

The Artist Statement

Definition

An artist's statement is a short document written by the artist which provides a window into the artist's world. It offers insight into a single piece or an entire body of work and by describing the artist's creative process, philosophy, vision, and passion. It enlightens and engages while at the same time giving the audience the freedom to draw their own conclusions. An artist's statement reads easily, is informative, and adds to the understanding of the artist.

EBSQ - How to Write an Artist's Statement by: Melissa Wotherspoon

What to include

- Elements and principles of art/design/photography- see handout at beginning of the semester
- Your inspiration(s)- who, what and where?
- Your creative process: positive and constructive-problems and successes
- Medium(s) you used- the good and the bad
- Final thoughts- you like it, you don't ...
- Next steps- what would you do if you started over? What would you do to improve it?

Resources

- Criticism sheet from class handouts – Critique sheet (Describe, Analyze, Interpret, Judge)
- Elements and Principles of Design/ Art - handout

Links

- <http://photo-musings.blogspot.com/2006/10/artists-statements.html>
- <http://www.mollygordon.com/resources/marketingresources/artstatemt/>
- <http://painting.about.com/cs/careerdevelopment/a/statementartist.htm>
- <http://www.squidoo.com/artist-statement#module15692652>
- <http://artistemerging.blogspot.com/2006/08/writing-artists-statement.html>

Examples

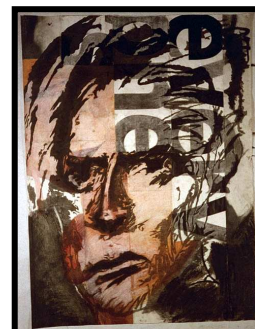
Self-Portrait 7

Claude Moller

Mixed Media 65" x 48" 1993

People think it looks like George Bush. This is the second self portrait. Pain, hurt, anxiety. Angst ridden. Same technique of working with an image from scratch. Some things that work well on paper don't come across so well blown up. The portraits have become melodramatic and trite. I have drawn on profound spaces of pain and sorrow. I end up looking at my face in the mirror for hours. Meaning changes with scale. Something got lost.

<http://www.warui.com/stefan/claude/index.html>



Do you see what I see?

I want the viewer to draw their own conclusions on how and what they see.

A very simple statement to make, however there was intent on my part. I have always been the constant observer, the people watcher and the spectator. As long as I can remember, I have vivid memories of observing others and their actions. I have always felt like I am outside of myself hovering freely and observing the world around me. Capturing what I see comes naturally because I have always felt more comfortable seeing than being.

In this exhibition, I have included my favourite shots of my experience in New York City. However brief my time was in NYC, I felt as though I captured a real glimpse into the everyday events as well as the tourist environment which suffocates the city. I used some post editing processes to reflect the vibrancy and the constant motion of this city that rarely if ever shuts down.

Lori Thibault

Cityscapes: NYC

