




"Solitude" (Marc Chagall)

painting uses icons of the artist's Russian and Jewish background to reflect his style and creative identity. Chagall has stated of his work, "I try to fill my canvas in some way with objects and figures treated as forms...Sonorous forms like sounds...passionate forms designed to add a new dimension with neither the geometry of the Cubists nor the patches of the Impressionists can achieve."

For artists or art lovers who love spending moments in a surreal naptime (like me), there are works by Salvador Dali and Rene Magritte. Dali's "Study for the Tuna Fishing" incorporates both gouache and watercolor on paper stock to illustrate Dali's mental fusion of art and biology where the cobalt blue ocean transforms into the scarlet rain of blood which runs through our very own arteries. Magritte exercises his love of unusual pairing in "Travel Souvenirs" where he juxtaposes a feather and the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Magritte understood the fundamental psychology of his imagery and used his unlikely combinations to produce a "shock" in the mind of the viewer. Like many surrealists, these two artists borrowed liberally from subconscious symbols and definitions, feeling that truth came from our most basic instincts.

Wassily Kandinsky's "Pressure (Druck)" is an oil-on-canvas, which may appear to be a big blot of solid color on a background, when in fact, it is much more. Kandinsky's painting explorations led him to discoveries that linked certain geometric forms with color associations. Blue is identified in circles, yellow is drawn to triangles, and red is at home in a square. He believed that the tension created when these objects are used together, provided a balance when incorporated with shade-sensitive lines.

The exhibit represents a fascinating look at the work of some truly talented artists and is a once in a lifetime chance for Siouxland citizens to see firsthand the artists they have only read about. For more information on this event contact the Sioux City Art Center at 712-279-6272 or visit the gallery at 225 Nebraska. 



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