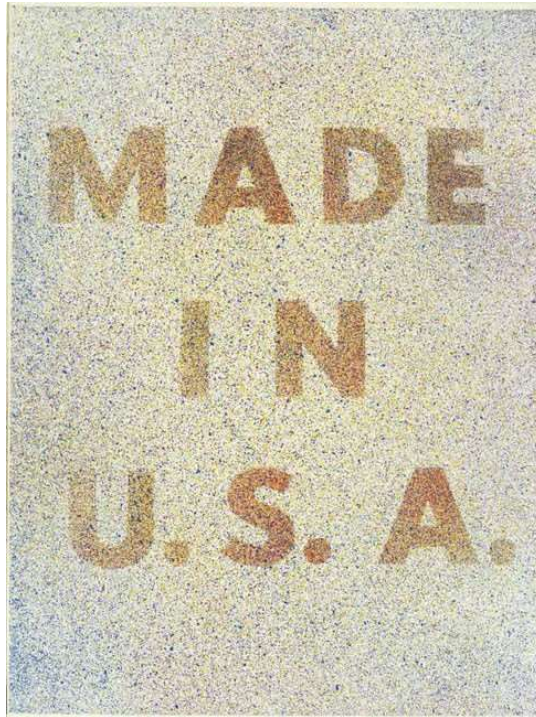


PART 1: Art Critic**Positive**

Thomas Hart Benton, *After Many Days*, 1940, Tempera and oil on canvas board, San Diego Museum of Art, <https://www.sartle.com/artwork/after-many-days-thomas-hart-benton> (accessed June 28, 2021).

For this piece depicting death and the passage of time I had a very positive reaction. This representational piece combines both warm and cool colors giving me an uneasy feeling of what is going on within the piece that I actually enjoy. Also, I enjoy its use of the skull as the main focal point. It draws your eye to the bottom center of the piece, then has your eyes follow the wilted plants and tree branch to the top left of the piece. I feel as if the negative space at the top left where the branch ends, gives the viewer a sense of emptiness and calm that I feel the artist intended. Another fact I found fascinating was the year this piece was created. It was made in 1940 at the beginning of World War II, when death and destruction was consuming the world. This piece does a good job of depicting the era of war that just begun.

San Diego Museum of Art

Negative

Ed Ruscha, *America, Her Best Product*, 1974, Lithograph, 31 3/8 x 23 1/2 in, San Diego Museum of Art, <https://artmuseum.princeton.edu/collections/objects/13332> (accessed June 28, 2021).

This piece gave me a negative feeling towards it. I felt there was nothing special about the piece and all it contained was the text, "MADE IN U.S.A." Nothing about the piece sticks out, there is no real use of color besides having the text pop out. This piece felt so bland in comparison to the other works of art around it. I had such a negative reaction too it more because, I have seen better works of art on the side of the street. This piece feels like anyone could have made it. I actually had a hard time deciding whether this piece would be my negative reaction choice, or not deserving of being in the museum. The main reason I felt this piece fit more then my other is because, this piece literally states, "MADE IN U.S.A." and since this was an American Museum it fit more. As a little side note I found its location in the museum to be more enjoyable since it was right next to the entrance to the restrooms.

Part 2: Art Curator**Keep**

Jules Tavernier, Kilauea Caldera, Sandwich Islands, 1886, Oil on canvas, San Diego Museum of Art, <https://artmuseum.princeton.edu/collections/objects/13332> (accessed June 28, 2021).

This representational piece I feel stands out in a positive way yet is able to still complement other pieces found in the museum. The warmer tones in the piece coincide with the other pieces that also used a warmer color scheme. However, it is able to stick out with its minimal use of vibrant shades of orange to depict the lava bringing your attention to the center of the piece. I also appreciate the use of blacks in the foreground on the rocks with the more vibrant oranges and reds sprinkled on the back giving a sense of mystery. Kind of makes you think about what else is happening behind the rock. I feel like a lot of the pieces at the museum shared this dark ominous and mysterious theme and really enjoy it. Also, the fact that a majority of the pieces I saw appeared to be representational.

San Diego Museum of Art

Remove

Arthur Garfield Dove, *Formation I*, 1943, Oil and wax emulsion on canvas, San Diego Museum of Art, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/azkaged/24530848722/in/photostream/> (accessed June 28, 2021).

This abstract piece I felt really did not belong in the museum especially in the gallery it was located. It was labeled as an abstract piece, but I still see no resemblance to any real-world piece and would actually label it as non-representational. It was surrounded primarily by representational pieces with warmer tones while this piece had a brighter pascal color scheme. I know the image here does not appear how I am describing the piece, but from what I saw during the virtual tour the piece was a lot more vibrant and out of place. For instance, the yellow portions of the piece came off green, while the darker ones appeared bright green. This could be due to the lighting of the environment, but it still caught my attention of sticking out more in comparison to other pieces.