

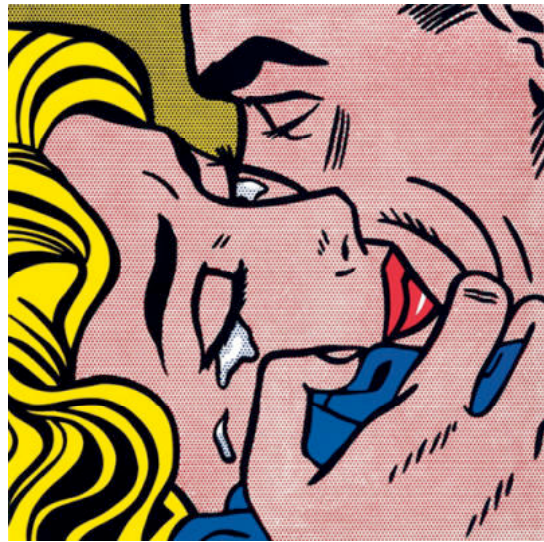
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SP.747 – Final Project
05/13/08

Pop Art Inspired Self-Portrait Cyanotype Series

There were two motivations for my final project—cyanotype prints and the pop art movement. One of my favorite labs for this class was when we learned to make cyanotypes. I knew that I wanted my final project to involve cyanotyping but I wanted to put a twist on an old technique. I wanted to take something new, like pop art, and print and cyanotype it. I took examples of popular pop art prints to model my self-portrait series after Roy Lichtensein and Andy Warhol. The following figures are examples of works that I used for inspiration.



Anna Atkins, 1843
British Algae: Cyanotype Impressions



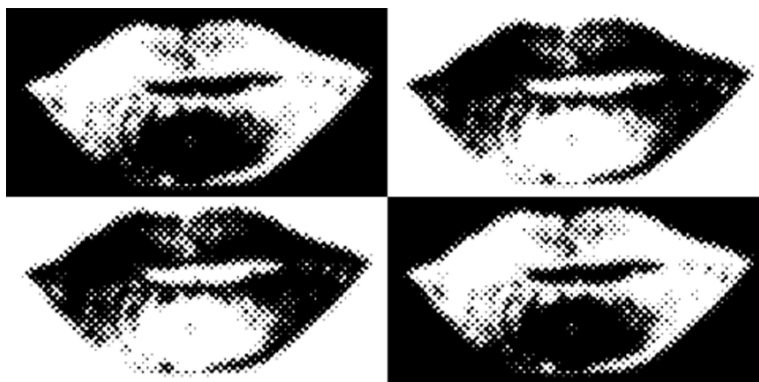
Roy Lichtenstein, Kiss V, 1964



I used Adobe Photoshop to make digital negatives for my cyanotype prints. I used the same techniques to create my lip negative as well as my sunburst negative. First, I used the pen tool to cut out the portion of interest in the picture then desaturated the image to make it black and white. Then I changed the threshold until I reached the black to white ratio I liked. I used the Gaussian Blur filter to blur 3 pixels to make the images smooth so I could put a halftone screen to make the dots. Once I had that I inverted the black and white for the lips to get the checker pattern of four seen below. I added a custom shape available in Photoshop to make the sunburst on the image below the lips. I inverted what is currently seen here to make the digital negatives for my cyanotypes since I wanted them to be similar to the images I made in Photoshop.



Steps to create Lips and Sunburst print.



Lips



Sunburst

For the last print in my series, I used the stamp filter in Photoshop. I wanted to just have the profile of my facial features, so I erased everything I did not want. Since the stamp filter did not get the bridge of my nose, I added that. I also inverted the image for my cyanotype digital negative.



Once I printed the three images, I wanted to add different tones to the prints to mirror the color composition of pop art my Warhol and Litchtensein, however did not have the time.