

Trish O'Donnell

ARE6933

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Annotated Bibliography

Bridging the Gap: Promoting Awareness of Globalization and Cultural Identity through Visual Literacy

My research explores the impact of globalization on the awareness of individual's cultural identities. Through exposure of images and artworks that embody contemporary global society, educators can facilitate discussions with students regarding visual culture and meanings that are implied. In an age where young people are inundated with visual images all day long, it is essential that educators teach skills of visual literacy and provide a focus on how to define and maintain one's cultural identity as borders, boundaries, and cultural distinctions continue to blur due to the effects of globalization.

1. Ballett, Amy B. "Visual Literacy Across the Curriculum," Feb. 22, 2009. Retrieved April 15, 2012, from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XQNbAtK3c3g>.

Amy Ballett is an artist and art educator at Stamford Collegiate High School in Niagra, Ontario, Canada. In her video, "Visual Literacy Across the Curriculum," she reaches out to educators of all subjects and grade levels to consider the importance of visual literacy as a skill to develop in school curriculum. Her video provides questions, based from education theorist, Elliot Eisner, that educators can ask students in order to develop comprehension of visual culture.

2. Jordan, Chris. "Pictures some shocking stats." TED Talks. Feb. 2008. Web. 19 Jan. 2012. <http://www.ted.com/talks/chris_jordan_pictures_some_shocking_stats.html>.

Artist Chris Jordan creates large scale visualizations of what Western culture looks like based on statistics that are nearly impossible to comprehend, like the astonishing number of paper cups we use every single day. Through showing students Jordan's artwork and asking relevant questions, we can explore our cultural identities and the impact of globalization while developing skills in visual literacy.

ARTWORK

Paper Cups, digital image, 60 "x96". 2008.

This image depicts 410,000 paper cups, which is equivalent to the number of disposable hot-beverage paper cups used in the United States every fifteen minutes, according to data provide in 2008.

3. Koblin, Aaron. "Artfully visualizing our humanity." TED Talks. Palm Springs. Mar. 2011. Web. 18 Jan. 2012.
<http://www.ted.com/talks/aaron_koblin.html>.
<https://www.mturk.com/mturk/welcome>
<http://www.thesheepmarket.com/>
<http://www.aaronkoblin.com/>

Artist Aaron Koblin takes vast amounts of data -- and at times vast numbers of people -- and weaves them into stunning visualizations. From elegant lines tracing airline flights to landscapes of cell phone data, from a Johnny Cash video assembled from crowd-sourced drawings, his works brilliantly explore how modern technology can make us more human. By sharing the collaborative nature of Koblin's works, I hope to promote awareness of how we interact as a global society and how visual culture and technology can be utilized to bring people all over the world together and shed light on how our collective identity is defined through social media and technology.

ARTWORK

Flight Patterns, 2005.

In this art piece, Koblin creates a visualizations of the flight patterns over North America for a period of 24 hours. Through a series of visualizations, one can better understand the magnitude of the daily migration that happens, bring people in and out, and all over the United States every day. Koblin creates his investigations in order to demonstrate his belief that data can make us more human.

4. Liu, Hung. (n.d). Retrieved April 15, 2012 from,
<http://www.hungliu.com/>.
<http://www.hungliu.com/>
<http://www.kqed.org/arts/programs/spark/profile.jsp?essid=4455>

Hung Liu is an artist and professor of art at Mills College in Oakland, FI. Liu lived the first 36 years of her life in China before moving to the United States where she has continued her career as an artist. Her artwork combines Western and Eastern painting traditions and explores her cultural heritage from China, deeply influenced by her experiences during the Cultural Revolution. By presenting students with the artwork of Hung Liu, students can develop skills of visual literacy by discerning the visual content and meaning explored in Liu's artwork, and also can begin to ask questions about their own cultural identity and cultural hybridization.

ARTWORK

Twelve Hairpins of Jinling. Oil on canvas, 80" x 140". 2011.

Twelve Hairpins of Jinling, shows an image of twelve figures walking in two lines with gas masks on their faces. Liu explained, "You first see the masks and you cannot tell...but then you see all the skirts and realize they're schoolgirls." The title of the painting is a reference to the classic novel "Twelve Beauties of Jinling," but she creates a strong juxtaposition because in the circumstance of the painting they appear monstrous and deformed.

5. "Mariko Kusumoto: Unfolding Stories," (n.d.). Retrieved April 10, 2012, from <http://mobilia-gallery.com/artists/mariko-kusumoto/index.html>.
<http://mobilia-gallery.com/artists/mariko-kusumoto/videos.html>
<http://mobilia-gallery.com/artists/mariko-kusumoto/index.html>

Mariko Kusumoto is a Japanese born artist living in America who explores her cultural identity by making interactive sculptures. Her art pieces encourage viewers to experience the many layers and meanings that she identifies as molding and defining who she is and reflect on the many aspects of heritage and visual culture that form us into who we are as individuals. Through exposing students to Kusumoto's artwork, we can visualize and dissect the cultural hybridization that happens to all of us because of globalization.

ARTWORK

Tokyo Souvenir (Wearable Pieces in Individual Containers). Nickel silver, sterling silver, brass, copper, resin, decal, found objects. Closed: 7-1/2" x 9-1/2" x 8-1/4" - Open: 7-1/2" x 35" x 20".
2008.

Tokyo Souvenir is one of Mariko Kusumoto's many whimsical and interactive sculptures that explore nostalgic themes of culture that she feels have greatly influenced her identity both from her native Japanese heritage and as an artist living and practicing her work in the United States.

6. Sollins, S., Ortega, E.-L. M., Miller, W., Hamlin, J., Atlas, C., Tatge, C., ... Public Broadcasting Service (U.S.). (2012). Art: 21: Art in the twenty-first century. New York: Art21 Inc.
<http://www.art21.org/videos/episode-change>

Season 6 has finally arrived and the first episode is titled, "Change." In this episode, artists Ai Weiwei, Catherine Opie, and El Anatsui present artworks that promote social change. Their artworks explore ways in which to actively engage viewers in the transformations that are happening around all of every day.

7. Toporek, Sergio. 2011. Retrieved April 15, 2012 from, <http://www.bewareofimages.com/>.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFshOZPpt0>
<http://www.bewareofimages.com/>
<http://www.facebook.com/bewareofimages>

Sergio Toporek is creating a documentary called, "Beware of Images," that investigates the power of images. He began his career as a visual communicator working in the music industry creating visuals for performing artists. He is

currently a faculty member at the Vancouver Film School and is interested in how social change can be promoted through commercial visual communications in juxtaposition to this form of media's current demise of our global society. He is highly interested in his documentary being used as a teaching tool, particularly in high schools.

8. Turkle, Sherry. "Alone together." TED Talks. West Palm Beach. Mar. 2012. Web. Apr. 2012. <http://www.ted.com/talks/sherry_turkle_alone_together.html>. http://www.ted.com/talks/sherry_turkle_alone_together.html

Psychologist and technology analyst, Sherry Turkle discusses how as a society we are more engaged in the relationship provide through our phones that in having real relationships and conversations face to face. This video would be great to show other educators and students to create a discussion on how technology and globalization affects our cultural identities as well as visual literacy. We are always plugged in and according to Turkle, prefer it that way.

9. Visual News. 2012. Retrieved April 15, 2012 from, <http://www.visualnews.com/>. <http://www.visualnews.com/>

Visual News is a website that finds and promotes artists that are creating compelling artworks and any news that involves visual articulations. Visual News also provides a platform for the explorations of Column Five Media which curates the Data + Design Project gallery, a place to discover the beauty and content of data visualizations.

10. Weiwei, Ai. "Ai Weiwei detained." TED Talks. West Palm Beach. Feb. 2011. Web. Apr. 2012. <<http://blog.ted.com/2011/04/04ai-weiwei-detained-here-is-his-ted-film/>>. <http://blog.ted.com/2011/04/04ai-weiwei-detained-here-is-his-ted-film/>

Ai Weiwei promotes social change in China to provide citizens with democratic rights of freedom of speech and protect human rights that are limited, controlled and censored by the Chinese government. His artwork is controversial, raw, and exposes corruption and unjust actions of the Chinese government. His artwork is made for a global audience to inform about contemporary Chinese society and culture.

ARTWORK

Sunflower Seeds, Ceramic, 2010.

In this installation, Ai Weiwei utilized the skill and production of making porcelain sunflower seeds by factory workers in Jingdezhen, China, the town that has the longest history of making porcelain wares for the imperial court. This installation serves as a reminder of the Cultural Revolution (sunflower seeds were a staple food source), of Chinese collective identity and industry, as well as creating a discussion of the social and culture place of art in the world.