

Art Critique

R

Have you ever heard the phrase, "My six year-old kid could draw that?" Well, the eastern-European artist Riley takes this to the next level, with his groundbreaking piece, "A seizure with 8 pencil crayons." Riley uses a plethora of different colors in his masterpiece to express individuality and expressionism. It is simply exquisite. The colors rapidly diffuse across the canvas, like the black plague spreading through Europe. His unique style shows his affection for post-contemporary work, and allows the viewer to interpret his work in several different ways. This gives the impression of a multi-personal piece. Riley also excels in the high level of contrast his work displays. He achieves this by having the brighter reds and yellows popping out, and having the soothing hues of purple and blue melting into the backdrop. To an ignorant observer, the drawing may seem convoluted and disorganized, but given a more thorough gaze the viewer can see the hidden meaning imbedded between the lines. Like silky webs being strung by a tenacious spider, the lines on the page are not random in the least. They dance across the crisp paper in preordained algorithms, finding their destined locations on the paper. Riley has done an extraordinary job of relating his piece to modern society. The seemingly careless lines scrawled on the page represent our hectic lives. But one also notices that these lines all originated in one mutual location. This connects our society's busyness with one common denominator; technology. His work subtly displays how technology is controlling our lives, thus distracting our society from things that are truly important, like friendship, and family. Overall Riley has excelled in his work and done a phenomenal job on his piece. The meaning is subtle enough to be neglected by a careless glance of an onlooker, but under close examination is an intricate piece of art. "A seizure with 8 pencil crayons" undoubtedly tugs at the viewers proverbial heart strings in a masterful effort to convey emotion. Riley resides in Penticton, where he lives with his younger brother, and his two loving parents.

Student: 

Criterion A: Analyzing

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0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.
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ENGLISH 12: ARTWORK CRITIQUE

J

MAY 2, 2019

"Underlining Chaos" is an articulate, tangled piece of work grasping for attention. Although the artist, Riley, used pencil crayons and crayons to create this immaculate piece of work, there is a certain maturity to this artpiece that one just can't replicate with a paintbrush. At first glance, one might only see a spectrum of colors scribbled on a piece of paper, however it truly shows layers of frustration, pain, and love all blended together in one complex piece of art. Using a range of colors from light to dark support the artist's efforts to convey his array of emotions that he faces in a day. Choosing to create an abstract art piece allows the artist to express his views, but also leaves it open ended so observers can create questions and leave wanting to see more. What is obvious though is the amount of frustration emitting off of it. The color palette and line designs unmistakably scream for attention, wanting to show how difficult it is to be a child in this generation. It is dark, but light, and is scrambled throughout the page to represent all of the expectations set upon him at such a young age. The hoops around the outer edges show the obstacles a child must overcome and go through, which gives insight as to why the artist is so loud, yet so stonewalled with his artwork. The contrast that the artist uses is unique and complex. Straighter lines in the piece are a lighter color than the especially curved lines, perhaps subliminally showing the observers that he wants to detour away from all expectations. If the observer is an experienced art critic, they might be able to notice the use of red within the art. It is specially placed underneath every other color, directly in the middle of the piece to subtly show that underneath the chaos and pressure, there is love rooted deep within. Since this has such an important meaning behind it, the artist hid it in such a way that only people who truly care about his art can see it. The way Riley portrayed such emotion and maturity in "Underlining Chaos" restores my faith in younger generation artists.

May, 2019

Cancer to the eye

R

Pain, disgust, and body sickness is what you receive when you look at this so called "art piece". The so called "artist" named Riley, was born in 2001 in a place called Nakusp. Eighteen year old Riley is the example of a bad artist. Riley's art piece does not display creative curves or even colours that make you want to look at his disaster of work. From all the bold lines and violent scribbles, I can very easily see the anger in Riley's heart. At your first glance Riley's art piece looks like a normal picture, but the more you focus on it you can see the terrible talent that comes off of Riley's unsteady hands. All in all Riley's so called work of art is what you call a mess, the more you look at it the more sick you feel. If you ever want a piece of art in your house, Riley should not cross your mind to be in your top fifty.

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M

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5-6

Artwork critique

S

Passion flows off the page like a glimmering waterfall in Rileys most recent piece "Depression". His wide variety of colours truly showcase the deep, powerful meaning behind this seemingly simple piece. Small strokes of yellow, almost hidden, signify happiness. Though the chaotic blur of other emotions almost conceal it entirely. Strong, jagged lines of blue represent security and the inconsistency of it. All the colours represent emotions Riley faces everyday. Black however, is the dominant colour conveyed. Screaming pain and sadness leap off the page in the harsh black lines, deterring from all the other colours. Expression is flowing off the page, for the single piece of paper can not contain it. Black lines run along the page conveying his emotion in a way that is both obvious and ominous. Riley has struggled with depression his entire life with depression and has always found a way to successfully incorporate it into his artwork. This piece exhibits true passion in the way he expanded his medium to use markers and opposed to paint. Expanding, showing vulnerability in a way that is different than is the work itself. Vulnerability is not an easy thing to share with the world, through artwork or in any sense, though to Riley this ability seems to come naturally. Truly a phenomenal piece by this young artist.

Student: N.

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Chaos on the Wind (Art Critique)

M

In the art piece “Chaos on the Wind” by Riley, chaos is expressed through clashing colours and intricately arced lines. This art piece is a visual representation of the chaos that is blowing through the mind of young Riley. The different colours clash in a magnificent flurry of artistic flair. It shows a vibrancy, and a freshness, that is only achievable by a young artist such as Riley. He uses a variety of different colours and strokes to show how different chaos can be for each and every one of us, and how each line represents the tiny pieces that come together to form chaos on a large scale. In the middle of the chaos, the heart of the storm as it were, is where everything is at it's most frantic. We see the lines of colours criss crossing over each other, like colourful daggers sinking into the white paper. In “Chaos on the Wind, the middle of the page has the most to look at, but if we study it further, we can see individual slashes of colour that on their own, stand out immensely against the white background. Energy abounds in this piece. Every bit of colour has it's own niche, it's own job to accomplish, within the chaos. The singular arcs protrude from the main storm, like splendid lightning bolts. Riley uses these outlying bits of colour to show just how far chaos can reach into the calm. Chaos is complicated. It is made up of the every moment, every memory, every event, and every choice that we make. It acts like a strong wind that blows through society, often knocking over everything in it's path. It erodes at the foundation of humanity. Riley's colours swirl around the page, making a clear statement; that chaos is all around us. Overall, this piece is drawn by Riley to show how chaos can act like a great storm within us, and that it is only a matter of time before it will be unleashed.

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