2015

Polygonal Provocateur

Abigail Daleki

*Minnesota State University - Mankato*

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Polygonal Provocateur

By

Abby Daleki

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Arts

In

Painting

Department of Arts & Humanities

Minnesota State University, Mankato

Mankato, Minnesota

May 2015
This thesis calls attention to what we interpret as a painting; an object hung on a wall for
decoration, to be looked at, thought about, or just as an interruption to a dull, white surface.

Historically, paintings were used in religious practice or to serve utilitarian purpose. Through the years,
paintings have become less about content and more about catching the eye, making the viewer think.
Paint, on a canvas, stretched over a frame and hung on a wall is, traditionally, a painting. I am focused
on challenging that regime. I want to challenge the idea of what a painting is. Why isn’t an object or
surface that has paint on it, a painting?

The exhibition was held at the Centennial Student Union Gallery in the basement of the CSU
from January 12th through the 28th, 2015. It consisted of 17 paintings that were hung on a wall, leaning
against a wall, leaning against each other or on the floor. All works were produced during my time
within the MA program, 2013-2015. A postcard and a brochure were created to advertise the exhibition.
The postcard displayed a close up color photo of one of the works that had multiple paintings leaning up
against each other. It also included information regarding the show, time, place, etc. The brochure
includes an artist statement, list of works in the exhibition, and pictures of the exhibition itself. Photos
of the exhibition were taken as documentation. The postcard, brochure, including pictures of the
exhibition, and names of each work were submitted to the Graduate School of Minnesota State
University, Mankato in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Master of Arts Degree.
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Abby Daleki

This Creative Thesis has been examined and approved by the following members of the student’s committee on January 14th, 2015.

____________________________________
Brian Frink, Graduate Advisor, Chairperson

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Liz Miller, Drawing Instructor, Committee Member

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Rachael Hanel, Mass Media Instructor, Committee Member