

Review of Freedman Gallery Annex

Introduction

The Freedman Gallery Annex is located two blocks away from Albright College. Unlike the *Mexico Illuminated*, the Annex consists of mostly video, photography and installations and not much painting and conventional sculpture by young artists. Most of them were trained in architecture rather than art. They include Daniel Navarro, Fernando Palomar, Kuis Miguel Suro, Francisco Urgarte, Lourdes Mendez, Javier Duenas, Enrique Guerrero, Marcos Ramirez, etc. Most of them are from Guadalajara. When I stepped into the warehouse, I was amazed how they could present art work in such kind of an old and doom place. But later till I walked in, I finally understood the ware house was definitely a suitable place to have such strange art work.

There were about 4 displays which caught my eyes and I do want to talk about them. The first one is a Wall paper which has no title by Javier Duenas in 2003. The wall paper actually is a large map. Usually map has information about lands and oceans, but this one just consists of oceans' names such as Indian Ocean, North Atlantic Ocean, South Atlantic Ocean and seas' names such as Red sea and Arabian Sea. The map is in blue color, which is just like the normal map. Another display I want to talk about is a wall decoration by Agustin Solorzano. I could clearly see that the artist drew some lines on the wall and then he stuck the leaves into the areas. And there is a long path between the two grass grounds (which were made by leaves). On the grass fields, there are trees which are represented by triangular green shape. He uses the atmospheric perspective well because when the path gets farther away, he narrowed it and he made the trees smaller. Then I could know which trees are the nearest to me and which are the farthest. When I stepped further away, the whole thing looks like a landscape painting to me, too.

The other art work is presented as two photographs by Daniel Navarro called Sky Park in 2003. The two pictures are of the same subjects, but they

were taken in different perspectives. The first one is like a wall as a ground, and I could see the sky (by recognizing the white clouds and blue sky). Then on the wall, there is two chairs standing against it. They are like the chairs in children playground or park. No wonder it is called Sky Park. In the other picture, I could see that the chairs are horizontally stuck on the wall. After all, I understood why it makes a difference when you take a picture from different directions. The other display is an antiwar video in which an artist who uses the single name Artemio combines scenes of destruction with images from Disney's *Winnie the Pooh* movies. The monitor is installed in a military pup tent, which means one must be agile to view it. The video began with a nice and relax music in the background. In the scene, there is palm trees covered with fog. Suddenly, the fog seemed to be the ignition of the explosion and bright fierce flame blurred out. Then the rest of the scenes are combined with pooh and real scenes (those we can see in war movies such as shooting, explosions).

For the wall paper display, I think the artist is trying to express the Earth is covered mostly by water. Maybe he likes oceans and sea very much. He thinks it would rather be better if the world can turn into a Water World. Then there would be no lands, and less destructive things such as pollutions would never occur. Without land, there would no cars and industries. And it is good for the environment. For the trees on the wall, I think the artist is just trying to express how things (leaves) sticking together can form a structure of drawing, too. It can just use the wall instead of panel or canvas to make a picture. Unlike the canvas which has a stretch, using the wall can have unlimited space. The artist can display his/her ideas easily. For the Sky Park by Daniel Navarro, the photographer is trying to tell us that picturing the same thing in different perspectives can vary a great deal. In this picture, he stuck the chair on the wall horizontally and pictured it from the bottom of the wall made the wall and the chairs really like appeared as a sky park.

Conclusion:

For the video in the little tent, obviously, the artist made this display to anti-the war. He tried to tell the world that wars are not the good ways to solve problems. They would just keep continuing throughout the world. Thousands across the country have voiced their opinions on the war, but

many were harassed and many teens were suspended from their schools if their views were anti-war. Wearing anti-war T-shirts and facing their backs to the American flag got many teens in trouble. Different people have different ways to express their opinions. This artist is smarter to express it in art because it can get him out of a lot of troubles.