

English 1

20 November 2017

In chaper 3 of Weys of Seeing,

In this chapter Nude vs. Naked, the author's thesis is that the presence of a woman expresses her own attitude to herself and describes what can and cannot be done to her. In addition to this, the author's argument is that the presence of a woman is manifested in her voice, gestures, opinions, her attire, and the things that surround her. In brief, the manifestation of a woman is so deeply ingrained in her person that men're inclined to think of it as an almost bodily emanation.

According to Berger, "Men survey women before treating them," and this implies that, the way a woman looks to a man can define the way she will be treated. This point is true in that, in order to attain some control over this process, women need to contain it and interiorize how they appear to men. It is also true to point out that every woman' presence controls what is or what is not acceptable in her presence. Furthermore, the actions of a woman read as an indication of the ways she needs to be treated. For instance, if a woman makes a good joke or makes fun in the midst of men, then this is an example of how she needs to be treated. Similarly, a woman who acts tough in the eyes of men depicts an attitude or manner in which she needs to be treated.

difference between The second important theme discussed in this article involves the aspect of naked and nude. I agree with Berger on the point that the idea of naked is simply being without clothes and is far much different from nude, which can be considered as a form of art. Furthermore, it is true to point out that to be nude especially in a painting is to be seen naked by the spectators and yet not recognized as naked. This is because, a naked body has to be seen as an item in order to turn into a nude. This idea suggests that nudity is placed on display while nakedness reveals itself.

In order to connect this concept with the argument of the easy, the presence of a woman in painting needs to be curtailed in order to feed the appetite of the viewer and not have their own. For instance, in the painting Allegory of Time and Love by Bronzino, the painter omits important elements about the woman's body in order to curtail her presence and use her body to feed the appetite of the viewer. In this painting, the woman is made to appeal to the sexuality of the boy kneeling on the pillow, however the painter ensures that the painting has nothing to do with the woman's sexuality. In order to achieve this, the painter does not highlight the woman's hair, which would, in turn, associate her with passion and power. The omission of these elements makes the viewer feel that he has the control of such passion and power-over the woman. Through painting and other images, it is the elements included in the painting, the look in the woman's face, as well as the positioning of the body that project the presence of a woman and her intention. According to Berger, it is the expression of a woman responding with intended charm to the man who she imagines looking at her, that offers up her femininity as the surveyed.

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In the contrary, if a man makes a good joke, then it remains a joke and does not suggest the way he needs to be treated.

In order to exemplify on this argument about men and women, Berger asserts that women have played this role in the art by depicting an image that manifests the attitude of the woman as well a defining what is and is not permissible within her presence. In order to differentiate the presence of a man and woman in a painting, it is important, to begin with, the early nudes painting of European painting, In the first nudes depicting Adam and Eve, the first element that women in a painting more than a man is the idea that the woman is blamed and punished by being the passive to the man. With time, this narrative transforms from the concept of punishment, shame to some kind of display and the woman is at the center of attention. According to Berger, "When the tradition of painting became more secular, other themes also offered the opportunity of painting nudes." Eron) this point, it is evident that most important feature about them is that a woman is conscious of being seen by a viewer and her body language welcomes this move. In this case, the author is supporting the argument that the presence of a woman expresses her attitude and define her intention. In a similar example, the painting of Susannah and the Elders, the theme of the picture is a woman taking her bath as she looks back at her spectators. While some elements such as the mirror or nudity might be included in these paintings, the idea is that a woman is the center of attention and the idea of gazing at the spectator is an expression of her submission to the demands of both the woman and the owner of the painting.

I agree with Berger on the point that in the modern age the attitude and values, which informed the tradition of nudes and naked are expressed through other widely used media. The one thing that has not changed over the years is the fact that the way of seeing women and their use of their body in an image has not changed. Women will always be depicted differently from men because the ideal spectator is always assumed men; this implies that the image of a woman in either a painting or a photo will always be designed to complement the viewer.

In conclusion, this article is insightful in demonstrating the idea of that the presence of a woman is far much dissimilar from that of a man in that a woman's presence expresses her assertiveness to herself and expresses what is or what is not acceptable within her presence.

While the depiction of this presence might have changed over the years, one thing that would not change is the use to which women's images are put has not changed over the years.

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