

Salvador Dalí, *The Burning Giraffe*, 1937, Oil Painting, 35cm x 27cm

Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7cm x 12.7cm

Salvador Dalí, *The Face of War*, 1940, Oil Painting, 100cm x 79cm



Comparative Study of Salvador Dali and Cristina Ossers

Karen Gonzalez

This comparative study will focus on comparing and contrasting the works of Salvador Dalí and local Milwaukee, Wisconsin artist Cristina Ossers. The study will consist of analysing the formal qualities, cultural context, and purpose of Salvador Dalí's *The Burning Giraffe* and *The Face of War* along with *Blind Spot* by Cristina Ossers. Formal qualities such as **hue**, **balance**, **repetition**, and **movement** will be explored as well as the artists' overlapping themes of struggle and vulnerability. Furthermore, there will be explanation for how their lives have affected their work and the purpose for specific features included in their artwork

Formal Qualities in *The Burning Giraffe* by Salvador Dalí

Form is used to create the human body through the use of **value**. Highlights are seen in areas that are more exposed while shadows are prevalent in areas that are concave. The small waist, arms, frame, and breast show that the body belongs to a female and help depict the fact that it is meant to represent oneself.

Repetition is seen in the drawers. Both **shape** and **hue** is consistent throughout the leg and chest area. Because yellow, burnt sienna, and tuscan red are constantly being used in the arms, head, feet, and drawers, there is a **balance** created between the figure and the abundant use of blue. The bright **hues contrast** against the dark **hues** which help **emphasize** its purpose; one's subconscious.

Areas that are lighter in **hue** serve as a way to catch one's attention. The **contrast** created by the dark and light colors draw viewers' attention. Causing the exploration of the **space** in the background and the overall piece.



Salvador Dalí, *The Burning Giraffe*, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm

The painting only has a small amount of figures and objects in the back which help create a triangular **movement**. The body and giraffe fit into what the

triangle covers, thus the viewers eyes will travel in that motion. Because that is what the eyes are drawn to, most of the area that is outside of the triangular outline will be ignored. For instance, although the arms are extended out, they will not receive as much attention, **emphasizing** the drawers and small details in the bodies.

The crutches located in the back were painted with dark **hues repeatedly** in order to evoke a sad feeling. The **repetition** of the crutches was painted in such way that makes the body look supported or held up. By doing this Dalí was able to portray support and strength that isn't always visible.



Analysis of Significance in *The Burning Giraffe* by Salvador Dalí

Drawers have been painted in the chest and leg area to represent one's subconscious or inner state of being. Because drawers can be opened and closed easily, they show a sensitive side to the figure, considering they can represent one's secrets. Open drawers illustrate exposed secrets, thus, they create an uneasy and anxious feeling.

Arms have been painted outwards, symbolizing caution and warning. One hand has slightly been bent in an upwards position cautioning others of the ongoing event. On the contrary, the other hand is positioned more relaxed and is reaching out for help, causing a feeling of anxiety and anguish.

A giraffe in flames is in the background as a representation of war. The connotation for fire is pain and death. In order to set an uncomfortable mood, the flames carry very warm **hues** that **contrast** against the abundant use of blues.

The bottom of the figure drags to the back showing attachment to the ground. This shows one not being able to move. Junction represents one unable to help during the war, and also the love that one had for their hometown, causing a feeling of distress.



Salvador Dalí, *The Burning Giraffe*, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm

Dalí used the human **form** in his painting as a way to represent those that took part in the tragic event, but also indicates that the figure symbolises himself. As a way to make the viewer feel vulnerable, the body was painted with a very small frame. The body is of a thin female to show the weak side of Dalí as well as show solidarity.

Crutches are used **repeatedly** to hold the body in place, representing support. The centered figure has a very small amount of crutches compared to the body that is in the background. This makes the viewers feel uneasy and vulnerable because this element gives the impression of strength. The figure meant to represent oneself brings out Dalí's true feelings: desperation and hopelessness.

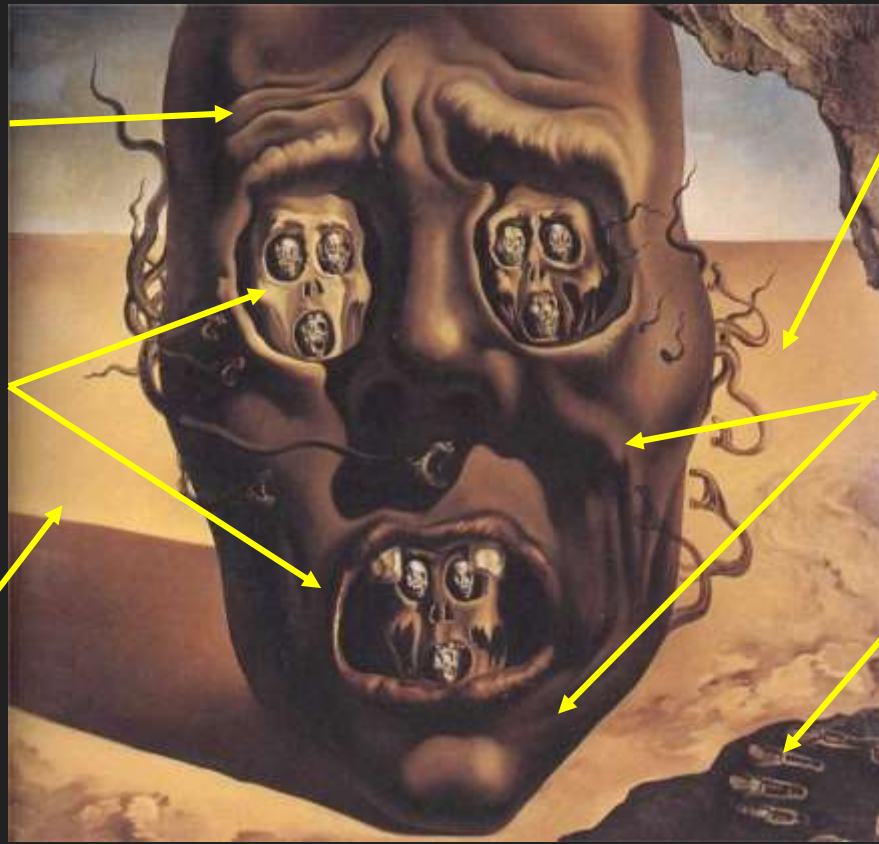
Because blue is linked to sadness, this **hue** is abundant in the painting to evoke a sorrowful feeling. Black is also often used in the body to add shaded regions, but holds a meaning of death and grief since it is dragged to the sky and background of the painting. This not only makes one uncomfortable but conveys fear that is felt from those that are present in war.

Formal Qualities in *The Face of War* by Salvador Dalí

Lines of expression used in the face of the man are curved. They are prevalent in the forehead and cheeks to emphasize the feeling of sorrow. The thickness of the **lines** highlight those areas and the idea of pain built up.

Repetition of the head is seen in the eye and mouth area. The head is reproduced several times to **emphasize** the theme of death. **Unity** is created through the use of **hue** as well as the constant **repetition** of heads in the mouth and eye area. **Hue** used in the smaller heads are lighter in **value** to make recognizable to the viewers and to stress the idea of death.

Space in the back is empty. A desert like background was made with only the shadow of the head to help depict loneliness. The **texture** set in the space around the head is smooth and dry, giving it a representation of dirt and smoke to show the destruction caused from war.



Neutral **hues** such as brown, tan and white are constantly used in the painting. Being the least appealing and favored by the public, they were used to show the ugly side of war. Dalí used these specific **colors** as a representation of dirt and destruction rendering a sense of melancholy.

Value was added in the face to give the piece a realistic look as well as to help the viewers see the reality of the event that was occurring.

Contrast in color is seen in the handprint that was made which draws the viewer's attention and helps uncover the theme. The **space** in the background is almost consistent with the use of **colors** except the bottom right corner. That region has a very dark and almost solid **hue**. The handprint that Dalí has put in the corner has been put deep enough to reveal a lighter area and show his deep concern.

Salvador Dalí, *The Face of War*, 1940, Oil Painting, 100 cm x 79 cm

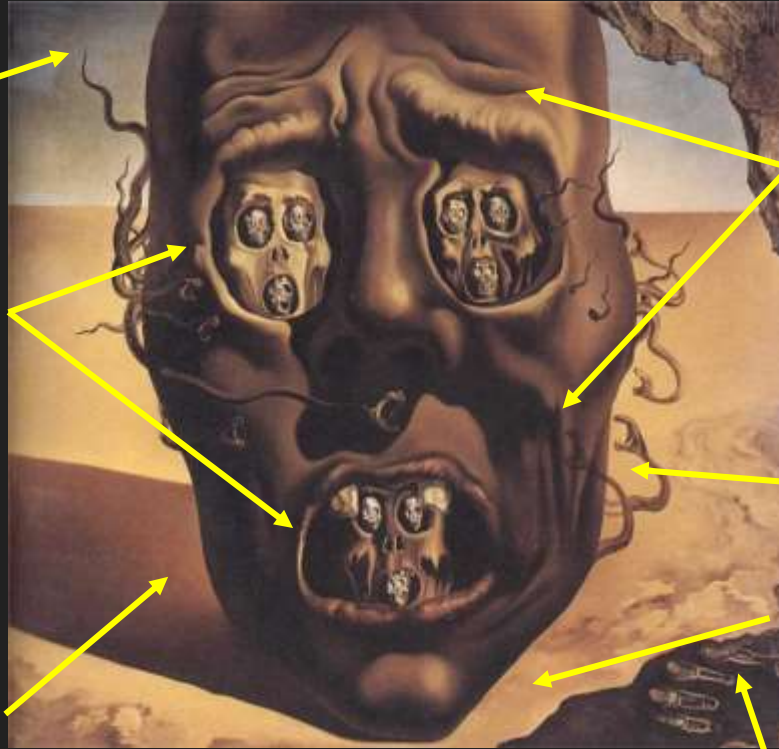
Analysis of Significance in *The Face of War* by Salvador Dalí

The sky is light, yet the **hues** that are being used are very dull and neutral showing a horrible day and creating a sad feeling in the viewers.

Smaller versions of the head are placed inside the eyes and mouth to show that war is the only thing that is seen and spoken of. Because the image is **repeated**, a sense of a never ending war is depicted. The **repetition** of the heads in the eyes and mouth has the **form** of a human skull to depict death. Not only does it represent those who have already died, but it also speaks for those who will experience difficulty trying to survive the aftermath of war.

There is only one shadow created and the background is an empty desert, giving the sense of loneliness and silence as well as the aftermath of war.

In addition, the shadow that is created by the head extends to the left but because it is very long, it is cut off the painting. In this case the shadow shows that the people who were affected by war are now afraid of the world. The length of the shadow makes them feel very small and vulnerable adding to the fear they have.



Salvador Dalí, *The Face of War*, 1940, Oil Painting,
100 cm × 79 cm

The **lines** of expression that are seen are meant to portray sorrow. They are abundant in the areas of the cheeks and forehead to show the pain that the person is going through. The **lines** that are in the forehead indicate worry and stress while the **lines** in the cheeks symbolize a hard life. **Lines** of expression are said to be created when a person constantly makes certain gestures. Dalí has **emphasized** these **lines** to illustrate the pain and suffering of the people experiencing war.

Serpents are seen penetrating through the man's face on both the left and right side which convey one constantly getting hurt. Because serpents symbolize one encountering difficult or dangerous situations the theme of war is **emphasized** as well as the emotionally and physically pain.

The piece shows a head with no body, depicting vulnerability and the difficulty that one has to defend themselves during the war. Furthermore, because there is no body, the head itself conveys the high mortality rates.

The bottom right corner shows Salvador Dalí's hand print which was done to show solidarity. He has included his hand print as a gesture of friendship and support

Cultural Context of Salvador Dalí's Work



Salvador Dalí, The Burning Giraffe, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm

Born in Figueres, Spain, Salvador Dalí was a famous painter known for his Surrealist paintings. Throughout his childhood Dalí did not have the best experiences. Dalí encountered several tragedies and had a hard life growing up. Dalí loved to daydream and then recreate those dreams in forms of art. He later on developed Surrealism techniques that were used in his dream like artworks. In 1934 Dalí was expelled from the Surrealist movement, yet he continued to make artworks that followed the Surrealist movement.

“Surrealism is destructive, but it destroys only what is considered to be shackles limiting our vision” -Salvador Dalí

“Those who do not want to imitate anything, produce nothing” -Salvador Dalí

During the years 1936 and 1939 the Spanish Civil War was taking place, causing Dalí to react to this event through his art. This led to the creation of *The Burning Giraffe* in the year 1937. As a reaction to war, Dalí created an oil painting that depicted the feelings that people had during this time period. In the other hand *The Face of War* was created during the year 1941. His piece was created to show the aftermath of war as well as the amount of pain that was caused.



Salvador Dalí, The Face of War, 1940, Oil Painting, 100 cm x 79 cm



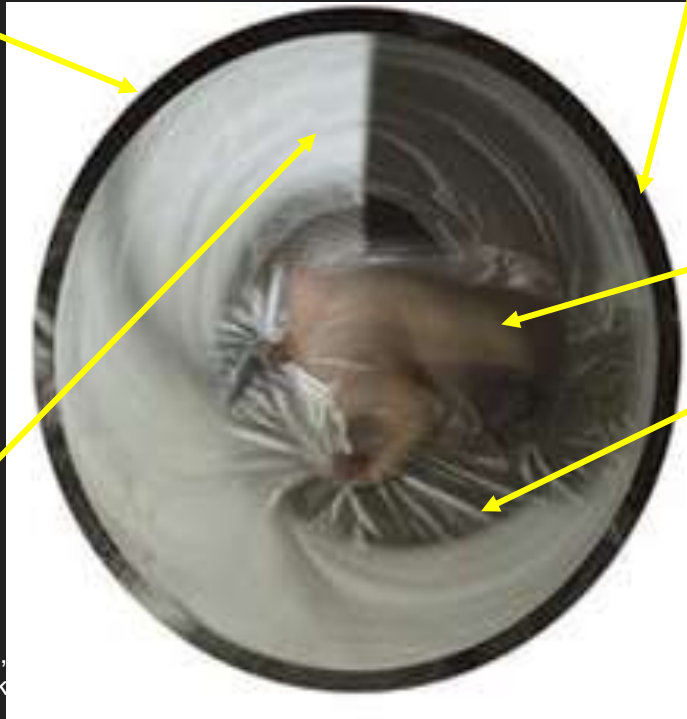
Formal Qualities in *Blind Spot* by Cristina Ossers

Contrast is created in the outer **line** causing the viewer to bring their focus to the figure inside. The **space** is empty to highlight the centered body. She is the subject but is found nude and hiding, which creates a feeling of concern. A thick line is outlining the area in where she is located to reassure her that she is protected making the viewers feel at ease.



There is asymmetrical **balance** shown through **color**, making the artwork pleasing to the eye while evoking a feeling of comfort.

The balance created through the use of **color** is because of the browns and white showing great contrast. Because the neutral **hue** that is used is slightly more intense compared to the other **colors**, white was dragged down to balance out the artwork. Both of these **hues** are still prevalent in the opposite side since creases show areas of similar shade. Overall, this conveys her theme of mixed emotions and not knowing how to feel or react



Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 × 12.7

The **shape** of a circle is created around the artwork to show **unity**, focus, and an unbroken **line**. The **line** of the circle that surrounds her is very thick to show a strong barrier. The barrier evokes a feeling of security and calmness as one feels protected.

Form and **value** shown in the piece creates the image of the human body. Although not completely defined it looks confined as though the person is embarrassed, sad, or scared making one feel vulnerable.

Repetition of folds in the bed sheet are created for **movement**. In order to keep consistent, a thick outline has been made on the piece. The viewers eyes start at the center near the body and work their way around toward the outside of the artwork following through in a circular motion causing the exploration of the entire piece.

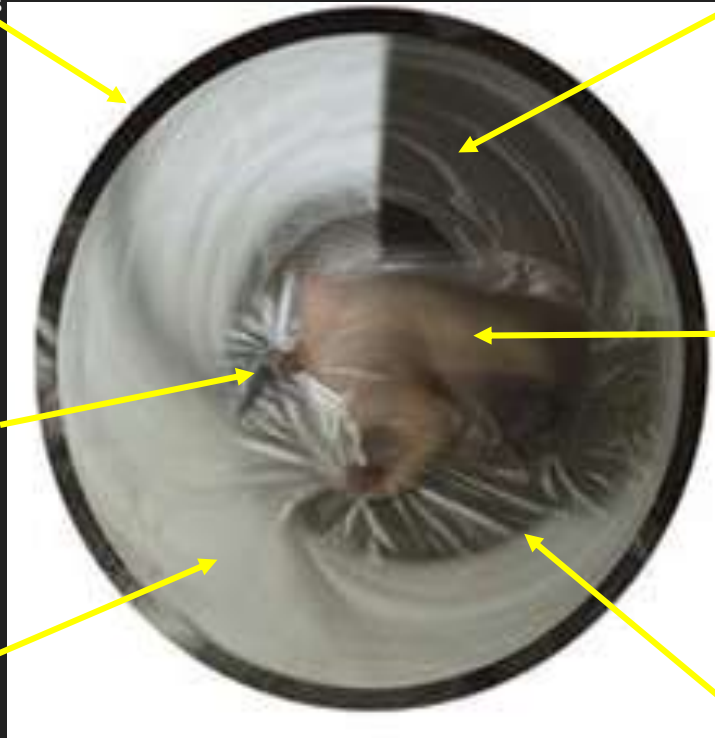
The **texture** created from the bed sheet is smooth towards the edge but the center has creases that create **rhythm** in the artwork. The **rhythm** created by the creases make the artwork flow and imply movement making the viewers feel slight discomfort.

Analysis of Significance in *Blind Spot* by Cristina Ossers

The **contrast** that is created by the outer layer is added to make the piece look less majestic and more down to earth. Because the artwork was made as a reaction to physical abuse it is not meant to be portrayed as something beautiful. Instead, the addition of the thick **line** has made the figure the focus point.

The body is centered in a bed sheet, where nothing else surrounds her to represent an environment in where one is not judged. This helps convey one's personal space and comfort. The bed sheet also symbolises exhaustion and personal issues. The bed linens are what depict the feelings of the artist's friend. It depicts the fact that she is tired of the pain and suffering as she grasps on to them with a feeling of stress and anger.

Hues are neutral to enhance one's natural environment. The white linen sheets have changed in hue because the darker shades have been dragged over. Because white represents clarity, it is evident that the artist's friend is attempting to create a new beginning. The bed sheets are stained now to convey the burden that she had been carrying all along.



Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

The swirl effect seen in the artwork serves as a representation of reflection (flashback) and confusion. Cristina shows her reflection on the event that occurred as well as the great confusion she had because she didn't know how to react or feel about the situation. Hardly speaking out or commenting on negative events only caused her to have mixed emotions, which can be shown in the mixture of colors.

The nude body is used to give the impression of vulnerability as well as to represent oneself. Because the head is hidden in the bed sheets the viewers can sense her insecurity evoking a similar feeling.

The photographed image was taken from a high perspective to indicate fear because of a larger figure. The body is then shown scared and in hiding adding to the symbolism of vulnerability. The overall interpretation of perspective illustrates the problem that Cristina's friend encountered.

A bed sheet is used instead of an actual bed, symbolizing detachment and indifference as a result of the event.

Cultural Context of Cristina Ossers' Work



Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*, 2017, Photo Based
Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

Born and raised in Whitewater, Wisconsin, Cristina Ossers is a local artist that mainly works with digital mediums. Coming from mid-western culture, she is not accustomed to talking about anything that is seen or interpreted as negative. Lacking the ambiguous language has influenced her artwork. Her work tends to be more simplistic and subtle while still conveying themes that she holds close to her. Cristina focuses on expressing her thoughts on the idea of human condition and identity. She is part of the LGBTQ+ community and is hispanic, thus she tends to speak out through her art for the underrepresented groups. Because she is part of those considered as minorities she has become exposed to hatred and comments from others who share different opinions. Not only does she speak out for her concerns, but she also speaks out for others in similar situations and it is evident in her work.

In the year of 2017, Cristina explains that one of her close friends went through a traumatic event. Her friend had been experiencing physical harm in the fall of that year. Being told later on, Cristina created an artwork as a reaction to the event that reflected the feelings of her friend and herself through symbolism.

The digital collage, *Blind Spot*, depicts vulnerability and reflection from both persons in the story, yet it also portrays feelings such as ease, comfort, and indifference relating back to the time when the story was shared.

Comparing & Contrasting Salvador Dali and Cristina Ossers

Salvador Dali



Salvador Dalí, The Burning Giraffe, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm



Salvador Dalí, The Face of War, 1940, Oil Painting, 100 cm x 79 cm

- Born in Figueres, Spain
- Lived during 1904-1989
- Did not experience but lived during the Spanish Civil War
- Both artworks made are oil paintings

Cristina Ossers



Cristina Ossers, Blind Spot, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

- Born in Whitewater, Wisconsin
- Born in the 20th century
- Born in Whitewater but moved to Milwaukee Wisconsin
- Artwork made is a photo based digital collage

Similarities

- Create artwork as a reaction to events that occur in their life
- Have similar backgrounds
 - Dali: From Spain
 - Cristina: Dad is Dominican
- Their works show dream like aspects

Comparing & Contrasting Formal Qualities

The Burning Giraffe by Salvador Dali and *Blind Spot* by Cristina Ossers

Salvador Dali's *The Burning Giraffe*



Salvador Dalí, *The Burning Giraffe*, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm

- Bright hues used to emphasize burning giraffe and drawers in body
- Shows a triangular movement to draw viewers around the painting
- Emphasis added through the addition of crutches
- Blue and black are used instead of neutral hues creating a sad feeling

Cristina Ossers' *Blind Spot*



Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

- Asymmetrical balance shown
- Contrast in outer line of piece to draw the viewers eyes to the center of the piece
- Space left empty in background making the body the focus of the piece
- Neutral hues are shown

Similarities

- The human body can be seen
- The figure is centered to bring focus to piece
- Repetition is used to add balance and movement to the work

Comparing & Contrasting Formal Qualities

The Face of War by Salvador Dali and *Blind Spot* by Cristina Ossers

Salvador Dali's *The Face of War*



Salvador Dalí, *The Face of War*, 1940, Oil
Painting, 100 cm x 79
cm

- Emphasis is added to the face making it the focus of the piece
- Instead of an entire body a head is used
- Value is added for a realistic look, both literally and metaphorically (realistic head/reality of war)

Cristina Ossers' *Blind Spot*



Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*,
2017, Photo Based Digital
Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

- Asymmetrical balance shown
- Full human body is used to help carry out theme of vulnerability
- Contrast is used in the border of work to create a less majestic piece while bringing the focus to the body inside

Similarities

- Centered body and head
- Space is left empty in background
- Repetition is used to create a balance in the piece
- Neutral colors are used throughout the artworks

Comparing & Contrasting Significance

The Burning Giraffe by Salvador Dali and *Blind Spot* by Cristina Ossers

Salvador Dali's *The Burning Giraffe*



Salvador Dalí, *The Burning Giraffe*, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm

- Burning Giraffe symbolizes war and sets an uncomfortable mood
- Attachment of feet used to symbolize distress
- Crutches are used to represent support and strength
- Dark hues are used to convey a feeling of sorrow

Cristina Ossers' *Blind Spot*



Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

- Contrast used to make the piece look more simple as well as to highlight the subject
- Natural hues are used to enhance a more natural environment
- High perspective adds vulnerability
- Bed sheet used to show detachment and indifference

Similarities

- The human body is used in the artworks to help represent feelings that one has
- Dream like aspects are used in their pieces
- *The Burning Giraffe*: uses unrealistic things such as drawers in the body
- *Blind Spot*: uses a swirl like effect to create a sense of reflection

Comparing & Contrasting Significance

The Face of War by Salvador Dali and *Blind Spot* by Cristina Ossers

Salvador Dali's *The Face of War*



Salvador Dalí, *The Face of War*, 1940, Oil Painting, 100 cm x 79 cm

- Repetition used to show a never ending war and constant suffering
- Only one shadow is seen depicting loneliness
- Snakes attached to the head help symbolize the amount of pain caused

Cristina Ossers' *Blind Spot*



Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

- Contrast helps show a less majestic piece and highlight the subject
- Swirl life effect is added to create a dream like effect reflection
- Body is on top of a bed sheet to show indifference and detachment

Similarities

- Vulnerability is depicted in their work
- Neutral hues are used to help depict the theme
- To represent oneself

Comparing & Contrasting Significance

The Face of War and the Burning Giraffe by Salvador Dali

Salvador Dali's *The Face of War*



Salvador Dalí, *The Face of War*, 1940, Oil Painting, 100 cm x 79 cm

- Repetition of the face is used to show a never ending situation
- Background is empty showing loneliness and aftermath of war
- Serpent's show the fact that they are constantly being hurt
- Handprint is used to show solidarity

Salvador Dali's *The Burning Giraffe*



Salvador Dalí, *The Burning Giraffe*, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm

- Drawers painted in the body help represent one's subconscious
- Crutches are used to show support and strength.
- Burning giraffe in background is used to reveal the theme of war
- Attachment of feet symbolize people unable to move physically and emotionally from their hometown

Similarities

- Colors used in the artworks help convey a bad day
- Humans are used to represent oneself (head and body)
- Both works depict sorrow and uncomfortable settings
- Works show aspects of war

Comparing & Contrasting Formal Qualities



El Inmigrante

- Space in the back is lacking, thus the viewer feels empty and overwhelmed
- The use of this dark color helps carry out a feeling that is depressing yet makes viewers sense hopefulness and change or growth.
- Contrast between the white print and cool colors help the viewer explore the entire piece by viewing it in a circular movement

Gonzalez Karen, El Inmigrante, 2018, Digital Manipulation, 60.96 cm x 91.44 cm

The Burning Giraffe

- Bright hues used to emphasize burning giraffe and drawers in body
- Shows a triangular movement to draw viewers around the painting
- Emphasis added through the addition of crutches
- Blue and black are used instead of neutral hues creating a sad feeling



Salvador Dalí, The Burning Giraffe, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm

Game of Supremacy

- Neutral hues are used throughout most of the piece except the shirt
- The shirt is green in color to create contrast with the neutral hues that surround the child in order to draw viewers eyes to the child's expression
- A large hand is in the in the top right corner with very light hues, representing a hidden yet powerful figure



Gonzalez Karen, Game of Supremacy, 2018, Colored Pencil and Chalk Pastel on Illustration Board, 30.48cm x 38.1cm

Similarities Between all Artworks

- Form of human body is centered in the artwork as a way to help represent themselves as well as help show human emotion
- Space in the background is simple and never ending to emphasize the body in the center. The minimal use or lack of objects and figures in the piece make the viewer feel uneasy and help reveal the theme of the artworks.
- Contrast in hue and texture helps reveal smaller details and significance of them, revealing a theme of suffering

Comparing & Contrasting Formal Qualities



Gonzalez Karen, El Inmigrante, 2018, Digital Manipulation, 60.96 cm x 91.44 cm

El Inmigrante

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- Contrast between the white print and cool colors help the viewer explore the entire piece by viewing it in a circular movement

The Face of War

- Emphasis is added to the face making it the focus of the piece
- Instead of an entire body a head is used
- Value is added for a realistic look, both literally and metaphorically (realistic head/ reality of war)
- Repetition is created because of the abundant use of heads in the eye and mouth area to emphasize death.



Salvador Dalí, The Face of War, 1940, Oil Painting, 100 cm x 79 cm

Girl with a Brush

- Cool colors convey a sad and displeased emotion. The abundance of blue help unravel a theme of disapproval with one's self
- Emphasis is created in the face by the addition of warm colors that contrast against the blue and violet hues. The yellow hues draw viewers' attention to the centered figure.
- The texture is feathery and silky. Because of the wild brush strokes a soft texture is created, thus the viewer can feel a sort of calmness in the piece.

Similarities Between all Artworks

- Form of human body is centered in the artwork to display the artist's feelings
- Space in the background is simple and never ending to emphasize the body in the center. The background also helps uncover details related to events that the artist is concerned about making viewers feel uneasy.
- Contrast is created through the use of very intense and dark hues, creating a suspenseful scenery and making one feel anxious.



Gonzalez Karen, Girl with a Brush, 2017, Acrylic on Canvas, 91.44 cm x 91.44 cm

Comparing & Contrasting Formal Qualities



Gonzalez Karen, Girl with a Brush, 2017, Acrylic on Canvas, 91.44 cm x 91.44 cm



Gonzalez Karen, Game of Supremacy, 2018, Colored Pencil and Chalk Pastel on Illustration Board, 30.48cm x 38.1cm

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- Neutral hues are used throughout most of the piece except the shirt
- The shirt is green in color to create contrast with the neutral hues that surround the child in order to draw viewers eyes to the child's expression
- A large hand is in the in the top right corner with very light hues, representing a hidden yet powerful figure

Cristina Ossers

- Asymmetrical balance shown
- Contrast in outer line of piece to draw the viewers eyes to the center of the piece
- Space left empty in background making the body the focus of the piece
- Neutral hues are shown throughout the entire artwork
- The shape of a circle is created to make the body the focal point and help uncover the theme.

Similarities Between all Artworks

- All artworks have a centered figure as a way to represent one's self and bring the focus on to them.
- Emphasis is created by the colors that contrast against others around.
 - Blind Spot: white contrasts against the darker colors
 - Game of Supremacy: green hue brings attention to the child in the center
 - Girl With a Brush: Vibrant colors draw focus to the person and her actions.



Cristina Ossers, Blind Spot, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

Comparing & Contrasting Significance



Gonzalez Karen, El Inmigrante, 2018, Digital Manipulation, 60.96 cm x 91.44 cm



Gonzalez Karen, Game of Supremacy, 2018, Colored Pencil and Chalk Pastel on Illustration Board, 30.48cm x 38.1cm



Gonzalez Karen, Girl with a Brush, 2017, Acrylic on Canvas, 91.44 cm x 91.44 cm

Centered Form

All artworks consist of a centered human body or person as a way to demonstrate the inner state of mind of the artist. They have all made the body the focus as a way to portray inner worries and anxieties. Although the artworks are not always about a social issue they help convey the theme of struggle.

Cool and Neutral Hues

Each of the artworks have a consistent and abundant use of either neutral or blue hues. The colors are used to represent a negative feeling such as sorrow or emptiness. The cool colors were used to convey loneliness and sadness while neutral hues were used to show the ugly side of a certain event or issue.

Expressions

All artworks display a theme of struggle in different ways. Some can be seen through facial expressions, body language, and some through the use of both

- El Inmigrante: Desperation can be seen through body language (the way in which he holds his child closely)
- Game of Supremacy: Scared child is depicted through facial expression as well as the way in which her hands are positioned (facial expression of crying child and arms are held up like a kid asking to be held closely by parent or asking to back away. Can be seen both ways)
- Girl with a Brush: Facial expression is very serious which help convey the theme of struggling to accept oneself
- The Burning Giraffe: Body language shows a woman telling one to be cautious or back away from the event (warning others about war)
- The Face of War: Facial expression shows a feeling of deep sorrow and pain (sorrow and grief for the aftermath of war)
- Blind Spot: Body language depicts a weak and vulnerable state (body is compressed, showing signs of isolation and deep sadness)



Salvador Dalí, The Burning Giraffe, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm



Salvador Dalí, The Face of War, 1940, Oil Painting, 100 cm x 79 cm



Cristina Ossers, Blind Spot, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7

Comparing & Contrasting Cultural Context



Gonzalez Karen, El Inmigrante, 2018, Digital Manipulation, 60.96 cm x 91.44 cm



Gonzalez Karen, Game of Supremacy, 2018, Colored Pencil and Chalk Pastel on Illustration Board, 30.48cm x 38.1cm



Gonzalez Karen, Girl with a Brush, 2017, Acrylic on Canvas, 91.44 cm x 91.44 cm

Salvador Dalí

Salvador Dalí was born in Spain and raised in a tough environment. His childhood consisted of many tragedies and so he became used to seeing such things occur. Dalí's work mostly consisted of dreamlike aspects he obtained from his imagination as well as reactions to events that occurred close to home. When Dalí was out of his hometown war broke out causing lots of pain and suffering for the people in that area as well as those who loved that place or had relative there. The paintings, *The Burning Giraffe* and *The Face of War*, were both created as a reaction towards war. Dalí created both paintings as a way to show the extreme pain that was caused by these events, which showed solidarity from his part.

Cristina Ossers

Cristina Ossers was born in Whitewater, Wisconsin where she was raised to limit her expressions. Cristina only showed great emotions when faced with something positive, but lacked the other emotions since they were often limited. As Cristina grew older it was evident that her approach to certain events were very subtle. A lot of her work was very small in size and consisted of neutral colors. *Blind Spot* is a digital work created as a reaction to her friend's traumatic event; physical abuse. When displaying this Cristina explained that although she might have wanted to create something more dramatic, she was unable to because of how reserved she was raised to be.

Karen Gonzalez (my work)

I was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and was raised in a Mexican family. Although my household holds Mexican traditions I was also exposed to the American culture. As a person living in the United States I was greatly influenced by western trends and society. One of the things that I was greatly concerned about was my appearance, which can be reflected in my self-portrait, *Girl with a Brush*. Not only did my appearance bother me but also the topic of immigration. Once my friends and family became scared of events that concerned immigrants, I began to create artwork that displayed the feelings I had concerning that topic, thus I created *El Inmigrante* and *Game of Supremacy*.

All Artists

Each of the artists created artwork as a reaction to events that occurred at some point in their life. Their work shows their struggle and inner feelings. Their struggles can be reflected throughout how human emotion is portrayed in the artwork. The struggle that they all convey is related to their depressing feelings whether it may be a reaction to war, a social issue, or simply societal norms and accepting oneself.



Salvador Dalí, *The Burning Giraffe*, 1937, Oil Painting, 35 cm x 27 cm



Salvador Dalí, *The Face of War*, 1940, Oil Painting, 100 cm x 79 cm



Cristina Ossers, *Blind Spot*, 2017, Photo Based Digital Collage, 12.7 x 12.7