Jeniffer Mayorga Jimenez

Professor Brener

Writing for The Humanities and Arts

## March 29, 2020

Art is seen everywhere, in different forms and categories. One of them being sculptures. Sculptures art is a two or three-dimensional form that is carved of wood or stone. One sculpture is *The Watertower 3, R.V Ingersoll* by Tom Fruin. This sculpture is located on 334 Furman Street, Brooklyn and is visible from Brooklyn Bridge Pier 5 and other locations as well. It was installed in December of 2015, the size of this is approximately 20 feet tall by 10 feet wide and 15 feet long.

Tom Fruin is an artist located in New York. His work is made up of plexiglass, steel, plastic, and scrap materials. His materials are recycled objects and finds a way to incorporate them into his art. Most of his known work is when he recreates items like houses, water towers, and other things into something beautiful. His art is bright and colorful, his work lights up and stands out from where it is placed.

The Watertower was created for himself. Fruin would go on bike rides and on walks. When he would do this, he would want to see something beautiful on his path. Which is why he decided to create this Watertower. He specifically placed it on a spot where he would be able to see it along with others that can be seen from different vintage locations. He picked a water tower shape to mimic the real water towers that are seen all over the building's rooftop in New York. This artwork is part of one of Fruin's series named The Plexiglas and Steel Patchwork Icon. This series consisted of work that is made up of materials that are recycled, reclaimed, and reusing them to create artwork.

The Watertower 3 is a beautiful piece of art. It is three-dimensional artwork that is made up of steel structure, scraps recycled, acrylic plastic and is placed on the rooftop of a building. The name speaks for itself. It is replicating a water tower. With more style, color, and media. This work is realistic, it is an iconic water tower representing a water tower. The tower is made up of Plexiglas from different colors. Mostly blue and small involvement of colors like red, yellow, and green. There is no patter seen throughout the water tower, the Plexiglas' is placed at random with no order or pattern. As mentioned before the water tower is placed on a building's rooftop. The background is very simple and boring, there are no bright colors, and everything is plain and neutral. The background consists of buildings, cars, and bridge. The plain background compliments the water tower. Having the simple background lets the water tower stand out and be powerful. It pops out and it is the center of attention. The iconography is the way we are interpreting the water tower. Even though this water tower is minicking real water towers. This one clearly stands out and is way different from the real ones we see all over New York.

This tower is an aesthetic response to a certain place or content and is also an enhancement of the designed environment. This is because the water tower is placed where a water tower is normally placed in. It isn't placed in a random spot or place; it is placed where it is supposed to be. The uniqueness of it makes it more noticeable and different from a plain brown water tower. The tower is also an ornamentation that is bright and colorful in contrast to everything else around the tower and the background. Having the bright artwork is an ornamentation to the background it is placed in.

When I visited this art piece a few months back, it was for my art class, but I was amazed by it. I spotted it right away due to its bright colors standing out from the background. Staring at the sculpture made me feel relaxed and made me realize the love I have for art. The day I went it was a very nice day and I was there for a while, taking pictures, reading about the art and the artist. The piece itself may not have much meaning other than representing a water tower but it is a beautiful piece. The type of media it was made of made it more interesting and fun.

## Works Cited

"BBP Welcomes Tom Fruin's Watertower 3, R.V. Ingersoll." Brooklyn Bridge Park,

www.brooklynbridgepark.org/press/brooklyn-bridge-park-welcomes-tom-fruin-s-watertower-3r-v-ingersoll.

Tom Fruin: WATERTOWER, www.tomfruin.com/watertower.html.

Wong, Pamela. "Meet the Artist Behind Brooklyn's Kaleidoscopic Water Towers." *BKLYNER*, 16 July 2019, bklyner.com/meet-the-artist-behind-brooklyns-kaleidoscopic-water-towers/.