

Year 9 Portrait Project

Week 3

Developing Ideas

Week 3

- This week you will learn about the Graffiti Artist MTO & about Street Art & Graffiti Art.
- You have 2 tasks to do:
- Task 1 is to read slide 3 and answer the questions on slide 4 (remember to use full sentences to answer your questions)
- Task 2 is to select one image from slide 5 & draw it using a full page. If you have crayons or paint you may add colour to your image. When drawing the portrait use the shading technique you have learnt about.

Who is MTO?

- Mateo aka MTO is a French artist known for his grey scaled photo-realistic works of art, mostly portraits, which stand out from the masses because of their high quality, that led him to become a respected artist in the Graffiti and Street art scene.
- He was born in France, and then moved to Berlin in 2006, just to leave it 7 years later. And, that pretty much sums all that he is willing to reveal about himself. Visiting Barcelona was the kick-start for MTO's work on the streets. The vibrancy of the city's exterior culture inspired him to create. Yet his work, although labeled street art, goes way beyond graffiti.
- MTO sprays his portraits with a typical red outline (that is part of the artwork and his signature at the same time) – usually of people who inspired him. For that reason he started painting musicians like the young Michael Jackson, Ray Charles or Jimmy Hendrix but also movie actors and their most interesting film scenes, like Jack Nicholson from "Shining", Robert De Niro from "Taxi Driver" or Angelina Jolie from "Tomb Raider".
- The portraits are 8-9 feet high and wide and it takes him about 2-5 hours to finish one piece which sounds amazing when you take the quality of his work in consideration. His art also interacts with the environment around it.

Difference between Graffiti Art & Street Art

Graffiti Art is word-based, whereas Street Art is image-based.

Main Features of Graffiti Art

Graffiti is word based and used to advertise or express parts of urban culture. It draws attention to issues that are raised by the artist or writer applying the graffiti message.

Graffiti has a culture and language of its own with expressions like a 'burner' referring to a tag with two colors, black and chrome. A 'throw up' refers to the use of more than one color and a 'blockbuster' is an expression used to describe a piece of graffiti that went up on the wall very quickly.

Main Features of Street Art

The street artist uses equipment like projectors, ladders and scissor lifts, to achieve the best effects to the work while onlookers admire their ability. Street art is painted by artists and often they are hired to create murals that may celebrate an event or convey a message to the residents and visitors.

WorkSheet-Who is MTO & What is Graffiti Art?

To answer the following questions use the information from the previous slide. Write your answers using sentences.

1. In which country was MTO born?
2. Where does he get his tag name 'MTO' from?
3. What type of people does MTO paint portraits of?
4. Why does he paint a red line around his portraits?
5. Find out what 'Street-Art' means?
6. What is the difference between Street-Art & Graffiti Art?
7. What do the terms 'Burner', 'Throwup' & 'Blockbuster' mean?
8. Find pictures of 'Burner', 'Throwup' & 'Blockbuster' graffiti and print them.

MTO

