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Reflection 1

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Pablo Valbuena

For this first reflection, I decided to choose an artist called Pablo Valbuena. I was intrigued by his name because it seemed to me that he was a Spanish artist. After looking at his page, I was inspired by his artworks, as they resonate a lot with the type of artwork I would like to create in the future as an artist. Valbuena is a Spanish artist who works with different installations that engage with the interaction between the installation and the user in some of his works. He explores the conception of the pieces in real time and uses space to create his art. Additionally, he explores different aspects of light and sound, which is something I would also like to work with in my future practices. I appreciate the idea of creating artwork using space and the environment. He works and creates spaces where it is not typical or normal to see different pieces of art. I like the way he explores and tries new things, working in different places to create art. On the other hand, I admire the way he creates physical installations, not just things that will be displayed on a screen or wall, but that push the boundaries of art into public space. I also appreciate how he explores art through unusual resources and takes advantage of the environment to create the artwork. His live-performance approach to art inspires me to explore different mediums and places. Just as he alters how things are perceived, he also changes how people see the projection of art. Additionally, creating and showcasing artworks in public spaces makes them accessible to everyone. Valbuena is an artist who uses what he has as a resource, without the need for extra materials. With simple materials and the space around him, he can create an enjoyable experience for everyone.

One of Valbuena's artworks that caught my attention is called "Aura." This is one of his installation pieces, specifically a physical installation at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. In this work, Valbuena explores the concepts of space, light, and sound. The project uses the sound of the space to illuminate it in a way that the sound vibrations, which are invisible, are shown through a light mechanism. He uses this conceptual idea to create something that aligns with the structure of the church. The church itself becomes the material for the artwork, as the echoes of people's voices singing give life to the piece. On the other hand, this is a simple yet well-executed idea that uses minimal materials to create something special. I think the idea of projecting just one large installation, which projects light around the piece, rather than using many lights, creates an immersive atmosphere where the viewer can become the creator of the experience. Additionally, I appreciate how Valbuena fuses new concepts of technology with the timeless aspect of old architecture. This combination creates a dialogue between the past and the present, where traditional structures like St. Paul's Cathedral history, spirituality, and cultural significance are brought to life in a fresh, innovative way. Rather than simply adding a technological layer, he uses it to transform space itself. This combination of space and technology offers a different perspective on what things are supposed to be. In this case, the church is a religious place, but Valbuena transforms it into a public space that everyone can appreciate. In brief, Valbuena's piece captures the present moment through his installation, giving people the opportunity to be immersed in a unique experience and connect with the art itself.