



Michael Reeder in his studio



World on Fire, 2020

<https://www.michael-reeder.com/>

Michael Reeder is a contemporary artist from Dallas, Texas. Growing up in Dallas Reeder was influenced by skate and street culture all around him. Later in life he moved to New York City where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting from the School of Visual Arts. After graduating he found a job painting murals for Eyecon Studios in Dallas, Texas. Through those experiences Reeder formulated the way he works today.

Reeder's work now focuses on self-identity and all of the parts of us that come together to make ourselves. Reeder's work shows this through solemn imagery and symbolism. Throughout his artwork he uses one man's likeness over and over but it's not someone he knows or has ever seen. Through using someone else's face he's able to create a new identity in every piece of artwork. He combines his ideas with graphic lines, bright bold colors, and realism. Reeder's portraits are intended to remain open-ended so we, as the viewers, can have different conversations with each piece and project our own self-identities.

<https://wowxwow.com/artist-interview/michael-reeder-ai>

<https://thinkspaceprojects.com/artists/michael-reeder/>

<https://www.hashimotocontemporary.com/artists/28-michael-reeder/>

Learning targets for the day:

- Students will Discuss Michael Reeder's work and how it conveys self-identity.
- Students will discuss the colors and shapes Reeder uses in his work.
- Students will analyze his choices of realism mixed with graphic art.

Vocabulary:

Screen Print: a process where ink is forced through a mesh screen onto a surface.

Symbolism: represents a synthesis of form and feeling, of reality and the artist's inner subjectivity. This is when an artist uses something to represent (symbolize) something else.

Analyze: determining what the features suggest and deciding why the artist used such features to convey specific ideas.

Realism: Subjects are painted from everyday life in a naturalistic way.

Questions:

Artist- How do you think where Reeder grew up affected the look of his artwork now?

Artwork- What connections can you make to his artwork? How can you see self-identity in them?

Audience- What does the artist want viewers to get out of his artwork? What do you gain when looking at it?



Rotting as one, Screen Print



BFF, 2019



