

questions, problems, paradoxes

Digital Sculpture – Professor: Joe Meiser – Project #3

In this project, you will investigate a problem or question that intrigues you. As an auxiliary component you will borrow a strategy from a work of art and integrate it into your own sculpture's design. You can create your sculpture with any of the materials or processes we've covered so far this semester. The format of this project is totally open-ended and any approach is fair game.

1. Choose a topic

Identify a particular question, problem, or paradox that you find compelling—this question/problem could come from a variety of different sources, including: your academic pursuits, your personal experience, current events—ANY origin is acceptable, but it is important that you choose a topic that seriously perplexes and intrigues you, and that you have a deep interest in. It is not always easy to identify resonant problems/questions, so set some time aside to reflect deeply on your choice.

2. Consider and clarify your topic

This brief brainstorming exercise is designed to help you hone in on the your project's question/problem. Please type your responses to the following questions and post your work on the PRIVATE class website. Your response should total approximately 300 words.

- What question/problem did you choose?
- Tell why you chose this topic and why it matters to you.
- Give some details on the problem/question—explain it in depth.
- List out 10 tangible people/places/things that are associated with your question/problem.
- In your post, please include an image for each of the 10 people/places/things that you listed above.

3. Borrow a strategy

Borrow a strategy from an existing work of contemporary art. There are a variety of attributes that you could borrow, it could be an aesthetic quality, a compositional arrangement, the subject matter, a means of presentation, a sensibility, a construction technique, a sense of humor... anything at all.

For this step, you are to:

1. Find an image of a particular work of art that you find compelling.
2. Post the image on the PRIVATE class website.
3. In your post, include the name of the artist and the work's title.
4. Write just one sentence that specifies the attribute or strategy that you intend to borrow from the piece.

4. Create sketches

One's final product can be improved when, at the beginning of a project, one considers a variety of possible end results. Create five detailed sketches of five distinctly different project ideas. As you create these sketches, please:

- Think critically about the most conceptually sound means of exploring your chosen question/problem.
- Consider the various materials you could use, including: wood, steel, plaster, plastic, wax, polymer clay, fabric, found objects, etc.
- Consider the various ways that you could include other processes/approaches, such as: performance, installation, kinetic, site-specific, intervention, interactive, etc.

