

COMD 1112

Instructor: Professor Bauer

Student: Marcia Jackson

Digital Field Trip

## NASSAU COUNTY MUSEUM EXHIBIT BLUE

The art images below are from the 2020 Blue exhibit at the Nassau County Museum. I experienced this interesting exhibition virtually through the Nassau County Museum's website [nassaumuseum.org/blue-2020](http://nassaumuseum.org/blue-2020) and through *blue. A guide to looking*, a digital pamphlet published by the Nassau County Museum. Below you will find three works of art by three different artist, I specifically chose for their predominantly use of blue in the following compositions. The artist are Katsushika Hokusai, Pablo Picasso, and Cao Jun.



Katsushika Hokusai (Japanese, b. 1760-1834) *Shichiriyahama in Sagami Province*, c. 1830-1834 from the series *36 views of Mount Fuji*, color woodblock print, 14.5" x 9.5"

The Artist Hokusai uses Prussian Blue in his landscape print of Mount Fuji. This style of printmaking in Japan is called Aizuri. The other colors used are black and white. Hokusai also uses value as the blue appears in shades, and tints. The landscape is stylized. I can clearly see and identify the clouds, huts, water, trees, plants, landform, and mountain. The print leans more towards realism than abstract. As my first choice out of the three, I chose Hokusai's *Shichiriyahama in Sagami Province* for its calmness. It radiates harmony and peace.



Pablo Picasso (Spanish, b 1881-d. 1973) *Buste de Femme*, 1902, lithograph

*Buste de Femme*, from Picasso's Blue Period, is a lithograph. It is a lithographic print of an imprisoned woman. Although she is an inmate her sadness is accompanied by self-reflection. This conveyed by the expression in her eyes. Her mouth conveys a slight bit of happiness, perhaps by the attention she is receiving as her image is drawn. Picasso uses large shapes for the woman's clothing in *Buste de Femme*. His colors are all dark shades of blue, except for tints to underscore highlighted form. There is no pure white in this composition. Her face is emphasized with the lightest hues, and blue shadows. The entire composition emanates a cold coolness. The lines and shapes are simply drawn, yet conveys realism. I chose this Picasso's *Buste de Femme*, because in it, I saw grace.



Cao Jun (Chinese, b. 1966) *Poetic Water* part of *Hymns to Nature*, c.2018

Jun's painting, *Poetic Water*, is the most contemporary of my three choices. His painting is abstract and can even be considered non-objective. However, when viewing Jun's, *Poetic Water*, my mind tends to see images in his forms wherever I can make an association. Jun uses a range of blue values in this composition, as well as black and white. The movement and transformation of his shapes seem endless. I chose Jun's, *Poetic Water*, because it reminded me of a healing stone.

My virtual visit to the Nassau County Museum was very interesting. I didn't appreciate it as much until I started to analyze the art I selected, in writing. If I were to visit a museum I would prefer not to write during my visit, unless for minor notes. Drawing or just looking and appreciating the art exhibition are the activities I look forward to in an actual visit.