Joe Layden Art 109 Writing assignment #3 Art for Personal Expression

The piece that I chose is untitled by Tim A.K.A Hi-Lar. Tim is a German artist of music and visual art. When I first saw this piece my impression was that it looks like a still frame from the beginning of a film. Additionally I asked other people what their first impression of this piece was and it seems that the most noticeable thing about this picture is that there is a mixture of letters r, a, u, and m shown from different angles or on different planes. I later found out from Tim that the word Raum is the German word for space. Now I can see that the word portrayed in this picture because the first letter is portrayed bigger than the other letters and they go in order getting smaller ending with the letter m which is the clearest letter and seems to be in the middle of the page. I feel this is a piece for personal expression because it seems to me that he is trying to express oppression or the feeling of being confined in a small area. I don't know whether the place is in his mind or in some physical place.

One reason that I feel this piece is communicating the artists feeling of oppression is that he chose to combine the letters together by overlapping them and creating one unique shape. Words are made up of separate and distinct letters and this piece clearly shows that the word is one, there is no separation of the letters. Perhaps this reflects how the artist feels about his own identity, that he is unique or different and perhaps this is another reason why he feels oppressed, because he is not accepted for being different. Another reason why I think that he feels oppressed is because the form of this piece has an angry feeling to it and I believe that the colors reflect the artist's mood. To me, the blue in the background represents the space in which he is confined, since blue is a color that can represent depression and sadness and perhaps the red/pink color represents his anger.

The positioning of the letters is very interesting to look at because they all seem to be on different planes as if there was no ground and the letters in light pink really add to this because they give the picture more space. This picture also demonstrates space by making the letter M look like it is half appearing behind the U, it makes it look like there is a whole different area behind the U and if you look closely, every other letter is in front of the M. I think that if you want to get a good interpretation of this piece you must look with the left side of your brain, be creative, and have the patience to look at it for a long time because there is a lot more going on in here than what it seems.

This picture makes me think of an old friend and how he seemed oppressed because his life was controlled by his father. My friend was always hiding things from his father likethe last letters in Raum are hidden from the observer in this piece.



Untitled By Tim a.k.a Hi-Lar http://www.fourfivex.net/blog/