

Process Paper

Art has always been an important part of my life; I love to draw and have always loved art and the infinite possibilities it holds. I decided that for my project, I wanted to focus on an artist who had some sort of relationship with society outside of just the art world. Though I thought of doing many different artists, all with a big impact on society, I decided on Pablo Picasso because his legacy seemed the greatest and most profound, and I knew that I could research Picasso for months and continue to find interesting and exciting information.

I started my research by going to my local library and checking out books on Picasso. I also went online and searched for articles and essays written on Picasso through Digital Learning Commons. Then, I started to look for more specific things, such as a scholarly article, primary sources, such as articles from when he was alive, and written documents from Picasso himself. I was able to find many of these things on the Internet, as well as at the University of Washington. There, I found multiple articles from Picasso's lifetime, as well as a very valuable source, a book written by a good friend of Picasso's, Gertrude Stein. I also found multiple books there that were very helpful in my research and were related to my thesis. I also discovered a book written by Picasso's granddaughter, but did not use it as it didn't relate to my thesis. Through this project, I also learned a lot about image use, types of images (royalty-free vs. royalty-managed), and permission for image use. I also consulted librarians and other teachers for help with proper citations.

Selecting my presentation category was relatively easy for me to do. Because I was doing an artist with such profound artwork, I thought that the most powerful presentation would be a documentary. A documentary would allow me to show a large number of Picasso's paintings and compare his work with other artists' work. To make my documentary, I first made a script detailing exactly what I wanted to say. I then made a list of pictures that would express the points I made, specifying exactly where each picture would go. I then recorded my script, added visuals and music, and put in titles and credits.

My project on Pablo Picasso clearly relates to the theme of The Individual in History: Actions and Legacies. Through his influential art, Picasso changed the course of art history. His artistic values of distortion of life paved the way for many future artists and changed our very conception of art and beauty. Without the advances made by Picasso, visual arts would never have been the same. Through his work, Picasso was able to embody the time he lived in, adding to his legend as a creative and innovative mastermind. All these components clearly show Picasso's tremendous legacy of the most influential artist of the 20th century.