Hush, Hush . . . Voice Carry

An Honors Thesis (HONRS 499)

by

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Exploring the art produced by women in the community in which I live allows me to further my education in the experiences of women and the cultural conditions reflected in their self-expression. My previous work in women’s studies will give me the foundation necessary to produce an exhibition that will reflect the knowledge I have gained while challenging me to apply that knowledge to the new area of art, a more personal endeavor of mine. I am interested in this project because it not only uses the information I have gathered in my time as an honors student at Ball State, drawing on my academic past, but also helps me to look forward to where I am going when my time here is done.

This project will have several material components as well as an event. The primary part of the project is the exhibition of several types of art by women in the form of a one day event. The more concrete products will be a catalog of the art and artists to be distributed to the artists and guests as a guide to the artists messages and goals of each woman.

The objective of this thesis is to use the medium of art to address the social, political, economic, academic, and systematic exclusion of women in a way that is both inspired and inspiring. The target audience is the general public, but the exhibition will be of most interest to those people who are already aware of these issues and their possible solutions.

The project consisted of a long list of planning activities as well as the personal production of art and the actual event. I contacted the location, set up a time to view it, set up a date and time for the event, set up the actual event on that date, contacted artists, gathered artist statements, photographed the artists’ contributions, and compiled the information in a catalog.

I expect to see how the information I have been exposed to plays out in the medium of art as well as learning how to produce a catalog and the necessary information to briefly contextualize the works. I expect others who I would view the exhibition to gain an appreciation for women’s art and the unique experiences gathered by an exploration of it.
hush. voices carry

an exhibit of women's art

tuesday, 17 april 2001
8:00pm to 10:00pm
upstairs at the Blue Bottle
Voices Carry...

The absence of women artists from the professional art world is a product of our western, male-centric history. Many women artists have taken shelter in amateur or outsider art, gaining little or no recognition. In this way, the voices of women have been silenced, raising the question, "What were they so afraid we were going to say?" Because images and messages are so powerful in our culture we have been told to be quiet, to stay silent because voices do carry. These are the art stories of seven women and their unique outlooks and expressions of self, art and their worlds.

PAGE GRAPHICS AND LAYOUT BY ROBIN LONG-JORDAN
AS THE CENTERPIECE FOR THIS SHOW, JULIEE'S PIECE IS A REPRESENTATION OF CALMNESS IN HER CHAOTIC WORLD AND AN ATTEMPT TO CREATE WITH HER DAUGHTER FOR PEACE.

FOR RILEY

THIS PIECE IS ON LOAN FROM THE COLLECTION OF JULIEE ROSSER AND RILEY ROSSER-DICKERSON
KATHARINE WILLIAMS

Wabi: the idea of a single imperfection that captures a moment in time. My pieces are not perfect and at one time I felt desperate to produce something that looked "right". Something that held to a standard. But I soon realized that the imperfection that so vexed me were the only things that separated my work from anything else. Those small mistakes let me capture that moment, that moment when an idea becomes a reality or when an emotion can be expressed in a single image.

NEGATIVE CUP

CERAMIC

DRIP BOWL

CERAMIC
CAROLINE LYDON

LOVING YOURSELF. CRYING. LIVING WITHIN YOUR BODY.
RANTING. BEING COMFORTABLE IN YOUR SKIN. LAUGHING.
EMBRACING YOUR SOUL. BREATHING. DANCING NAKED. SINGING.
STRIVING FOR CHANGE. SCREAMING. KNOWING YOUR LIMITATIONS.
FEASTING. ACCEPTING THE PROCESS. CREATING. BEING ANGRY.
EXpressing YOUR LIFE.

BLUNT

I HOPE THAT THIS MAKES YOU UNCOMFORTABLE. I HOPE YOU CONTINUE TO LOOK. IF YOU ARE NOT ANGRY YOU ARE NOT PAYING ATTENTION.

CONSOlATION

"If it's any consolation...I used four condoms..."

COLLAGE MULTIMEDIA

WOOD, OIL, PAINT, LATEX, METAL

CAROLINE WILL PRESENT TWO PERFORMANCE ART PIECES, ANGRY DYKE AND BORROWED VOICES
LISA GALLOWAY

I USE ART AS A CATHARSIS AND A VOICE TO SEPARATE ME FROM THE SILENCE THAT MY BACKGROUND HAS INSTILLED IN ME.

TRANCE OF HOME

"LIGHTNESS HAS A CALL THAT'S HARD TO HEAR"

ILLUSTRATING THE DUALITY: LIGHT LISA REACHES TO SAVE DARK LISA, BUT LIGHT LISA IS VEILED

CYCLE OF THE OBJECT: HER INNOCENCE SHOULD NOT EQUAL YOUR CONQUISITCE

SOCIETY PERPETUATES THE OBJECTIFICATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN THROUGH PORTRAYAL. CHILDHOOD SEXUAL TRAUMA FRAGMENTS THE PSYCHE AND LEADS TO SELF OBJECTIFICATION, FURTHERING THE CYCLE.

ACRYLIC AND ENAMEL ON WOOD PANELING

ENAMEL AND ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, TRACING PAPER

MULTIMEDIA COLLAGE ON WOOD PANELING, ETC...
LINDSAY FERNUNG

I first picked up a camera in the aftermath of discovering that I can't capture images in hand-held media. If I can't show the world as I see fit through painting, I just try and capture those moments that describe it best. Every single moment can be stopped and used to illustrate and entire lifetime. I am keeping a running commentary.

Cera Sunshine 01

My best friend and favorite subject. I love her much beyond the superficial beauty that everyone admires in her. January 2001

Cera Sunshine 02

This is our favorite laundromat. She is more high-maintenance than she could admit. November 2000

Cera Sunshine 03

Happier for a few moments; she doesn't even notice my presence. January 2001
Hu Tong

The little boy was frightened until the camera began flashing.
Beijing, China
May 2000

Photography
This print is for sale

Lindsay will also be performing a song this evening.
Kristin Trzaskowski

My artistic expression has been lying dormant for years. It was only after I was able to really understand myself that I was able to tap into the source of emotions I display in my work. Some of my work is rooted in my impressions of my friends' lives. Art is feeling and effect. Who is to judge the validity of a brush stroke and pain, or love?

Faith

Window of Homophobia

WisKansin

A personal tribute to my friend, Ken. On loan from the collection of Trapdoor Records.
SELF

Who a person is on the inside is rarely more apparent than when they attempt to paint themselves as they appear on the outside. I hope no one notices how mean I am.

LACK OF SIMILARITIES

The constant comparison of women and their bodies to flowers is disturbing to me. Flowers are fragile and their worth based solely on their short-lived prettiness. I hope the woman in this painting is unapologetically un-pretty. She is definitely not a flower.

HOW TO REALLY CRY

A dedication to the method of true crying one can only attain once complete failure personal doubt is handed to them by someone they love. When we get too far away from that place we forget it. Forgetting lets us move on, but also makes us deny the part of ourselves we find then.
ROBIN LONG-JORDAN

I have spent a great deal of time trying to figure out what art is and determining if I get to call myself and artist. Robert Heinlein called art the, "Invocation of pity and terror." I want to tell him no, that art should be beautiful and reflect truth. Now I am certain that truth is terrifying, but only when we are hiding from it. Most of my images lack context to remove the delusion which clues from a background would provide. I hope that they stand on their own and be valued alone, forgetting for a moment all the distraction, always going on around.

PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST AS A YOUNG WOMAN (URSULA)

One of the most stunningly beautiful people I know, I wanted to give her a safe place that was brave as she is.

CARRIE ANNE UNIMpressed

There is a look you will get when my best friend is not impressed with something you said.
SPECIAL THANKS TO

blue bottle INC.

Tom Steiner, proprietor

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