

Student Research Conference Application

Madeline Delaney

*Late I Find You Buried: An Interpretation of Apostrophe, Intimacy and the Abstracted Muse*

Through this multi-dimensional, creative project, I explore the relationship of the Muse and the inspired creator, one of the oldest documented relationships in human expression, art and intimacy. I have based my study in the context of apostrophe, an address to an absent or abstract figure, illustrating how the space between two people, either in physical distance or in the space between two perceptions, acts as an apostrophe, therefore abstracting an intimate partner into an objectified Muse. Physically, my final product will creatively express my findings through a collection of written work and multi-medium artwork. My project will be expressed in four tangential, but autonomous sections. These include an academic essay, explaining the conceptual aspects of my project, a short story and letter correspondence, an art portfolio, and a scrapbook collection of poetry, art, and nostalgic reflections. Primarily following the poetic stylings of Richard Brautigan and Margaret Atwood, and the art of Joe Tilson and Nick Bantock, I will capture the location of intimacy within the simple gestures of the romantic relationship, with the objective of understanding the complexity of the Muse. The story created within the written and artistic elements will further illuminate the abstraction of a person, which occurs through the space of the apostrophe. I hope to fashion a postmodern representation of the human embodiment of ideals, and the abstracted perception, through the collaging of sentimental creation. I aim to emulate the history of nostalgic collections, where creative work is shared over a bodily or mental separation. This product reflects the nature of my study itself, as the underlying meaning within these subjects must naturally be gleaned from their creative surface.