Found Object Assignment

TIME TO HAVE SOME FUN!

Your assignment is to create a freestanding sculpture of a recognizable figure from found objects. This piece can take on almost any form you desire – it can be as large as you wish, but no less than 18 inches tall. It will be abstract but it must be recognizable as an article of clothing or prop.

The reason we have you create a found object sculpture is not to see how many of you we can make nervous (some do get anxious when asked to actually create "Art"), but rather to allow you to gain a new creative experience and begin to look at things around you in a different way. Found object pieces are also usually inexpensive and create a very stylized look on stage.

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FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT:

1. LOOK AROUND – walk down the street, look into an alley, stroll across a park or a vacant lot. Look for things from nature and/or the man-made world, discarded items that lie everywhere.

2. ASK YOURSELF:

(a) How can I recombine them?

(b) How will they physically be joined?

(c) What kind of story will I tell with them?

(d) When others see your piece, will it make them laugh or cry?

3. DON'T DO THIS! There are some things that we don't want you to do for this assignment.

(a) Don't go to the craft store and purchase new items other than those needed to construct your piece such as glue or wire. We don't want to see any scrapbooking, Precious Moments, flower arranging, etc.

(b) This is not a clay sculpture, a wire sculpture, a papier-mache sculpture, etc. It is not a molded Rice Crispie sculpture either! Let the "found objects" work for you... DO NOT PAINT OR COVER THEM COMPLETELY UP!

(c) Don't simply lay some items out on the floor, on a bed, on a table, in a basket, in a toilet or box, etc. and take a photo of them. Your piece needs to actually be constructed. It needs to STAND UPRIGHT whether on a base or by its own configuration.

4. BRAINSTORM! Let your creative right brain have some fun. If you question your idea, please contact me as soon as possible so we can discuss it.

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AFTER COMPLETING THE ART PROJECT:

1. WRITE a short reflective essay describing:

(a) Your thought process, design process and construction process and,

(b) Challenges you faced in completing the assignment and how you addressed them.

(c) What show would incorporate your costume piece or prop and how it would add to the overall aesthetic of the show.