researched into many different abstract artists and their work. I have taken inspiration from these artists and implemented much of their style and technique into all the paintings I have made for this project. In this project I have experimented with charcoal, acrylic paint and Posca pens all to develop my creative style in a different way for each painting to help me adapt and become more versatile as an artist. This creative method of experimentation had helped me to be more flexible as an artist and relate to the processes of my favorite artists and know what they go through when painting in their specific style. I feel this project has gone well and successful in terms of how much time and effort I have spent on the paintings especially the final piece which took a good three weeks to paint. I am satisfied with the outcome of all my practical work especially considering this is all separate from my studio work and none of the facilities were used for this project because I just focused on painting and produced most of it in my hometown over Christmas time and new years while looking after my dad. I enjoyed working on this project and putting it together however I feel like for the next project I would like to be more experimental and open to