



WOMEN ON THE RISE!

TEACHING INSTRUCTIONS: NICOLE EISENMAN

THEMES:

- Satire
- Classical paintings

FEATURED WORKS:

Eisenman paintings and collages that juxtapose classical styles with comic imagery.

RESOURCES:

Please Note: These sites contain images that may not be appropriate for classroom use.

Links to images

- http://www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk/artists/nicole_eisenman_resources.htm
- http://jameswag.com/mt_archives/004743.html
- http://www.artnet.com/magazine_pre2000/reviews/dailey/eisnmn04.asp
- <http://www.queer-arts.org/archive/show3/eisen/02.html>

Books

- *Nicole Eisenman: Selected Works 1993-2003* (2003): Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, NY
- *Nicole Eisenman: Selected Works 1994-2004* by Victor Mathieu (2003): Walther Konig

DISCUSSION POINTS AND QUESTIONS FOR STUDENTS:

- Based on the images you select for the workshop, generate questions regarding the representation of femininity and masculinity in the works.
- Juxtapose Eisenman works with the original Renaissance pieces she appropriates. How do the meanings change? What is the commentary she is trying to make?

MATERIALS FOR HANDS-ON PROJECT: **Nicole Eisenman**

Comic Collage

- Photocopies of major works from the Renaissance
- Coloring book pages based on children's cartoons
- Heavy paper in assorted colors (construction paper can be used)
- Liquid glue
- Markers
- Scissors
- Stickers
- Acrylic or tempera paint and brushes
- Glitter or glitter pens/glue

PROCEDURE FOR HANDS-ON PROJECT:

- Instructor will provide students with a selection of photocopies of noted paintings from the Renaissance
- Students will choose Renaissance images, coloring book pages, and stickers to incorporate in their work
- Students will use fragments from these various materials to create a comical collage
- Collages will be embellished with glitter, markers, and paint for a craft-like or child-art appearance

APPLICABLE NATIONAL VISUAL ARTS STANDARDS (GRADES 5 -12):

- NA—VA.5-8.1 (9-12.1): Understanding and Applying Media, Techniques, and Processes
- NA—VA.5-8.3 (9-12.3): Choosing and Evaluating A Range of Subject Matter, Symbols, and Ideas
- NA—VA.5-8.4 (9-12.4): Understanding the Visual Arts in Relation to History and Cultures



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STUDENT HAND OUT: Nicole Eisenman

Nicole Eisenman (born 1965, Verdun, France)

Nicole Eisenman is inspired by popular culture and is best known for her large-scale paintings that combine classical **icons** with cartoon-like characters. She blends these different styles in order to make humorous, **satirical** comments concerning **stereotypes** about women.

Eisenman is interested in representations of women found in **Renaissance** and **Neoclassical** painting. Women were generally not allowed to attend art school in these periods, as it was believed that they did not possess an intelligence equal to that of men. Her work pokes fun at the seriousness of works created by male artists who are considered to be “masters”. Many of her paintings show women working together on projects and teaching one another.

Vocabulary

Icons - An image that is commonly used in art to represent a “sacred” or famous figure/object.

Satire - The use of humor and sarcasm by a writer or artist to make a statement about something they feel is wrong in society.

Stereotype - A category applied to a group of people that is generally negative.

Renaissance - Historical period in Europe from the 15th through 17th centuries in which there were many innovations in art, science, literature, and politics.

Neoclassical - The re-use of ancient Greek and Roman styles by artists working in the 18th and 19th centuries.