

“My Drawing 1 Journey” – REWORKED Artist’s Statement

“Meanderings of a curious mind”

Q. What do I want to test through my drawing journey?

A. To tell my story visually in a creative way that describes what I have done and what I have learnt and experienced from my journey.

Q. What will I produce, on what material, in what media?

A. Big and bold is my idea – A pictorial journey laid out on an A1 canvas board in mixed media.

Q. What will it say and why?

A. Snapshots of my Drawing 1 experience through cut-outs of a selection of my course sketches and drawings in a narrative that takes me from my childhood (pre-OCA) to now, and looking forward to my continuing drawing aspirations.

Q. The practicalities done with, what makes this an exciting proposition?

A. Firstly, in reviewing the previous parts of the course I have identified where I have been more successful (looseness and experimentation with material, media and approach):



[Part 1, Project 2, Exercise 4 – shadows & reflected light.]

And more importantly, where I have specific challenges in my drawing journey (technical aspects, particularly in drawing the human figure – proportion, lines, angles and tones):



[Part 4, Project 4, Exercise 1 – the structure of the human body.]

Secondly, I have been encouraged by my tutor to give more thought to a number of creative and technical aspects of my drawing. The list is not exhaustive, but includes:

Sight/Size with pencil/thumb at arms length to measure proportion/angle/tone more accurately; mixed media experiments; layers of drawing material; and narrative/story, to mention a few.

In “My Drawing 1 Journey” I hope to explore at least some of these pointers.

Thirdly, throughout the course I have been influenced by a number of writers, artists, materials, methods, and themes:

In Deanna Petherbridge’s 2010 work ***The primacy of drawing: histories and theories of practice*** there is a proposal that the act of drawing can be seen as a continuum. My interpretation of this dynamic is that:

- Line is the primal act in art-making
 - It connects/continues with chiaroscuro to form both linear and spatial complexity
 - This, in itself, creates connections with all the paths of the continuum
 - These in turn converge and diverge at either end of the continuum.
- (Petheridge, 2010, Chp.1).

Specific artist influences that I am carrying into my personal project include the cubist abstraction of Georges Braque’s still life “Bottle and fishes”, (c1910-12), which I find a playful fragmentation into a series of planes providing multiple viewpoints into the picture. Anthony Green’s “Christmas” mirror, 1947” (1982) also deals with different perspectives. The “Off the Map” series of collage work by the Hungarian

artist Zsotia Schweger is also pertinent as her concept of *“an image of a room [that] could contain the whole world”* excites me, as does the diaristic aspect of Tracy Emin’s monoprint drawings and her conceptual art installation work as self portraits – *“this is me, who I am, who I might be”*.

Two further influences that I have explored in reworking this piece, as suggested by my tutor’ are Hieronymus Bosch’s grand narrative “Garden of earthly delights” and Jeffrey Dennis’s “The free ground”. In looking at both these works I have been inspired to pare back my original piece by over-painting, adding selected raised figures cut from the surface of my earlier insulation board drawings, and trepanning into the surface of the work to create ‘peek holes’ or burrows into smaller detailed drawings. So, while not literally and physically ‘cutting up’ my original work I feel that I have reflected and responded to critique in a positive way and as a result am presenting a more thoughtful and pleasing piece for assessment that offers the viewer different ways to looking into and at my drawing journey.

My continuum here, “My Drawing 1 Journey”, has been reworked to reflect a less chronological approach to my story and attempt to present a more imaginative and wandering insight into my thought processes in completing this work – *“meanderings of a curious mind”*.

Stuart Brownlee - 512319
16 May 2016