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Damien Hirst

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Who is artists ? Artist is a talented person who try to express the feelings into an objects such as on canvas or anything they could find to match on their feelings, artists is also a career that have impact on every society because their works always reflecting most of people thoughts in the society or sometime the works are beyond expectations of people thoughts and later cause them to think in a different ways, advance ways and then follow up by a lot of big events later. Damien Hirst was born in Bristol and then grew up in Leeds, England raised as a Catholic from his strict religion mom and has a little different childhood from normal kids, his father was a mechanic man left him when he was just 12 years old and its maybe the start of something in him such as deep emotions or subconscious thoughts that want to express later in raw senses and also represented in his works later and he also got caught 2 times for shoplifting, maybe those problem came from his childhood but he also had some luck on his talent about art and fascinated the teacher in art subject in school but that's not all because his mom not just think art is a trivial thing in life but she see it as a big gifted and support him best as she can by encourage his liking for drawing.¹ Damien attend the university at Goldsmiths, University of London and studied Fine Art. Damien Hirst has had making reputation from joined Young British Artists (YBA). Young British Artists is a group of new artists founded in 1980's gathered up with several artists such as Damien Hirst, Sarah Lucas and Fiona Rae and

¹ Wikipedia contributors. "Early life". Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. 6 February 2013. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Damien_Hirst>

later exhibited their works in London and one of the famous exhibition of Young British Artist called “Freeze” occurred at abandon Duckland warehouse, Damien Hirst was also a big organizer of that exhibition.² Damien has a very individual inspiration, his inspiration had come from death, once he said every work that has interested him is death and later on he using this individual inspiration expressing on his works but death is a dangerous thing to express because it is a very sensitive side of life so many people from many groups have trying to anti his work such as stuffing dead animal or represents his work by using human skull but Hirst has still continue his work even a he has to carry the big pressure from the society. Damien Hirst should be esteem as a genius and brave artist because he had courage to represents his arts about death without scaring of society criticisms.

The art of Damien Hirst is often preoccupied with death, yet Hirst has lived his life with unceasing energy.³ He became the best known of all contemporary British artists genius through his works and you can always notice some raw senses. He expressed in arts by his works, for example the work name “For the love of God” he has tried to expressed the genius through this work that everything in the world have a darkness side and also have the end of itself, at first of his early artist life, he has thought that decorations is something negative side of art but later he found that when we used decoration with death, the result is that decoration becoming a humble and

² Unknown author. “Young British Artists (YBA)”. Art Fact. 6 Febuary 2013. <<http://www.artfact.com/fine-art-genre/young-british-artists-yba-xgfwjr62fb>>

³ Brad Finger and Christiane Weidemann. 50 comtempory artists you should know. 2011. Page 110-111

such a great thing.⁴ The another most famous work of Damien Hirst is call “The physical impossibility of death in the mind of someone living” finished in 1991, inside the big clear box of glass and inside is big tiger shark preserved in formaldehyde and this master piece has sale at the approximate price \$8 million dollars.

The reason that Hirst work can make ate audience fully appreciate his arts because most common material that Hirst always use is glass. He said that he love to use glass because it has its own identity, glass is a solid thing but also an invisible thing, when you use it to protect or make more dimension to your work the audience can fully appreciate your work but also the work is untouchable.⁵ This is how Hirst has shown his genius not only art but the way to perform it.

Damien Hirst main concept on his work is death, the end of every living things, the way Damien has trying to express is through his work by using something already dead but will last for a long time that is stuffed animal such as Shark, Sheep, Cow, Pig even a man skull. Damien has use stuffed animal that already been killed or alive and tell the slaughterhouse to kill it and use it in his work. There was a group called “The Stuckist art group” occurred in 1999 and have a strong goal to anti-Britart artists and Damien Hirst was there big target, the group once said that Damien Hirst work does not mirror the strong side of the society but it mirror the weakness side of it, even though Hirst have to dealt with the bad comments from the Stuckist art group but he

⁴ Unknown author. “Death has not required us to keep a day free”. TATE. 7 Febuary 2013. <<http://www.tate.org.uk/context-comment/articles/death-has-not-required-us-keep-day-free>>

⁵ Elizabeth Manchester. “The Acquired Inability to Escape”. TATE. 7 Febuary 2013. <<http://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/hirst-the-acquired-inability-to-escape-t12748/text-summary>>

has still continued producing the work that less people in society will do.⁶ The main reason that Hirst has still continuing his works until today should come from 2 big reasons, first Hirst childhood problem, second is the strong heart that does not fear the criticize of society.

Today world change very fast people need to work on something that they even don't like for just money, only few people in society that are brave enough to show that the ideology is more important than anything, they express what they think and not fear even a big media that will criticize them in a negative way. Nowadays everyone have to carry a big pressure but to maintain their ideology so they have to be strong enough to keep themselves on track. Damien Hirst one of the wealthiest British artist alive and maybe this person wealthy status is not come from greed but it came from the courage to express what he has been thinking without fearing anything and Hirst is not just a genius man but also a strong man, he is a man that want to express something and can still put up with a negative criticize from every side, hence he should be esteem not only his genius but for his love of art and brave enough to make one.

⁶ Wikipedia contributors. "Stuckism". Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. 8 February 2013. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stuckism>>