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| Artist | Tition |
| Title | Venus of Urbino |
| Date | 1538 |
| Medium | Oil painting |
| Scale |  |
| Scope | Representation of the male and female gaze |
| Patron | Duke of Urbino |
| Location | Uffizi- Florence |
| Function | Not relevant |

Image: 

Historical context/subject of work:

Duke of Urbino instructed Venus to be painted so he could show his young wife and instruct her how she should act and the standard of beauty he wants.

He wanted the painting to show his ideal wife so his wife could improve.

This is inspired by the poem “my last duchess” and the idea that woman should only be seen and not heard, woman are represented as objects and if they have their own personality or don’t obey their husbands, then they will be killed or disappeared and only displayed in a painting where the husband can control if they are seen or not. In the poem he hides his wife with a curtain and presents this portrait with other object and valuable things he has collected over the years.

Idealised representation of beauty.

Critical text quote:

How does this example fit the scope of work?

Represents the female gaze and the idea of men looking at woman and woman like to be looked at.

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| Formal features | |
| Composition | The composition show Venus in the foreground laying arose 1/3 of the canvas, portraying beauty and the focal point |
| Colour or texture | Bright, glowing skin of Venus emphasizes her body in contrast to the rich red and dark background with the servants in dark dress wear, compared to the white silk  Red colour moves eye across painting, connecting the figures. |
| Light & tone | The use of chiaroscuro is emphasized by Venus glowing naked body in contrast to the black separation |
| Space & depth or relief | Depth and space is shown thought the colour red as it carriers our eyes across the composition from the servants dress to the bedding Venus is lying on. |
| Line or brushwork | Renaissance, soft brush strokes, no harsh lines on figures, creates glowing imagery of skin. |

Ccultural/social factors:

1538- Woman were seen to not have their own identities and shown to be owned and object of their husbands. The female gaze (is suggestive to sexualise herself) is a main part of the painting however. The male gaze will look upon this painting highlighting who had the control over the figures in the work.

Political factors:

none

Artist’s involvement:

Took inspiration form the poem ‘My last Duchess’