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Slap Art of the Tree

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Myself
Logan, Utah
November 15, 2018

“Slap Art of the Tree” Material Culture

Informant:

My name is Elizabeth Colton. I am nineteen years old, and I am an undergraduate student in my senior year at Utah State University, where I will graduate with a B.S. in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing. I was born and raised in Park City, Utah, where I still visit for holidays. I have also lived in Fremont, California. Like a lot of young adult residents of Utah who aren't Mormon, I am spiritual, but not religious. I was homeschooled (just like my four siblings) for the entirety of my childhood, until enrolling Salt Lake Community College at fifteen. I have always placed an emphasis on learning and storytelling (whether through dancing, writing, speaking, music playing, or showing). As I was growing up, my parents had me learning multiple instruments (piano, guitar, drums, e-bass, and violin), and they put emphasis on creativity. I consider myself to be an artist through and through.

Context:

I found this slap art on the USU campus on the bus-stop bench structure on the west side of the Fieldhouse building. I was walking from one class to another, and only had time to snap a quick photo with my phone. It was also freezing outside, so that's another reason as to why I kept this process super short. It's a relatively small sticker, and caught the corner of my eye by chance, which I'm grateful for because I find slap art to be fascinating. The entire process only took a few seconds.

Text:



This art is a sticker of a thick-lined tree, and at the trunk there is what looks to be an eye. There also seems to be lines of excitement (used in cartoons) coming out of the top of the tree. It is made on typical slap-art sticker paper that is meant to stay through weather.

Texture:

Running into this piece of art made me pause and smile, both of which are a little uncommon when it is freezing outside and I'm hustling from one class to another. There weren't very many students around, only a few who were walking past rather quickly, so the moment wasn't shared with anyone, and only my personal intrigue of slap art brought me to taking a closer look.

Elizabeth Colton
Utah State University
Folklore 2210
Dr. Lynne McNeill
Fall 2018