

Matthew Lapierre

MFA

Department of Art & Design,
Faculty of Arts

Image created in Edmonton

*Images of Research Competition
University of Alberta*

EFFHEAD#I

Semi-finalist (2021)

The No-Brow movement emphasizes the intersection between high and low culture, acknowledging their continuous dialogue, despite the severance between them. No-Brow collapses dichotomies between high and low culture by amalgamating art historical pictorial strategies of the old masters with counter-cultural influences from television, comix, graffiti, and cartoons. This undermines cultural hegemony and class-cultural hierarchies, and gives voice to artists with a range of cultural experiences.

My work investigates psychic imaginaries through obscenity, humour, and sexuality. I challenge western institutional intelligibilities of taste, decency, and artistic practice with exaggerated transgressive imagery. The painting EFFHEAD #I obfuscates boundaries between genres of abstraction and portraiture, and systems of representation.