

AP Art History 2018-19
Summer Museum Assignment
Kuntz

Art history is not merely knowing the title of a piece, its date, or the name of the artist but in fully comprehending the history of art. The WHY was it done piece. With every piece of art, the viewer (you) is attempting to understand the context behind each piece of art, architecture, and installation created by every artist.

Part of your summer assignment is to visit one museum and document what you see. You will need to “show evidence” that you were physically at the museum and, while there, will be responding to two specific works of art of your choosing.

One work of art should be a piece you respond positively to and one should be a piece you find either confusing, irrelevant (to you), and perhaps wonder why the heck it’s in the museum at all.

For each piece, make a pencil sketch – roughly 4 x 6” – of the pieces. You do not have to be able to draw well to do this! Simply document the piece in front of you as best you can, using call outs if necessary. Please title, date, and put the artist’s name for each piece.

1. What is your first impression of each piece?
2. What do you find appealing or unappealing and why?
3. What do you know about the artist?
4. What do you learn by standing in front of each piece?

Now try to understand the “context” of the piece. Keep in mind, works of art are not created for museums; so what do you think the reason/intent behind the piece is? Why do you think the artist created the piece? For what purpose?

If the museum offers a postcard of the piece, attach that to your work, if not, take a photograph (cell phone is fine) and attach that as well.

I’d like to have you turn in your work the first week of school.

If you have questions, email me mkuntz@ndhsb.org

Total points: 30