

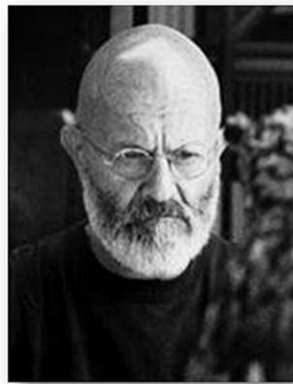
Jim Dine

Jim Dine is an expressionist artist born in Ohio in 1935. He then moved to New York when he was 23 to start his career seriously as an Artist. Critics have argued whether to call Dine an expressionist or pop artist.

Dine is usually introduced as a pop artist because he uses everyday objects such as the robe and tools in his workshop in his work. Also because he was born in New York where the movement of Pop Art begun. However, his expressive mark making and portraits are well away from the typical sharp precise lines of Pop Art.

Methods

Jim Dine's techniques in printmaking involve woodcuts, intaglio and other forms of etching such as spit-bite and soft ground, but he also works with lithographs, silkscreens and prints that combine two or three processes. Dine's processes include creating a soft, atmospheric background texture (sometimes using paint or materials such as gesso) energized with etching and expressive marks (media used differs with each work, Oil based ink mostly for wood cuts and etching) that form the pictorial issue of movement throughout the work so that the eye can easily focus on the bold image and to avoid tension within his work.



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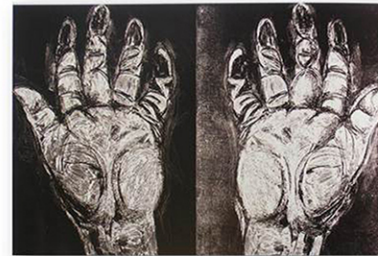
Ideas

Jim Dine

Dine has many different ideas behind his work and he doesn't tend to stick to a theme across all works. In print, he sometimes sticks to very expressive themes such as death, youth (using images such as skulls and skeletons) and also works with particular imagery like hearts to contrast themes. Images also seen in Dine's work are the robe and tools in art workshops which are everyday items giving an idea of the necessary objects in life that we take for granted but what we would be lost without.

2

Double Pacific Gift 1985



This is an example of one of Jim Dine's prints. This work is a lithograph and linoleum. The lithograph plate was formed from an impression taken off the linoleum block making a mirrored affect. This print gives an idea of shellac on each hand and they come across as workers hands or even artists hands. Jim Dine hints that the title may suggest that he found an object on the shore of a Pacific beach seeing as Jim Dine is known for working with objects.

1

Jim Dine also involves layering where images are printed over top of each other, such as this one to the right where the tree has been printed over top of the skeleton, which combines both images and forms its own idea within the art work such as nature and death. The process of colour is thoroughly thought about within Dine's works as it conveys certain messages and he focuses on not making his work too busy. In the image to the right, the pale blue against the black forms the idea of a surreal dreamland which also creates contrast to stop the print from becoming too complicated. And Dine has made sure his background process was done with soft media such as acrylic to ensure the background isn't too heavy against the etching printed overtop.



Youth and the maiden

Jim Dine is a true artist who is famous for being a printmaker, painter, sculptor and craftsman and has no specific routine when it comes to his art as he is always trying something different. He has become one of the world's well-known printmaking artists with his 'dry' expressive techniques in etching that combine depth within his work. Jim Dine's art can be recognized also by the repeating of certain images such as the skulls, robes, hearts, tools, statues and gates. He is influenced by everyday life and everyday objects around him that have a certain necessity to him and are the most common used objects in life.

Influences



Similarities and Differences

Swoon



Jim Dine and Swoon are very similar in the way they are expressive with their printmaking because they use etching processes such as woodcuts which gives a very rough imperfect line. Both artists also do not use any programmes on the computer for their work, it is all hand carved with use of a printing press. A process Swoon is famous for is installing her prints where as Dine does not do this, however he is known for 3D art when it comes to his sculptures. Both works have the figure of a girl and use the colour red within the background.



Jim Dine

The ideas within each artwork is also fairly similar. In Swoon's piece the girl is looking off into the distance as if to be unhappy with what she has in life and dreaming of some place else. In Jim Dine's piece the figure of the woman dancing, looking down to the ground with the red in the background suggests she is unhappy also with her life as she struggles to make ends meet. Similarly both Jim Dine and Swoon are influenced by poverty, despite as Jim Dine looking more at the gypsy provinces and Swoon more on the Urban Life of young girls/women.

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Swoon

Caledonia Currie, also known as 'Swoon' is an American Street artist born in 1978 in Florida who became well-known for her installations around 1999. She installs life size prints into environments and also is known for sculptures of rafts and boats, this is what makes her a 3D artist. Swoon installs her prints onto abandoned buildings, bridges, fire escapes, water towers and street signs which are usually uninhabited. Her work is always of people and places mostly of people she knows but of unique structures that's she creates with in a print, that is how her work is usually recognized. Swoons work is never associated with graffiti as materials such as spray paint etc. are never used and the messages across her work is always different to that of graffiti. Swoon is a master of printmaking and works exceptionally well with negative and positive space to form simple shadows and movement within her prints.



These portraits are x-rays of my city plastered back upon its surface. Through the hundreds of holes that I cut into them, I am trying to interact with the walls beneath them."

4

Methods

Swoon

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Swoons main technique in printmaking is woodcuts and paper stencils. This is when she usually installs her work on walls using very light wheat glue which is very thin and makes it easily pasted on. Her prints are usually printed on recycled newsprint which over-time decays and cracks leaving a old yellowish look. Swoons processes when pasting a print onto a wall is to let the rain and other extreme weather conditions to make it fit in with the other weathered posters and graffiti and give it that abandoned feel. Swoon creates

"external manifestation of internalized depths –thoughts, emotions and perceptions and echoes them with in memory or imaginations."

Swoons work is all hand-made with use of printing presses, no computer is used. Her work includes lots of people and other organic shapes. Her techniques involve very rough dry detail which is formed by the woodcut etching tools. Places/Towns/cities are also formed but are usually formed inside the shape of a characters body.

Influences

Swoon

Swoon has travelled all around the world and each new place she goes or new culture she experiences influences her in every way, especially her art. It doesn't matter whether its China, the Netherlands or America. Swoon is inspired by different historical art and also folk sources which varies from German expressionist wood block prints to Indonesian shadow puppets.

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She is influenced by people and the way they live their life within environments, this is portrayed within her work. She tells there own story through her wood cuts, cut outs or sculptures. Swoon is also influenced by the buildings etc. she pastes her work on and it almost encourages her to make her prints fit into the buildings by making them seem old and cracked too.

The closest people in Swoons life that she claims also inspires her are her grandparents, which she has used in her prints often.



This is one of Swoons famous prints 'Girl from Ranoon province' where she has drawn this piece on a woodblock, then etched it out and printed it on fine wheat paper. Swoon has then pasted it on a wall with in her gallery instead of an abandoned building but has used a sort of gesso texture for the background and what seems to be brown graphic-like paper.

Swoon has also gone over her wood block with white acrylic to make the highlights of the girls face stand out and form the pictorial issue of contrast. Swoon has printed this image many times and also changes it each time slightly by adding more to her at the bottom.

Swoon was influenced for this print by the energy, conflicts and joys of urban life which is seen with in the construction the girl rests on that is very clustered and busy similar to city life. The idea drawn from this is a girl with in an urban culture who isn't happy, as she is shrugging and looking off into the distant.

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Girl from Ranoon Province 2010

The title doesn't give much clue but it almost inspires the viewer to step in the girls shoes and imagine how she feels as there is so much emotion and detail within these prints such as the simple lines which form the city below her and the expression in her face.