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Week #4 Honoré Daumier: Ecce Homo 1

This week we were introduced to the artist Honoré Daumier. Daumier was known as one of the top French artists of the 19th century. His work possessed a contemporary style that captured the audience. Daumier's portrait of Homo is known as one of the most soul stirring paintings of Jesus Christ. The angle Daumier decides to paint from is one that brings the viewer into the audience. Jesus is facing the crowd and we can see that He has chains around his wrists, yet at the same time he has a crown on his head. The guard to His right is pointing at Him and accusing Him.

Daumier was giving us the picture of what Jesus was going through in this moment but how He is our savior and was a man here on earth who was in the process of dying for our sins. We see in this painting that the crowd seems restless, there are men holding small toddlers and children to see what travesty is happening. Clearly this was very brutal and devastating, especially knowing Jesus was an innocent man and our Holy savior.

During Jesus Christ's trial we see that there were many mockers as there still are today. Unfortunately, those in authority chose to punish Him for no crimes. This week I appreciate how Daumier captures Jesus on the stand and those who are watching from the side lines. I imagine myself in the crowd and don't believe I would have been able to withstand the accusations and death penalty for someone who was spreading the gospel. Not only do we see Jesus on the stand but there is another figure to His left on the stand in chains. The way Daumier captures the

darkness in the man behind Jesus leads me to believe he is a true criminal, possibly Barabbas as in the Bible. I also appreciate how the faces are more of side profiles which don't really show much expression but leave you to assume and imagine what they could have been saying and thinking. We know from experience that when people come together in a protest or a trial in court, they are somewhat loud when speaking. I'm sure they must have been yelling, screaming, cheering and possibly even crying. One thing that stands out to me is the way Jesus is standing with a straight back, this is as though no matter the circumstance. Jesus is confident and resting on God almighty in this time. I really enjoyed this week's paintings by Honoré Daumier, as well the narrations. The narrations always help me to think further and see more into what is being shared.