

Ras Maurice McCutcheon
Umali
Film 255
11/11/24

1. The array to hold my videos is on line 2 in my javascript document.
- 2.

Truism - The mundane is to be cherished

Video #1

The video I took is meant to illustrate and interpret my truism in a non-ironic way. One has to analyze and look at the details to know how the text is related to the video. The mundane can be anything that we don't see as interesting at any given moment. The streets and places we are familiar with can seem rather mundane but I think it's important to be reminded they are destined to change. That is why the mundane is to be cherished. I picked this place in Milwaukee because it is a well known area to some degree but one that is not really considered the main point of interest in that area. So many people have probably driven here or gotten a bite to eat in the area but they probably consider this intersection, parking lot, and street to be rather mundane. I think that is why this video could be considered diaristic. I interpret the video as implying "live in the moment" and also peaceful views, even if they seem mundane can be something to be grateful for. Especially considering the violence happening around the world at the moment.

Video #2

This video relates to my truism, "the mundane is to be cherished," because it is again focusing on the mundane. I am trying to imply with this video that there is a world of wonder happening around us. The mundane aspects of life like: the leaves on the ground, the atmospheric sounds we have around our homes, the pleasant views that don't motivate us to stop and appreciate them but pleasant enough for us to take notice of them; can be so complex and awe-inspiring. That is usually the case when we take a moment to focus on how complex the smallest things are and how we can appreciate their idiosyncrasies more. To me, the mundane can be revealing to how much the simple things have to offer to us in life. In contemporary times, people tend to be drawn and somewhat addicted to things that stimulate our senses, feelings, and our minds. It is important to be reminded how nature and the mundane aspects of life around us can be enriching and simulating on a more copasetic level than per say technological stimulus.

Video #3

This video relates to my truism because it shows the beauty and complexity in something as simple as the sky. Looking at the sky can be something we only really do when we are bored or passing time. Most people never go cloud watching in their life. This shot and my next shot is heavily inspired by James Benning. This is because it focuses on the landscape and how civilization/buildings function in the landscape and how they have created new landscapes that change how we perceive the world and interpret value in things. Even looking up at the sky or at

really anything around us we can see how much the mundane really is to be cherished. The clouds were moving really fast on that day, so it makes the mundane/the scene even more visually stimulating.

Video #4

The fourth video is my most visually chaotic one. I was working with the idea that people travel in their cars and most of the time people are just thinking about and lamenting how long it will take to get where they are going. Before cars, but the advent of the smartphone can also be considered, people used to enjoy sightseeing even on their daily mundane routes and journeys to do errands. I don't remember the last time I heard someone say the joy is in the journey, without it referring to an analogy to dreadful times in life. I remember singing "*on the road again*" with my grandpa whenever we were driving somewhere new.

Considering that, for this shot I tried to put nature in the foreground because nature is always in the background of our minds when we are going places. We are more focused on where we want to go. We could care less about what we see on the way there and what value, if any, we can get out of it. There is a highway and other streets in the background to try to imply the idea that sometimes the mundane sights we see when we are going places are beautiful; and have value if we give them a second of our attention to at least appreciate the aesthetics of it. If not appreciating more that it can teach us or do for us based on how much time and attention we give to mundane sights, or mundane things.

3.

Describing sound intentions

For sound in this project, I wanted to use sync sound from when I was recording. I wanted to present the mundane places with the sounds they present. The only sound editing I really did was to eq and boost the sound on the last clip, to make it a chaotic, jarring, and climatic end to the piece.

4.

Sidenote

I wanted the videos to change sequentially, I hope that is ok. I see this piece as being shown and presented from beginning, middle, end. Also, I like the change in aspect ratios, if you think it looks unintentional or confusing, I will change it.