# MULTIMODALITY: A DESIGN FOR WRITING

# TRANSMEDIATION

The exhibit in the Emily Lowe Gallery was an enjoyable experience. Barbara Roux's exhibit, Environments, had plenty of beautiful framed photos and a whole bunch of interesting and sophisticated sculptures. I myself am not a fan of photography of trees so I was immediately attracted to the sculptures in the middle of the gallery. The artistry was as green as these words. As I viewed more and more of the exhibit they just kept getting greener and greener and greener, almost too green for me. I looked over at the exhibits and began to find my more creative side of thinking. I kept

looking at the sculptures and wondering exactly what she was



that it felt very COLD and SAD. IT FELT LIKE THE TREE

BRANCHES WERE ALMOST SPIDER-LIKE AND WERE STRUGGLING TO

WALK. THE SHAPE OF THEIR LEGS MADE IT SEEM LIKE THEY WERE when I realized that this is basically a family struggling, two parents and two was to my family and why I had such an instant connection to it. My family directly related to those bent and broken trees trying to move on and get

would always relate my life to subjective things, totally disregarding the physical symbols around me. I am really glad we were able to see Barbara Roux's, Environments because I like physical art (not photos) and I

BENT AND BROKEN. BUT THEN I BEGAN TO NOTICE THE TWO BIGGER TREES AND HOW THEY ALMOST SEEMED TO BE OLD BUT dencing That is children running away from their hardships. The elders are dancing because they are trying to keep the family alive and happy through no matter what turmoil is shead. It is a sad piece but it makes me happy to think that the artist was trying to copyey this to its viewers. That was when I realized how similar the sculpture

I like this whole aspect of multimodality because it helped me draw out things I didn't know I could relate to something in an objective sense. I sometimes sculpt in my free time. Also, I now know where the Emily Lowe Gallery is so I will be able to see all of the art exhibits when new ones come

HYBRIDITY

Professor Buono

16 February 2012

The Land Has Secrets And Needs LossOfConnection

Caitlin Rose-Monteiro

Rose-Monteiro 1

Barbara Roux: Environments While creating my reaction paper, I chose to highlight the things about Barbara Roux's exhibit that stuck out to me most. During this process, several single words came to mind that possessed so much depth and meaning, that they were able to convey Roux's entire message. You can find these words in the smallest font on my reaction paper.

Instead of just choosing a group of keywords that conveyed Roux's message, I wanted to find personal quotes made by Roux that could correlate and support the selection of words I came up with. To do this, I picked up pamphlets from the Emily Lowe Gallery that were based on Barbara Roux's exhibit. In these pamphlets, I found a plethora of information on what inspired Roux and what she found most powerful about her artwork. The thoughts of Barbara Roux can be found in the medium sized font on my reaction paper.

Overall, my reaction paper is a visual representation of the message I gained from our visit to the Emily Lowe Gallery. The message I gained and translated into my reaction paper conveys that we share close ties with Mother Earth. It is the place that provides us with every element we need to survive. Unfortunately, many aspects and people of our world have been taking advantage of what our surroundings have to offer us; causing us to destroy many of our natural resources. This ultimately causes the people of our world to lose connection with our planet. However, it is vital for our society to recognize our flawed behavior so that we can work together to protect and preserve our world.

### ASSIGNMENT

Professor Buono Spring 2012

### Museum Exhibit/Reaction Paper

Generally, I ask you to simply "react" to a piece of writing that I have given to you to read. Of course, I expect you and to make a cogent statement reflecting your likes or dislikes about the article's content. However, in this reaction paper, I would like to see you step up your game.

You will be viewing visual texts: encoded messages placed within the artwork by the artist. Although we cannot say for certain what the artist truly had in mind, we can try to use our frames of reference as clues to decoding the meaning of the art that we will be viewing. Moreover, we have been doing a great deal of reading about various forms of communication represented through multiple modalities that should help to expand and inform your perspective of the work that you will see displayed in this exhibit.

Therefore, I would like to see a bit of puzzling—inquiry—taking place within your reaction papers. Use the odd-object exercise as a way to begin. Look at the obvious and then begin to ask yourself questions that will broaden the scope of your reaction paper. Use the investigative reporter's trusty guide: Who? What? Where? When? Why?

Have fun with this assignment, as you begin to see art—and the world—through different lenses. In fact, in order to emphasize the "fun" aspect, I would like you to "design" your reaction paper. For example, I have asked for permission to photograph the works on display. If we are granted permission, I would like you to use your cell phone camera to take a picture or pictures of a particular work or of the entire exhibit. Be creative in the way that you take the picture-it does not have to be the standard "photo" that tries to capture a perfect representation of the work. You can cut borders, take the picture upside down-do what you want-now you are the artist. Next, I want you to ignore MLA format-just for this particular assignment. Choose any type of font, or font size. You can alternate font types and sizes. You can add color or include your photo or one chosen from the internet that suits your discussion. Perhaps you want to create a certain layout of words that gives your text added dimension. Be creative, yet still convey a legitimate point.

HAVE FUN!!

sculpture is very impressive and I think especially her poems in combination with impressive

I think every visitor to the gallery interprets Roux's work in a very individual and subjective. As

I mentioned before, I can see how Roux inspires me to think of our environment as a gift. I have always been interested in nature, the protection of nature and environmental issues. However, Roux's artistic work takes me a step further. I can see that there is composition in everything in the gallery. Roux took very specific pictures in order to deliver a message to the visitors of the gallery. She put nature in a frame; however, it is up to us to understand her message. I think we have to understand that nature is ours. However, we cannot own it in order to destroy

it. We need to understand our responsibilities and have a voice for nature. Man's hand on nature can be very destructive. Due to over-harvesting of the Earth's animal and plant resources, we

directly affect biodiversity. Our fingerprints can be found everywhere on this planet. Men have actively destroyed our environment and we tend to rely on politicians to break the artificial circle

of destruction. I think art is a great way to show us nature's gifts. It is a way to directly reach and

educate a large number of people. Therefore, I am happy to see that there are artists like Roux

who raise our level of awareness and sensitivity for our environment in order to change our

attitude towards it. Our fingerprints on nature are already to be found everywhere around this planet. I think we should change those fingerprints to shadows of our hands. We need to hold our

protective hands over this planet in order to change destruction to life, death to new beginnings

and fingerprints to shadows of protective hands.

photos show great insight to natural habitats in Long Island.

Write approximately 1-2 pages due: Thursday, February 16.

was a hand drawn work entitled One Blackbird Doesn't Mean It's Spring. The drawing is of a lone flying through a completely white sky. There are no clouds or other elements in the drawing, making it look like an abyss or void where nothing but the bird exists. Embroidering the work are branches which frame it and also add a feeling of naturalism. Due to the fact that the is alone a sense of loneliness projects from this work. It feels isolated and empty but that's not a bad thing. It is, in

Out of all of Barbra Roux's works of art the one that stood out the most to me

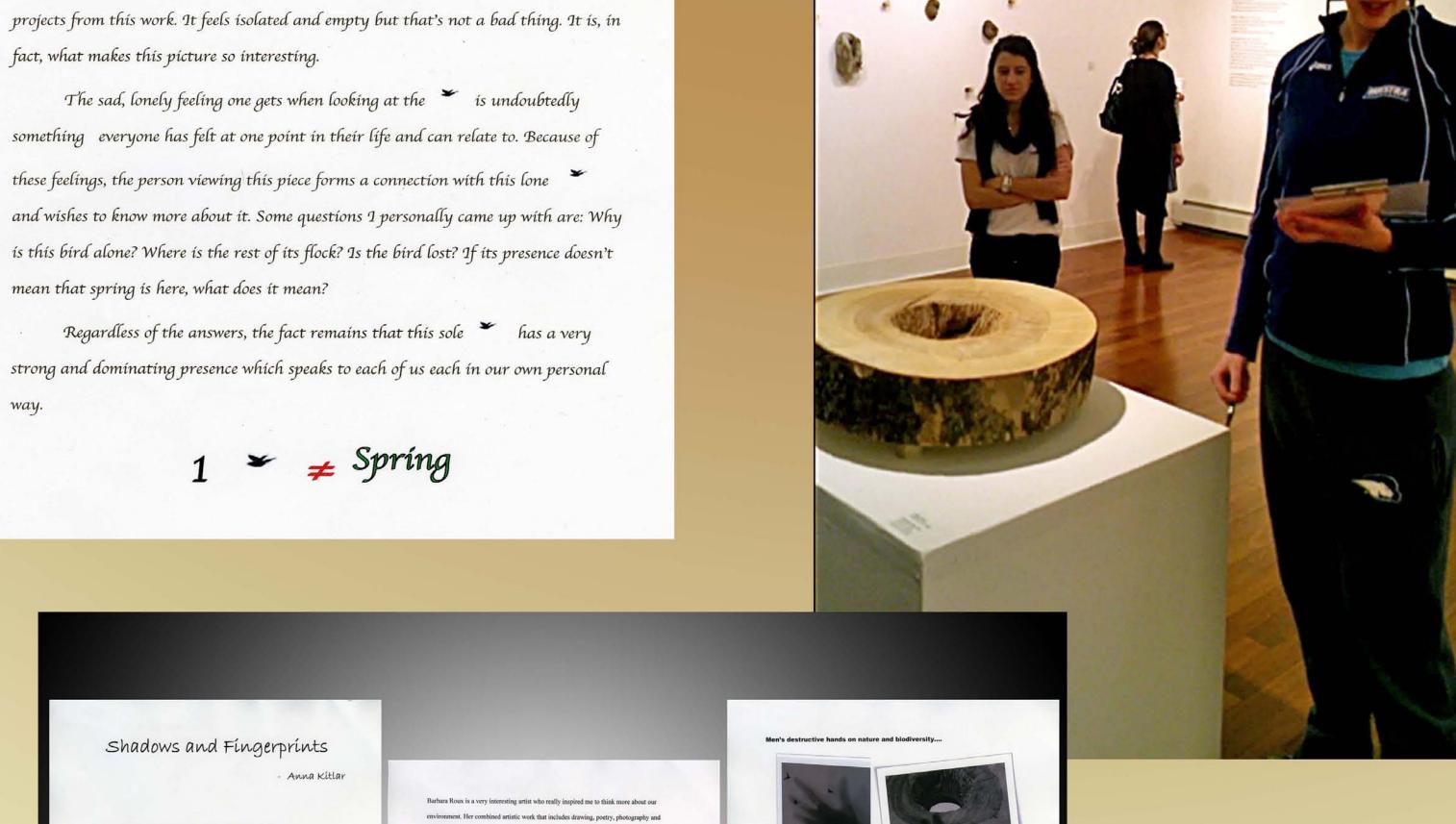
The sad, lonely feeling one gets when looking at the 💆 is undoubtedly something everyone has felt at one point in their life and can relate to. Because of these feelings, the person viewing this piece forms a connection with this lone and wishes to know more about it. Some questions I personally came up with are: Why is this bird alone? Where is the rest of its flock? Is the bird lost? If its presence doesn't mean that spring is here, what does it mean?

strong and dominating presence which speaks to each of us each in our own personal

"Destruction or Life

Long-lasting Circles of Nature

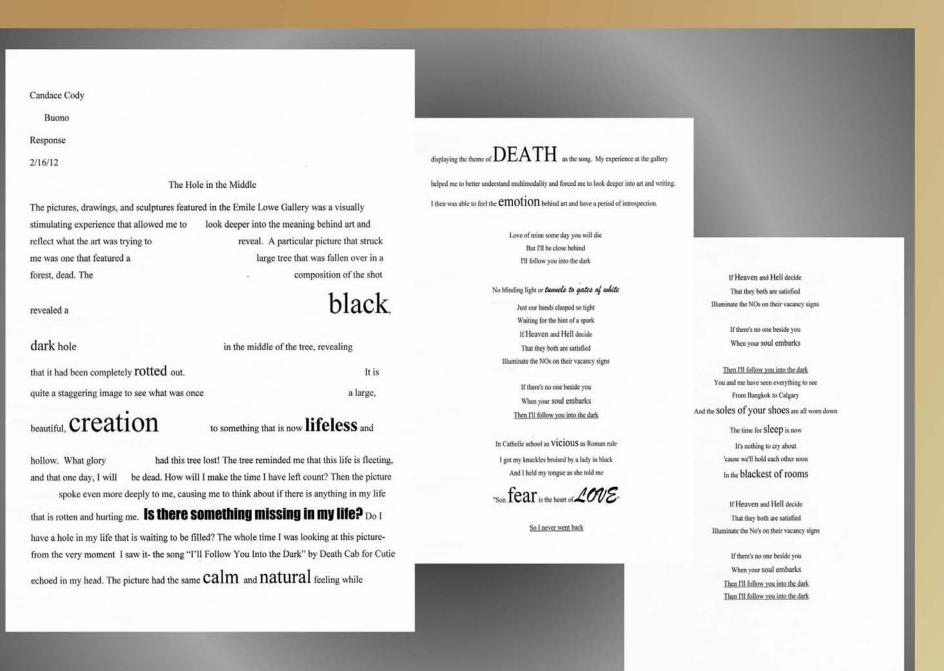
But Human's Fingerprints"

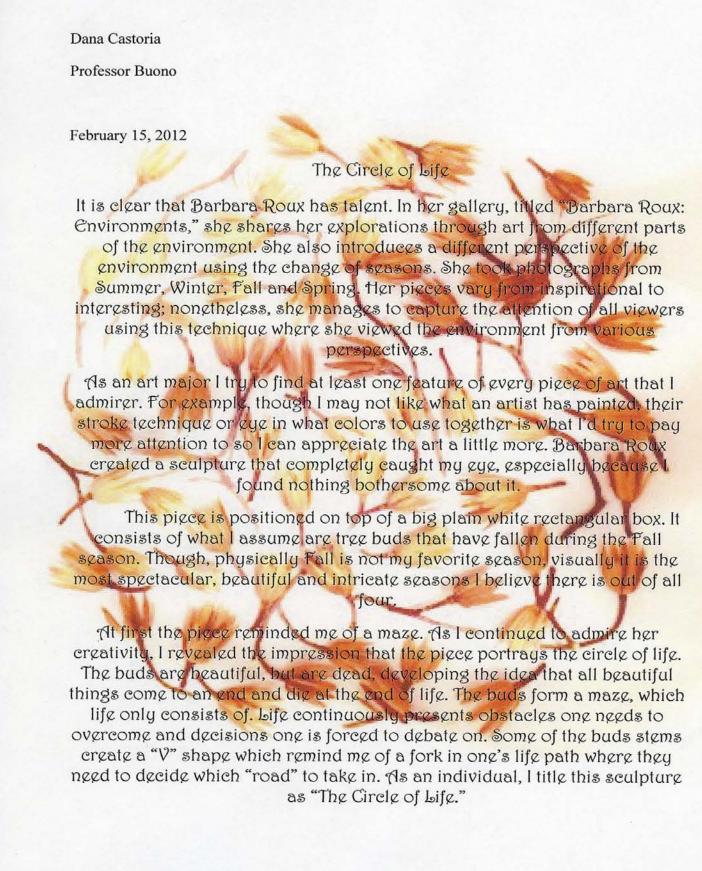


SEMIOSIS









# DESIGN

Poetic Responses written by Hofstra University Freshman Writing students inspired by works from Barbara Roux: Environments

Anna Kitlar's poetic response to Sycamore Ring and Office Building Framing Plains Growth: Destruction or life? Ever casting circles of Nature But human's fingerprints

Dana Castoria's poetic response to New Moon Snowfall in Cove:

Siobhan Stergis's poetic response



It weeps down Though the snow seems peaceful Deceivingly it freezes

to Orchard Skirts and Hanging Oak Trunk: Hold or fly? Do we fear shed skin uidance, then movement



Reaction Paper#4

'Barbara Roux: Environments": Multimodality, Natures Landscapes And the Decoding of Visual Art into a Metaphorical Dialogue

Giovanni R. Mongy

February 15, 2012

Prof. M. Buono