

My Personal Learning Environment Narrative:

As a musician that plays mostly repertoire from the high Baroque and Classical era, I often identify myself with the aesthetics and trends of that time. So, I decided to find a world map from that era. At first glance, this map is quite busy, symbolic of what the “Baroque,” it is extremely decorative and you can not quite tell the underlying structure of it. It also represents what my current life situation is, it is all ways on the go, and constant projects and deadlines one after another. However, there is a fundamental structure and representation of what life is that cannot be dismissed. I started circling areas on the map that made sense to me. First, I found Asia, my first instinct as a person is the way I perceive this world, it has much to do with my cultural identity. I labeled it “My Origin,” and under that legion, I stated the obvious to the various nuances of what has shaped me up to this point in my life as a person of the world. I then started circling all the small sailing ship figures on the map and labeled it as “Travel,” because not only traveling has the literal meaning of going to places, but it also means how I associate how information gets passed down for forwarded or even shared. The 1600’s was also a time of abundance information melding and sharing, much like our own time. I then noticed the four classical elements of Fire, Water, Air and Earth and two astrological signs lined up in the top and bottom center of the map. I circled the elements as my web 2.0 tools. Those signs are how people in the 17th century relate to their environment and how they perceived the earth and heavens, and according to the map librarian, it was very popular to put classical symbols and astrological signs on maps because they were “trendy.”

Under the “Fire” sign, I listed the internet, Google search engines, YouTube, basically search engines and immediate links and web tools I can jump on without thinking. For the “Water,” I assigned web media that I associate with communication, especially official communication tools on the internet, such as the school email. I listed those think in the order of importance from professional to social. Since the “Air” sign, has that mysterious quality to it, I categorized all my informational news room media under “air,” all the tools I use to learn or read or to listen as I absorb my environment. “Earth” has a solid and ground-ness to it, and I felt that I associate this sign with all the more physical attachment of how I learn, and where I learn. So, I attached places like the School, the libraries I uses, the repair shops I go to, Music stores for supplies.

Lastly, there is a region known as the “Unknowne Land” on this map, I circled it and

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made it my last label. Under the “Unknowne” I have yet to discover or even develop many more social media skills, and what my potentials in arts administration are at this point. And what new toys would come to my way before I get so bored with what is in trend right now.