Museum of the White Mountains

LESSON PLAN

Space 2 Place Photography & Music

Description: Students will view various works in Maria Sanders’ Space 2 Place exhibition and choose one or more works to use in this activity. Each student will then find a piece of music to accompany the chosen work(s). Music teachers may consider specifying a certain type of music for students to explore if, perhaps, the class has been studying particular types of music.

Materials: computers with access to the internet, paper and writing utensil or computers with access to word processing software

Procedure:

Step 1: Students view Space 2 Place independently. They can view the photographs, read Sanders’ writings, and explore the quotes she chose to feature (link is also at the bottom of the exhibition website under “Exhibition Educational Resources”).

Part 2: Students each choose one or more photographs that, to them, are meaningful in some way. A few things they can be thinking about are:
- What about this is meaningful to me? Why?
- Does this work make connections to my own life? Does it make connections to something else I’ve seen, heard, or read about?
- What in particular about this work do I want to relate to with my music choice?

Part 3: Students use the internet to search for a piece of music that they feel best suits their chosen work(s). Some websites to use when searching for music are:
- YouTube
- Spotify (requires a free account)
- Musipedia
- AllMusic
- KidzSearch

Part 4: Students write a short paragraph explaining why they paired the work(s) with the music. Some explanation points they can be thinking about are:
- Are there lyrics in the music that relate to the image(s) or Sanders’ writing about the image(s)?
- Is there a certain section of the music that most strongly connects to the photograph(s)?
- What is the relationship between Sanders’ work(s) and the music you chose?
- What about the music do you feel most accurately represents the photograph(s)? Tempo (slow or fast)? Key (major or minor)? Timbre (tone of an instrument)? Melody (maybe it’s familiar)? Lyrics? Emotion? Memories associated with the music?

For more activities and lesson plans, visit www.plymouth.edu/MWM