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HORT 308  
9/29/14  
CT2 Visual Essay

After attending the class on landscape design principles, I believe that simplistic designs create a more pleasing and calming affect for people viewing the landscape. Jack Ingels, from SUNY Cobleskill and author of *Landscape Principles and Practices*, is an authoritative source to validate this claim. He wrote that designs that are complex, rather than simplistic, and include too many focal points cause confusion and discomfort for the viewer (Ingels). An experiential validation is that during the class I was shown several pictures of simplistic landscapes, which I found more aesthetically appealing and favorable compared to complex landscapes. The complex landscapes made me feel confused and gave me the urge to want to fix them in some way to make them more simplistic.

This class took me back to an art appreciation class that I had taken in high school. I remember not liking complex and abstract paintings and sculptures. They made me think and feel confused because I didn't understand what the artist was trying to convey to me. This is similar to how I feel about landscape design. I don't enjoy looking at landscapes that don't have an obvious focal point. I enjoy looking at landscapes with a single focal point and analyzing how the designer accented or enhanced the focal point.

I believe that if Pablo Picasso were still alive he would disagree and prefer complex landscape designs. Since many of his artworks are complex, I think that he would want his landscape to have similar design. I also think that people who have

an appreciation for abstract art would also prefer complex landscapes to simplistic designs.

After this presentation I will now have to consider that not all people appreciate simplicity as I do. Before designing a landscape I will have to learn about the customer's preferences, whether it is for complexity or not.



<http://www.listupon.com/ten-famous-paintings-around-world/>

## Works Cited

Ingels, J. E. (2009). Landscaping principles & practices. Clifton Park, NY: Delmar.