

Art 1

Modern to Contemporary Art

Name _____

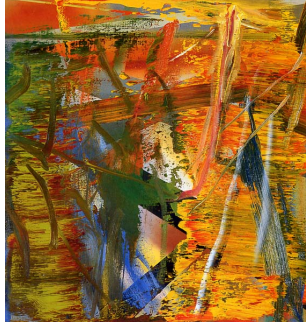
Due Date _____

You earned _____ out of 20 possible points.

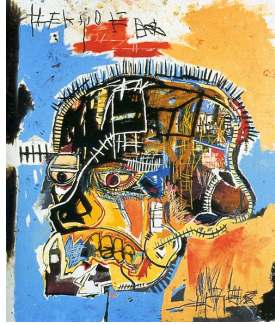
Worksheet #12
The Death of Painting?



Richter. Betty. 1988.



Gerhard Richter. Untitled. 1986.



Basquiat. Untitled (Skull). 1981.



Basquiat. Untitled (Red Man). 1981.

Why was painting considered a dead practice in the 1970s? What art movements and artists were involved in this declaration? What kind of media were artists interested in exploring instead of paint? Consider one work (or artist) that provides evidence of the death of painting and describe how it asserts the irrelevancy of painting as a media.

In 1962, Gerhard Richter began to create photo realist paintings as an anti-art gesture. By this point, what had the photo, and the painted canvas, come to symbolize to artists like Richter? What conceptual anchor do the photorealist paintings rely on? In other words, what ideas are important to understanding the works?

Gerhard Richter came to prominence as an artist after painting had been declared dead in 1965. How does Richter's exploration of paint serve as a rebuttal to claims that painting had lost its relevancy? What does Richter's skillful use of both abstract and realist painting methods say about the development of an artist's individual style and the spontaneous nature of creativity? (The Richter article at www.artchive.com/artchive/R/richter.html#bio may be helpful.)

Jean-Michel Basquiat is often associated with graffiti art, even though he only practiced it for a short time and abandoned it in favor of more traditional artistic venues. How does Basquiat's use of graffiti in his "fine art" paintings reflect upon the debate over painting's relevancy in the late 70s and early 80s? In other words, how do Basquiat's graffiti-like works argue for painting's come back?

How do both Richter's and Basquiat's works relate to the critical consideration of originality and the unique artistic gesture? Are their works modern or postmodern in their position on this issue? Explain.
