

MYP5

Date: 26.02.2016

Teacher:

Visual Arts E-Portfolio

Storytelling Commentary

I used the knowledge I acquired from researches in several places, as it helped me with making artistic decisions in the process of creating my story box. First of all, as I had found out, *Apollo and Daphne* is a sculpture that carries out a story about people's passions, which eventually form personal and cultural identities. I have interpreted this in my artwork by telling a story about my own passions, which are about the Turkish and the Dutch cultures via sculpting like Bernini. Second of all, since *Apollo and Daphne* is a sculpture, it had everything I wanted to show in my artwork: the design principles, which are balance, emphasis and proportion; and the visual elements, which are form and space. Third of all, since the story of the *Birth of Venus* is in fact based on a myth, Sandro Botticelli, the creator of the artwork, decided to add some mythological elements such as the characters and Venus riding on a seashell. I have interpreted this in my artwork by including elements from both culture because my artwork addresses various traditions and my view on them (which already forms a personal identity); I had as many elements in my artwork as possible to show how strong my passion is and how frustrated I become as I leave one culture to be introduced to another.



Bernini, Gian Lorenzo. *Apollo and Daphne*. c. 1622-25. Borghese Gallery. *TotallyHistory*. Web. 28 Jan 2016.



Botticelli, Sandro. *Birth of Venus*. c. 1484-86. Uffizi Gallery. *ItalianRenaissance*. Web. 28 Jan 2016.

I implemented the statement of inquiry, which is *"Personal and cultural identity is expressed through stories"* in the following way; I had started to make creative connections as I was building some mind maps related to the goal of this project. One of these maps was to find out which story of mine I can tell through the artwork. I came up with a few main ideas to make the outline of my story, and these main ideas were the core of my personal and cultural identities; when my story, which led to one tiny aspect of my personal identities, was ready, the general ideas I would include in my artwork were set as well, leading to the creation of the cultural identities.

The process of creating the product brought many artistic decisions with itself; how I had changed the material I was working with, the elements I'd include in my artwork, how much depth I'd give within the different elements... Basically, everything I have done and every change within the personal identity elements that would affect the cultural identities, up until the point where I had the final product.

Next up is how I implemented the global context, which is *"Personal and cultural expression: artistry, creation, beauty"*. In the final product, artistry was involved as I added elements from both Turkish and Dutch cultures, which I was able to add many (e.g. the Bosphorus, the Amsterdam townhouses, a mosque) creation as I made a sculpture within the box by using those elements, which is the product itself already; and beauty as I made a unique arrangement of the orientation and colours within the elements.

Every relation within my artwork can be seen below next to my initial idea:



I built my story box out of my experiences, thoughts and feelings while I was travelling from Turkey to the Netherlands, which all are a part of my personal identities. I even scaled the elements that are more significant to me bigger than the others. Other people can relate to my artwork, not necessarily in the sense that I've portrayed my interaction with the Turkish and the Dutch cultures, but definitely how frustrated I was while changing countries and how homesick I would feel once I started living in the Netherlands for the rest of my life, which many (especially those with international relations) may happen to feel.

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