

HUMANITIES 20100: Exploration in the Arts

Instructor: Tanya Marquardt Wednesdays
10:10-1pm Aug 26-Dec 20, 2020



Pictured (from top left): *Tampopo* (1985, dir. Juzo Itami); classical / contemporary Anishinaabe composer Olivia Shortt; *The Darlings in Quarantine* (theatre, 2020); Okwui Okpokwasili in *Bronx Gothic* (Dance, 2017).

This course focuses on the experiencing and understanding of temporal and spatial arts, namely film, music, theatre, dance, and visual art. Our aim is to cultivate aesthetic appreciation and enjoyment of various art forms and, moving beyond subjective responses, to use diverse analytical methodologies as a means to form critical opinions about each work verbally and in writing. Projects and in class assignments will range from critical and personal response essays on a class blog, group assignments, class discussion, a shared Twitter account for thoughts during scheduled viewings of shows, creative online workshops / interviews with invited artists, and a final group project.

This semester will focus on work that delves into themes of isolation vs. community, the urban landscape, and the ways in which communities overcome hardship through art making, storytelling, familiar and chosen relations, friendship, food, radical care and love. Artists and shows will include drag-opera collective *The Darlings* and their ongoing Quarantine Series; an online workshop in devising and group composition with Anishinaabe musician and performer Olivia Shortt; Seattle's On The Boards documentation of dancer Okwui Okpokwasili's *Bronx Gothic*; Wim Wenders 1987 film *Wings of Desire*; Mariano Pensotti's play *El pasado es un animal grotesco*; and the life and work of visual artists Kent Monkman; Maria Hupfield; Louise Bourgeois, Cassils; and Indira Allegra.