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Brooklyn Museum : *The Queen and The Crown*

Virtual exhibit chosen is titled *The Queen and The Crown* based off of the Netflix original show which won an Emmy for best costume design. It is featured in the Brooklyn Museum. The museum is the third largest in New York City and has also showcased and contained an estimated 1.5 million works of art throughout its time. The museum was founded and open to the public in the year 1823. The architect behind the colossal museum is Chester French, whose name gained much prominence during his work on the iconic Abraham Lincoln statue. *The Queen and The Crown* virtual exhibition presentation is put together by the Senior Curator for Fashion and Material Matthew Yokobosky. The location of the Brooklyn Museum is 200 Eastern Pkwy, Brooklyn, NY 11238.

The setting of the virtual exhibit is very classy, pristine, and elegant. The aesthetic of the setting compliments the costumes on display. There are columns and arches within the room which derive from Roman architecture, which also emphasized beauty and elegance within their work. All the costumes are displayed in one large room, however each costume is designated to their own little spot which allows their individuality to be extremely prominent. There is a huge white glass chandelier in the middle of the showroom, one of many things within the room that bring the costumes to life. Another aspect of the showcase room are the paintings on the wall. The paintings on the wall seem to be significant scenes of the Netflix original and some of them feature the costumes on display. The exhibition is not traditional but is tailored to a specific theme of pompousness and grandeur. This pompousness and grandeur is also displayed

by the color palette of the exhibit, which comes in cream and beige colors with bright shades of white. This extends to the type of aristocratic fashion sense of the mannequins, as well as an aura of purity and royalty that comes with the color white. The structure is a highly detailed fusion of modern and antique architectural sentiments. The glass is wide and has minimal framing which allows the viewer to have a clear view of the sky, another allusion to the fresh and chaste design of the exhibit. A very stark symbol of this simplicity and chasteness is modeled by the trooping costume displayed in the exhibit. Military (especially those that are held to royal and aristocratic status) are seen as sentinels of the queen's will and that extends to their clothing. The uniform is covered in blocks of red and black, and has various medals and signs of status plastered on. There aren't many designs or unorthodox color schemes involved, which makes it simple and minimalistic. However, gold coloring is very present on the top and the medals. Gold is a universal symbol of high class and importance, this conveys the idea of wealth to the museumgoer and automatically gives the costume an aura of allure. Juxtapose this with the "Power Suit" commonly worn by Margaret Thatcher, a vivacious suit made from wool which she wore with a matching dress, the uniformity is still seen throughout the exhibit even though this is a more modern example of aristocratic dress. Overall, the exhibit follows a sustained level of class through its classical infrastructure, pure colors and regal fashion that emphasize beauty and uniformity over uniqueness and diverse fashion choices.

The Queen and The Crown exhibit allowed me to have a deeper understanding about how fashion can influence not only image and perception but also emotion. There is some kind of innocent joy in seeing the feminine and classy wear displayed in the exhibit, it harbors a sort of gravitas and pulls you in to learn more about the background of the display. The exhibit sought to

give the museumgoer an experience that they wouldn't get to such volume anywhere else, and it achieved this goal in spades.