

Vanessa Beecroft



1. Where were they born? Where did they grow up? Where do they live now

-Genoa, Italy

-Italy

-Los Angeles, California

2. Where did they study art? Or are they self-taught?

-5 years studying at Breara Academy

3. What kind of art do they make?

-She creates sculptures, paintings and other pieces but she is most famous for using models to create live artwork, typically captured through photography

Selected Artwork

Bellissima, 2015



a. What are the formal aspects of her work (size, colour, materials, texture, value, composition, genre, style, etc)?

- The work is composed of many female models covered in sheer sheets of fabric
- The models are situated in a mirrored room, mirrors on all sides to make it appear as if there are more women than there truly is
- It is a live piece, temporary and intended to be experienced in person.
- The composition is crowded and intimate between the models
- The colours are warm and muted, the dark and dim lighting makes the pale skin and fabric pop and feel almost ghostly
- The piece consists of about a dozen models, set in a medium sized mirrored room

-The piece has a ghostly and almost paranormal feeling to it.

b. How do these formal aspects affect how you “read” the artwork?

All the formal aspects of the piece lead to a dark and ghostly work. The piece leaves a sense of tension or uneasiness in the viewer due to the confined space between the models, and the darkness. Paired with the illusion the mirrors serve, it lends itself to a haunting feeling for the viewer.

c. What materials and methods might she be using to make these works?

-Digital planning

-Thumbnail sketching

-Brainstorming

d. What is the context for this work (when this work was produced, what is going on politically, theoretically/philosophically, in the art world, in their personal life)?

This work was created in the same few years as her collaborations with Kanye West. I imagine this work was both aesthetically to fit her brand affiliation at the time, as well as beginning her shift from feminist issues to issues of race.

e. What emotions does the work elicit for you?

-Discomfort

-confusion

-haunting

-paranormal

f. What ideas does the work cultivate, or questions does the work ask you to consider?

-How do we view the female form?

-Ghostly or paranormal themes/ideas

-Whats going on with these women?

g. What does the artist say about their own work?

She speaks very generally about her work but she stresses a focus on the autobiographical nature of it, but also the way it represents women and feminism as a whole by using

composition, color and light to show the different privileges and places in society of different women

h. What other questions about this artist or their work do you have?

-How do you plan for the pieces with models?

-do your sculptures and paintings connect to your performance pieces?

-Who is your biggest inspiration currently?

4. Is there anything about this artist's work that interests you? What and why? If not, can you articulate why that is? What is missing for you?

Her work interests me because it is so different from most anything else I've seen. Usually, models are simply a tool to create art rather than being the art piece themselves. As well the different images created by each type are so wildly different. From haunting to whimsical to beautiful, it is truly a gallery to behold.

5. Is there anything about this artist's work that you can carry over into your own art practice? What in particular?

I think I could take trying new things and allowing new practises and methods to blossom even if I'm not sure it will work out

- Include the links to the websites you attained your research from.

<https://vanessabeecroft.com/>

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

<https://artwizard.eu/The-Conceptual-Art-of-Vanessa-Beecroft-ar-15>

<https://www.alejandradeargos.com/index.php/en/all-articles/21-guests-with-art/41536-vanessa-beecroft-interview>