

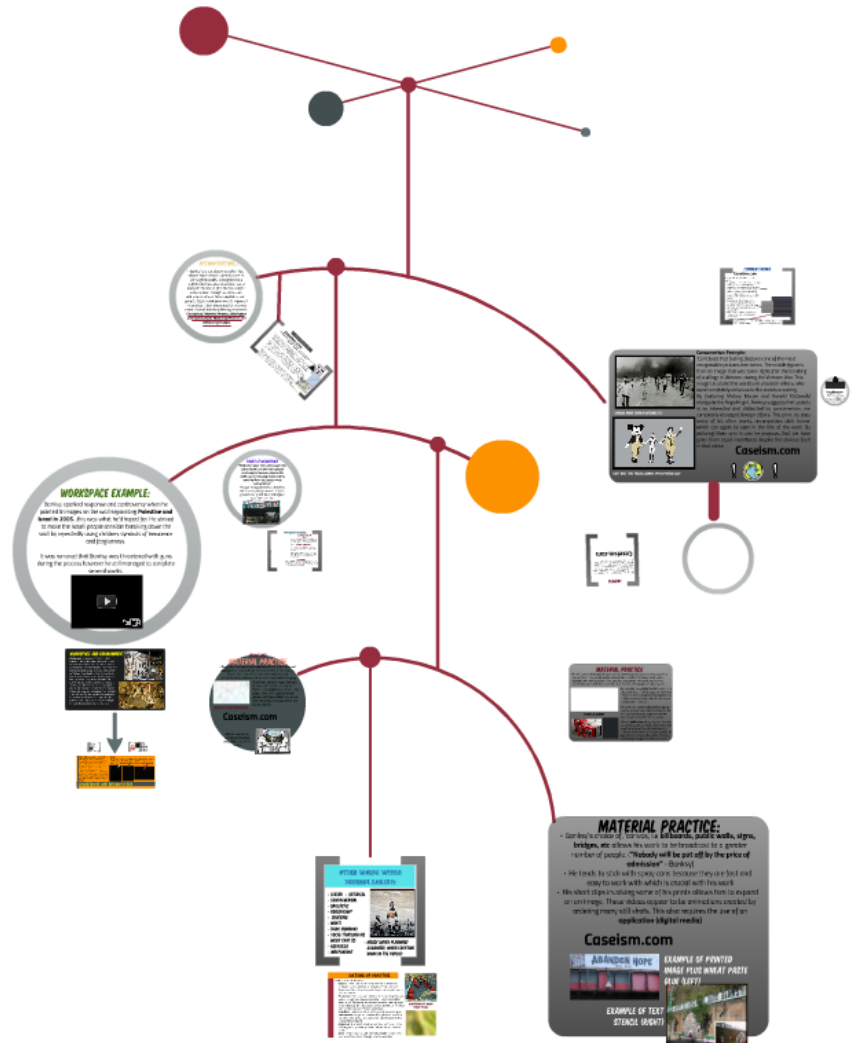


PACK-ITS



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WithSyria



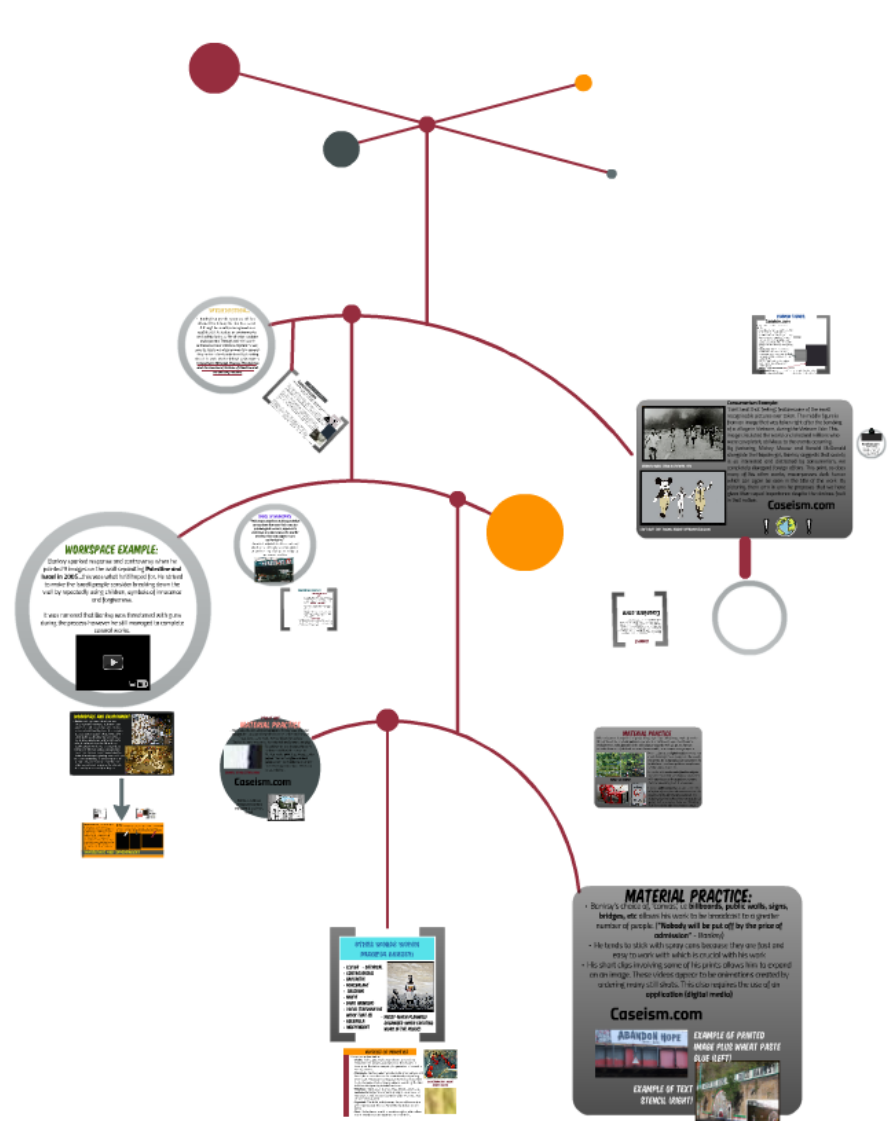


PACK-ITS



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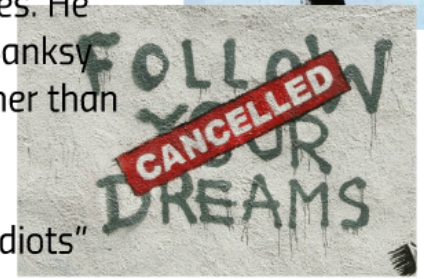
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CONCEPTUAL PRACTICE

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- *"We may not know his real name, but his art is unmistakably the work of a passionate individual." – Delana (Web Urbanist Journalist)*
- Although Banksy is usually recognised as a graffiti artist he is also: an environmental and political activist, film director, sculptor and a painter. While many people look down upon street art claiming it is an act of vandalism, Banksy uses this style of art as a method to **provoke thought** from the public and to **raise awareness** about **social** and **political** matters.
- Banksy's belief challenges the typical opinion that graffiti defaces neighbourhoods, he instead argues that our cities and suburbs are ruined by companies which attack us with giant slogans and, 'make us feel inadequate' (Banksy) without their product or services. He detests how it is repeatedly drilled into our heads on every available public surface. Banksy says his work is a response to advertising and provides a two- way conversation rather than one .
- A writer for the Guardian, Charlie Brooker says, "...his work looks dazzlingly clever to idiots" However Banksy's work purposely has a simple surface meaning as it can be easily interpreted by his audience because it is, 'usually viewed in a speeding car.' (Banksy)
- Recurring figures and animals include: rats, monkeys, policemen, soldiers, children, and the elderly.



COMMON THEMES:

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Through satire his work addresses and/or criticises:

- **Capitalism** - he says, "We can't do anything to change the world until capitalism crumbles. In the meantime we should all go shopping to console ourselves." His work draws attention to the great divisions in society, highlighting how the rich are only getting wealthier while the poor are getting poorer.
- **Consumerism** - Banksy comments on societies excessive buying and over-consumption on unnecessary goods, and the downward spiraling lifestyle we are living because of this.
- **War** - His anti-war themed work often focuses on the deprecation of society because of war.
- **Fascism and government systems** in general
- The **materialistic world**
- Our dependence on **technology**



• He also critiques **societies vices** such as greed, hypocrisy, ignorance etc



ORIGINAL IMAGE TAKEN IN VIETNAM, 1972



CAN'T BEAT THAT FEELING, BANKSY APPROPRIATION 2004

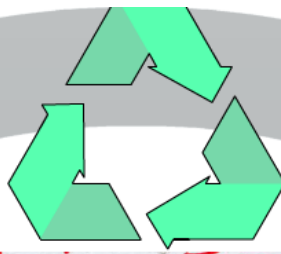
Consumerism Example:

'Can't beat that feeling,' features one of the most recognisable pictures ever taken. The middle figure is from an image that was taken right after the bombing of a village in Vietnam, during the Vietnam War. This image circulated the world and shocked millions who were completely oblivious to the events occurring.

By featuring Mickey Mouse and Ronald McDonald alongside the Napalm girl, Banksy suggests that society is so interested and distracted by consumerism, we completely disregard foreign affairs. This print, as does many of his other works, encompasses dark humor which can again be seen in the title of the work. By picturing them arm in arm he proposes that we have given them equal importance despite the obvious fault in that notion.

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Environmental Example:

Banksy often comments about how 'crazy western consumerism' has deprecated our environment and society. The piece pictured above draws attention to individuals who are denying global warming despite the overwhelming signs i.e higher temperatures -> melting icebergs -> rising sea levels.

EXAMPLE

Although, 'The Simpsons' is the most famous example of a satire, here Banksy takes a dig at the fact that 20th century fox have subcontracted studios in South Korea to increase their profit. Alongside this it also draws attention to our reckless treatment to the environment & animals, consumerism and inhumane conditions in sweatshops. This is a great example which encompasses many of his recurring themes.

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STREET ART: MATERIAL PRACTICE

- Along side the conventional **spraycan**, Banksy uses prepared **stencils** that are pieced together to recreate the entire image.

These stencils are made from cardboard or acetate.

Due to his many mediums, his materials are forever changing.

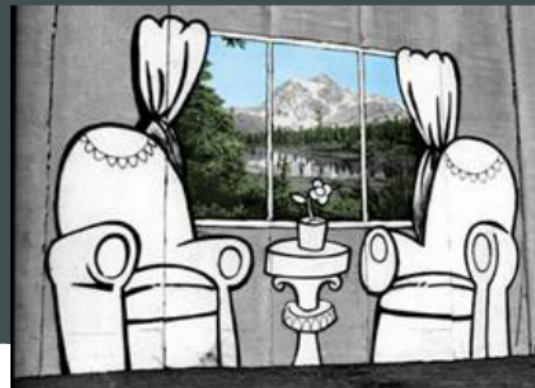


EXAMPLE OF HIS STENCIL WORK

- To achieve realistic images that can't be done quickly with a spraycan Banksy would **print** large images onto **paper**. Then with a **glue or wheat paste** would use a **roller** to cover and stick the image into place. Which can be seen below...

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- Banksy would use **permanent markers** and **paint** to add more detail.



MATERIAL PRACTICE:

- Banksy's choice of, 'canvas,' i.e **billboards, public walls, signs, bridges, etc** allows his work to be broadcast to a greater number of people. ("**Nobody will be put off by the price of admission**" - Banksy)
- He tends to stick with spray cans because they are fast and easy to work with which is crucial with his work
- His short clips involving some of his prints allows him to expand on an image. These videos appear to be animations created by ordering many still shots. This also requires the use of an **application (digital media)**

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EXAMPLE OF TEXT
STENCIL (RIGHT)

EXAMPLE OF PRINTED
IMAGE PLUS WHEAT PASTE
GLUE (LEFT)

