

Art of Revolutions, America similar and split

In the colonial new world, Revolution from the mother land wasn't off in some of the colonial's minds, and with understandable reasoning. The mother land seemed to be selfish and self interested. This arrogance of the wants and the needs of the colonies in the new world lead to a revolutionary wave, ebbing from the shots from Lexington and Concord all the way to South America. The critical analysis of the imagery and art depicting the events afterwards will help understand the basis of the revolution.

With the now United States of America, we can see the highlights of the great events with the famous paintings depicting George Washington's crossing of the Delaware. This painting, drawn to bring a sense of US patriotism to its European audience, highlights the soldiers' at the antebellum. Harden and working fast at the task at hand, but still prepared to fight and die to achieve the goals in their hearts. The main protagonist in the painting, George Washington, is standing in a forward power pose, aimed toward the battle ahead. The lights of the sky caress toward his head and the wind picks up his coat tails. The painting hold nothing back about what it's depicting, a character which seems greater than life, but still is grounded in truths. These peoples in the painting all hold no historical value, but they are the foundation toward something great. They all are pushing the boat across, a seemingly menial task, for a very not menial event. The leader of the revolution and the leader of the future country is riding upon the work and foundation of the common man pushing the boat. This painting, much like all of them that reminisce of the Revolution, remember the common man, and his work towards the great revolution. This painting screams patriotism, but not for a specific person, but to a whole class of people.

This great and common painting is contradicted by another painting over another revolution. The great painter Ulrick Jeane-Pierre recreated a scene from Bois Caiman, a famous ritual where the Haitian Revolution was planned. This painting highlights a common leader, Dutty Boukman, who led the group in a voodoo ritual along with leading them to revolt in one of the first insurrections. This insurrection, common to the people of Haiti, is not really known outside of its local area, being practically unknown here in the states. This helps to alienate it from anyone who sees it, depicting a very foreign ritual, with slaves gathered around the sacrifice of a black pig. This image has an uncanny feel to those who look at it at an offhand, seeing a naked woman on top of a pig, while a group of slaves crowding around and screaming towards the sky. This social shift from the European normalcy, this art depicts the revolution start not through gathering a bond to the audience, but to truly depict the people of the revolution. This depiction of the true actions of the revolution, it had little intention of bring a general feeling of patriotism. Its depiction is more effectively put as a way to reminisce to Haitians about the origins of the Revolution, but also to show the world Haiti, uncensored and true.

Work Cited

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