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# EE/RPPF

For first assessment in 2018

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Candidate personal code:

## Extended essay - Reflections on planning and progress form

**Candidate:** This form is to be completed by the candidate during the course and completion of their EE. This document records reflections on your planning and progress, and the nature of your discussions with your supervisor. You must undertake three formal reflection sessions with your supervisor: The first formal reflection session should focus on your initial ideas and how you plan to undertake your research; the interim reflection session is once a significant amount of your research has been completed, and the final session will be in the form of a viva voce once you have completed and handed in your EE. This document acts as a record in supporting the authenticity of your work. The three reflections combined must amount to no more than 500 words.

**The completion of this form is a mandatory requirement of the EE for first assessment May 2018. It must be submitted together with the completed EE for assessment under Criterion E.**

**Supervisor:** You must have three reflection sessions with each candidate, one early on in the process, an interim meeting and then the final viva voce. Other check-in sessions are permitted but do not need to be recorded on this sheet. After each reflection session candidates must record their reflections and as the supervisor you must sign and date this form.

### First reflection session

Candidate comments:

I became intrigued by the work of Abdul Mati Klarwein after seeing the painting "Grain of Sand" at an exhibition ("You Say You Want A Revolution?" - V&A Museum). His style was like nothing I'd ever seen before and after looking closer at the painting, I was fascinated by his inclusion of religious figures, especially as I am a student of 'World Religions'. At first I wanted to write about the juxtaposition of religious and secular (especially sexual) imagery, but I decided that to make it more open ended, it would be better to focus on the argument of whether or not the painting can be considered religious art. I have taken some books from the library and am going to do further research to understand the context and style of Klarwein's work.

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**Interim reflection**

Candidate comments:

After some more research I discovered the original context of the painting which was part of Klarwein's installation; the "Aleph Sanctuary" which created an even more interesting debate. Reading some of Klarwein's interviews it was clear that he never intended it to be religious which at first seemed to destroy the prospect of my debate, but it occurred to me that it still had the potential to be perceived from an objective perspective as religious art, so I continued with my question. I read more about the details of Klarwein's work and the surrounding context. Due to his obscurity, I found it difficult to find enough writing on Klarwein's work, especially about the religious aspects of his work, leaving it all to my own perception. I found relevant passages of Klarwein's book "Collected Works" and found a collection # of his personal interviews which helped a lot as they gave much background information on both "Grain of Sand" and also the "Aleph Sanctuary". This gave me more knowledge on what the installations aim was, and how it was received by the public (from Hendrix tripping inside, to a raging preacher trying to destroy it with an axe). It was interesting to see how the traditionally religious community seemed to reject it and the counterculture, 'spiritual' community embraced it; reflective of the era it was made in. I also read a lot more about specific religious meanings and saw that the broadness of imagery was large. I started to organize my work into a flowing structure, to illustrate the background behind Klarwein's work.

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**Final reflection - Viva voce**

Candidate comments:

I later managed to contact one of his children, who was a useful source of information. Initially, the essay included an excess of information on religious imagery. I was over the word count a lot and so certain portions had to be cut out. Furthermore, I was new to Chicago manual of style, which helped me to refine my research and citation skills. Finally, I added images later on to the essay to help illustrate some of the comparisons made with traditional religious art. It was a challenge to fit all the images around the text to create a professional looking piece of work.

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## Supervisor comments:

I have worked with the student over the last year leading up to the submission of her EE. She worked hard to collate primary resources from her exhibition visit. Finally was successful in getting a response from family member of the artist to help answer some questions she had about Mati Klarwein's work. She worked hard to ensure her focus was the arts, although the essay was enhanced by her World religions knowledge as she worked hard to carefully select religious imagery which had a relationship with Klarwein's. Her technical critical and analytical language was exemplary.

During the viva voce, the student explained that she was even more passionate about Klarwein's work as a result of her essay. The student's comments also illustrated a good degree of critical analysis and depth of understanding of her research question.

She explained that the difficulties she encountered in the EE were mostly being selective with content in order to keep within the word count. She worked hard on structure and maintaining focus in order to answer the research question.

She submitted her work in a timely fashion and responded to constructive criticism, whilst learning about new referencing styles, structure and citation. A very engaging essay.



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