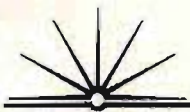


Q2 'TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES HAVE TRANSFORMED THE PRACTICES OF ARTISTS.' - DISCUSS.

Advances in technology have transformed the practices of artists through structural means, accessibility and societal comments.

Artists whose ^{art practice has} ~~have~~ been influenced ~~to~~ by technological advances include ~~to~~ Christo, Trevor Nickolls and Rea.

Christo took advantage of technologies, such as aerial photography and earth moving equipment, when making his larger than life installation 'spiral jetty'. This installation was a large spiral protruding from the coastline, made up of sand. The sand was moved using large bulldozers and other ~~equip~~ machinery. As the installation was exposed to geographical ~~inst~~ factors and weathering, the installation was recorded



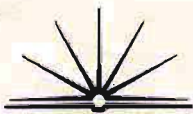
via aerial photography. This installation would not have been as easily possible without these technological advances.

As Aboriginal Artists have an easily recognisable and established traditional art style, it is perhaps quite obvious when they make use of, or comment on technological advances in their art practices. ~~An art~~ Trevor Nickolls 'Machine-tive Dream-tive' reflects the artists view on Western technologies, expressing them via symbols in his artwork. In this work he uses the traditional style, however the ~~image~~^{painting} is made up of several (repeated) images of people inside their homes watching television. Through this work Nickolls comments on the influence Western culture, and technologies, have had on Indigenous culture and people. Nickolls expresses the idea that



due to living in rural and urban communities, many Aboriginal people feel removed or cut-off from the Indigenous culture and heritage. This is reflected in Nield's art making.

Artists, like technology itself, need to become multifaceted, and open to changes. One artist who demonstrates this is Rea in her works 'Resistance' and 'Look who's calling the Kettle Black!'. Rea is an Indigenous post modern artist who embraces technology and uses it in her works to portray issues surrounding her cultural heritage. In 'Resistance' she uses photographs and a bold poster format to make her message 'readable'. The figure is positioned in an S-shape, typical of Creek sculpture, and has a noose around the neck. This series of diagrams are emotive yet



their similarity to ~~man~~ instruction manual ~~removes~~ makes them impersonal.

The series deals with the past of violence and hatred experienced by Australia's Indigenous population.

In another of her series 'Look who's calling the Kettle Black', Lea again deals with issues relevant to her Aboriginal Heritage. In this series she juxtaposes cultures by using ~~her work~~ technology to superimpose old photographs of family members onto Western appliances such as toasters, irons and kettles. Her use of text emphasises her message ~~of~~ statement and she has included definitions of worlds such as 'coloured' and 'domestic'. This work comments on the ^{Christian} Western Assimilation policies and the effects they had on her people's culture and spirituality. ~~The~~ Lea also comments on the plight of her people, many of the women

being forced into domestic labour.

Rea is a great example of an artist where technological advances have transformed her practice. She uses technology to increase the availability and readability of her work. Nickolls is another Aboriginal artist who's practice and subject matter has been ~~changed~~ influenced due to technological advances. Finally Christo is an artist, ^{many of} whose work would hardly have been possible without technological advancements.