

MANIFEST

CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY
AND DRAWING CENTER

EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL

A worksheet to accompany, *Gender, Engendered*

For ages 14 to adult

A little bit of art history...

Take a look at Domenico Ghirlandaio's, *Giovanna Tornabouni*, painted in 1488. What do you notice about the woman in this painting?

Now consider Andrea Castagno's, *Portrait of a Gentleman*, painted in the 1450's. What do you notice about the man in this painting?

Think about it!

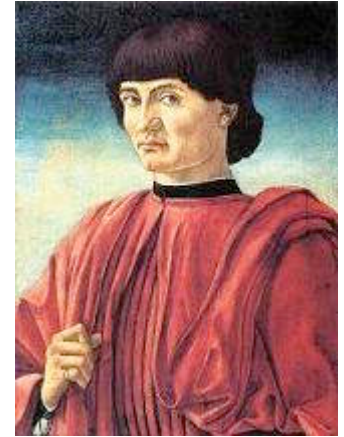
How are the two portraits different? How are they similar? What does the difference between these two paintings tell you about the way in which people might have thought about women and men during these times?

Now consider this...

Art has always been a reflection of culture. Historians, archaeologists, you name it, people have always studied art to learn more about a society's culture! Manifest Gallery's *Gender, Engendered* show features a multitude of diverse student works to bring to you the thought of today and tomorrow!



Giovanna Tornabouni,
Domenico Ghirlandaio, 1488



Portrait of a Gentleman, Andrea
Castagno, 1450s

Think about it!

When you think about the way girls and boys look, what do you think of?
What words come to mind when you think of how guys act?
What words come to mind when you think of how girls act?

Look Back!

Look at your answers to the questions above. Compare them. Were the answers to the questions different? How are they different? Do you know people who don't fit your answers to these questions?



Investigate!

Take a look at Stacey Holloway's *Dollhouse* (left). Create a list of the words that come to mind when you think of a dollhouse.

What is a dollhouse usually made of? Now look at the label. What is Stacey's dollhouse made of? When you think of steel, what do you think of? Some of the things you may consider are appearance or durability. Is steel shiny, or dull? Is steel strong, or weak? Make a list!

What does it mean?

Stacey's choice of materials is a part of her visual language. This means she chose to use steel for a reason! Why do you think she chose to use steel?



Now consider this....

Perhaps the very first thing we notice about someone is whether they are a guy or a girl, right? The fact that we make this distinction means that we are automatically thinking about that person differently! Consider your answers to the first three questions. Why do you think you answered in the way that you did?

Investigate!

Take a look at Chris Roach's painting, entitled, *Man Made* (left). Can you tell if this person is a man or a woman?

What does it mean?

Why do you think Chris chose to paint the figure from this point of view? Does it change the way we look at the painting? How does not knowing the gender of the figure in the painting change your experience?

A little bit of art history...

Ever since the beginning of art, people have made a variety of male and female forms. These images and objects can be found all over the world! To the right, you will see an image of an African sculpture from the Metropolitan Museum of Art's collection. This sculpture was carved in wood and metal, sometime between the 16th and 19th centuries.

What do you notice about these figures? How can you tell which one is male, and which one is female?



Investigate!

Take a look at Joshua Rectenwald's *Pretty in Pink* (left). Now look back at your answers to the questions in *Think About It #2*. How is Joshua's painting different from what you might expect? Think about his visual language! What colors did he use?

What does it mean?

In the sculpture of the African couple, you could tell which one was male and female by their physical characteristics. Does that mean this is how we define man and woman? Think about it. Who made up the terms, "man" and "woman"? What really makes someone a man? What really makes someone a woman?