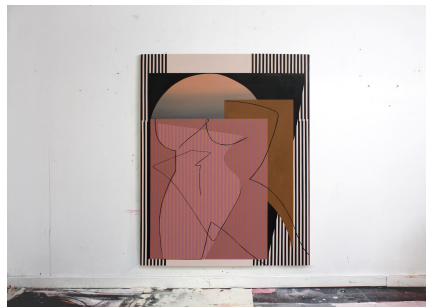
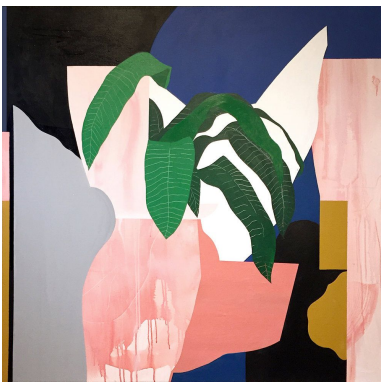


Kathryn Macnaughton



Background and world context:

Kathryn Macnaughton is a graphic designer turned painter, based in Toronto, Canada. Macnaughton graduated from Ontario College of Art and Design in 2007 and has been exhibiting artwork both in Canada and abroad since 2010.



Critical Study:

Kathryn Macnaughton's artwork is heavily influenced by the female body. Macnaughton states in an interview that she believes the geometric shapes, which often take on the shape of the female form, in much of her work comes from having a background in design work. Her artwork, primarily done in acrylic, contradicts itself with flat, flush surfaces as well as textured, lively areas. The artwork is abstract yet there is a sense of familiarity in almost all of her paintings.

Structural Frame:

Describe what you see in this image.

What is the subject of this piece? What do you see first?

In an abstracted piece like this, do you think there is a right angle to view this at?

Macnaughton uses intense, vibrant hues, how do you think these effects the viewers

overall sense of the work?

Does high contrast play a part in how the audience looks at this piece?



"The female figure is very important in my work, and the shapes that are created. When I went to school for illustration, I did graphic design, and I think a lot of the influence comes from graphic shapes, which take on the shape of the female form."-Macnaughton

<http://coveteur.com/2017/05/22/kathryn-macnaughton-artist-female-body-inspiration/>

Cultural Frame:

Being that a Macnaughton uses the female figure as an influence in her work, do you think it makes a difference that she is a woman who painted these?

Where else would you see images like this?

How do these paintings relate to other images?

Would you say that the color choices being used plays into gender?

Do you see a political stance in any of her pieces?



Subjective Frame:

Do you have any associations do you have with these paintings?

Do you imagine that Macnaughton paints from life, memory, images, etc.?

How do you feel while viewing this artwork?

Do her paintings remind you of anything?

Is there a sense of spontaneity in Macnaughtons work? Or is every piece planned out?

There is a sense of theatricality to her revelations, and it is, in every sense, a cheeky play of light and dark versus form and technique, like boxing with one's own shadow - an art of individual, delicate mastery. -Kurt Beers

<http://www.beerslondon.com/artists/kathryn-mcnaughton>

Postmodern:

What do you think the meaning this work holds and represents today?

Do you see any appropriation in these paintings?

How would these artworks look and feel differently if they were made digitally? Could Macnaughton, being a graphic designer, mix both mediums?

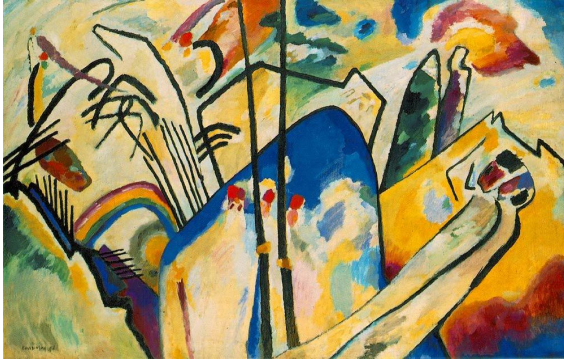
Do you question the sense of abstraction since their are well defined, realistic images in some of these works?

What is the main difference between her artworks?

"I'm never satisfied. I guess that's a good thing because I am always trying to do better work—I'm completely addicted to it. It feels like I'm always trying to figure it out. Yesterday, I spent twelve hours in the studio, not even leaving once, from 8:30 AM to 8:30 at night. I get addicted to it because I'm so hard [on myself]. I think everything sucks, but I'm trying to make it better."-Macnaughton

<http://coveteur.com/2017/05/22/kathryn-macnaughton-artist-female-body-inspiration/>





Historical context and questions related:

Look at the artwork of Russian artist, Wassily

Kandinsky. Kandinsky is known to be a pioneer in the abstract art movement.

How do the two artists use line the same? Different?

The two artists use color very differently, how does this affect the mood of their pieces?

Do you think that both of these artists work would look best represented at a larger scale or smaller scale?

How do these artists similarly use negative space?

Look at the artwork of Italian artist, Davide Balliano.

How do these two artists use color differently? (Other than the fact that Balliano primarily works in a gray scale)

How do these two artists similarly use shape in their pieces?

Would you consider both of these artists do create abstract work?

How do these two pieces evoke different emotions for the viewer?

Art Making/Research:

- Paint a canvas background, let dry, paint a geometric image over top, let dry, and keep repeating the process
- Create textures with paint, scan digitally, and create a digital composition using painted pieces
- Mix a still life line drawing with another drawing that is colorful and/or realistic
- Create a line drawing, fill in the “shapes” with a limited color palette

Vocab:

Abstract: distortion, no pictorial representation

Acrylic: fast drying paint that is suspended in acrylic polymer emulsion

Texture: the feel and surface of an object

Line drawing: a drawing done in only lines, usually thin lines

Resources:

<http://kathrynmacnaughton.com>

<http://coveteur.com/2017/05/22/kathryn-macnaughton-artist-female-body-inspiration/>

<http://www.beerslondon.com/artists/kathryn-mcnaughton>

<https://bau-xi.com/collections/kathryn-macnaughton>

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/abstract>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acrylic_paint

<https://www.wassilykandinsky.net/>

<https://www.artsy.net/article/francesca-gavin-10-new-artists-to-watch-in-abstract-painting>