

"Evaluate the importance of artist's intention in the production & meaning of artworks"

The artist's intentions in an artwork is very significant in the overall understanding of the artwork itself. For example one could not have a real understanding of the artwork "Bridget Bardot II" if they did not have the knowledge of the artist's, Yasumasa Morimura's intentions & how he produced the artwork. Similarly, one would have to have some knowledge of the intentions of Lin Onus's ~~intention~~, to completely understand his ~~sculpture~~, the "Maralinga sculpture". Even with works like "Woman & Dead Child" by Kathe Kohwitz, which it is quite easy to see that it is about a woman mourning the death of her child, one must still have the knowledge of the historical context of the artist in order to

understand the <sup>ultimate</sup> ~~in~~ ~~pass~~ ~~to~~ suffering the work conveys. These <sup>works</sup> ~~have~~ show how significant the role of the artist is in understanding ~~that~~ of an artwork & its production.

The artist Yasumasa Morimura, ~~to~~ ~~a~~ tends to deal with the concepts of gender & western culture meets eastern culture. Morimura, a Japanese artist himself, deals with ~~his~~ these ideas in his artwork "Bridget Bardot II". Here the work shows an image of Bridget Bardot standing in an eastern city. Bridget Bardot is the symbol of western culture. She stands over a motorbike & wears a leather jacket. She is in the middle of what looks to be very traditional ~~building~~ Asian buildings. This in itself has much meaning: the relationship between east & west can be seen. However with the knowledge of what the artist actually did in the production of this work, the meaning goes a lot deeper.



Marimura himself dressed up as the Bridget Bardot in the artwork. This ~~shows~~ ~~the~~ ~~deals~~ with gender, the relationship between male & female. This shows that for Marimura, there are ~~not~~ boundaries. ~~It is~~ If audiences did not know of Marimura's intentions, they would not understand why ~~Marimura~~ he went to such lengths ~~to~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> production <sup>of</sup> his artwork.

Lin Onus' work is another example where it is important to understand his intentions to ~~completely~~ ~~under~~ feel his full meaning. For example, his "Mawalinga Sculpture" comments on the nuclear bomb testing of the 1950s. At this time nuclear bomb testing was ~~often~~ occurring near Aboriginal communities & on their sacred land. His ~~Onus' sculpture~~ The Aboriginal communities did protest but they were ignored as the testing went ahead anyway. Onus'

sculpture depicts a woman with her child as a radiation storm sweeps past them. The woman clutches her child tightly & the tears in her eyes, her wide open mouth indicate the pain she is going through. The colour of the sculpture, yellowy-orange represents the cloud. Blue lines over the sculpture represent radiation. Keith ~~the artwork~~ Lui Onus, an Urban Aboriginal artist, shows his anger at the bomb testing & how cruel this event was. With the artwork, at first glance it can be seen that the woman & her child are going through pain but one cannot be exactly sure of what is happening. If one understands the intentions of the artist, that he wants to show the cruelty & shame of white Australia the Australian government in allowing the nuclear bomb testing to occur, then the meaning of the artwork can be seen.

The artwork "Woman & Dead Child" by



Kathe Kollwitz also shows how an understanding of the historical context of an artist help one to understand the intentions of the artist which reveal the full meaning of the artwork. Kathe Kollwitz was an Expressionist, a group of artists that were reacting against the Industrial Revolution. The Industrial Revolution brought horrible consequences for the people of Europe & artists began to express ~~their~~ ~~own~~ pain, poverty, love, war, isolation & depression in their artworks. Kathe Kollwitz expresses the pain of a woman losing her child. The artist uses the colour brown to contribute to the sad mood of the picture. The woman leans over her child representing her pain & suffering. There is no real distinction between the woman & her child & it almost looks as though they are the same person. This conveys the idea that the woman has not only lost her child but a part of herself also, while a lot of the



meaning of this work can be realised through observing the work, there are still meanings that could only be recognised through knowledge of the artist's intentions. Kathie Kollwitz, a product of the Industrial Revolution, depicts the woman as a poor person, probably on the street. This meaning cannot really be acknowledged without knowledge of the artist's intention. And the significance of the production of the work cannot be related to the meaning of the work without some knowledge of the artist's intention.

In conclusion, the what the artist intended to convey is very significant in the production of artwork. A knowledge of messages of an artwork, & Masamasa Marimura's intentions strengthen the audience's understanding of the how he himself dressed up as a woman in "Bridget Bardot", as well as adding to the <sup>depth of</sup> meaning. An understanding of his own anger at the devastation & pain



of the Aboriginal people & his intention to convey  
this more important to the symbols he used  
in his work & hence the meaning of the sculpture.  
And an understanding of the perspective of  
Kathe Koldewitz, in truly realising the use  
production & meanings of her "Woman &  
Dead Child".