Kimberly Crawford Intermediate Illustration M. Shepherd 17 January 2004 (Re)Narrate Critique

(Re)Narrate was an engaging, dramatic exhibition that allowed the audience to step into another's memory and learn and tale or two. The compositions were balanced, and the colors schemes were intriguing. Art admirer's who were fortunate enough to attend the closing of (re)narrate viewed breathtaking films, listened to inspiring speakers, and were able to speak with some of the artists that contributed to the show.

I was particularly drawn to the more graphic pieces such as *Peace Talks* and *Portraits*. These pieces were beautifully collaged together. The use of patterning in *Portraits* had me totally drawn into the piece. Also hidden symbols and materials that were covered in paint had me searching each entire piece for little nuances. The subject matter of the speech bubbles bore into the minds of the painted figures. I felt the pieces were about relationships and the awkwardness/communication and lack there of that takes place within one.

Peace Talks were done in a style that I very much appreciate as a graphic designer and illustrator (aspiring). They have heavy lines and splashes and fades of color that really draw the viewer into the intensity of the pieces. In all honesty I've never been extremely drawn into political affairs, though I know it is highly important to have a solid understanding of world affairs as an artist. Therefore, I would like to speak with Brett Colley to get a better understanding of the meaning of his pieces.

In general, I feel that my favorite aspect of (re)narrate as a whole was the amazing ability almost all the artist's had to put together stunning collages. The worked surfaces, added materials, and superior color schemes really spoke to me. I hope to learn and develop my skills as a collage artist, and learn from the pieces that I viewed at (re)narrate. Their eye for composition, subject matter, and overall impact was quite unique.

After I left the closing of the show I was filled with interesting and new ideas. I was shown ideas from the past, present, and future and can not wait to incorporate what I have learned into my own work. The show was well organized, energetic, and insightful, and I was challenged to extend my visual and mental boundaries out a couple more miles.