

GOOD ART

by
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Sight unseen, the buzz of “The painting,” had already begun to hover. “It’s racist, man!” “It’s too much!” were some empathic tones. When I finally saw it, progressed and nearly complete almost two weeks later, I said: “Now that’s art!” Art is subjective, depending on the perceptive lens from which it is viewed. Good art is memorable, evoking emotion.

This is good art.

What was noticeably absent among the buzz was that this piece is thought-provoking. Consider: The Klu Klux Klan is white. Martin Luther King, Jr. is black. Yet racism is multi-national, slithering across borders, morphing from one hue to the next, contaminating -- all.

Still, the Klan are Americans. Mr. King was American; an American whose patriotism transcended race – even his own. Mr. King taught, fought and died for – all.

Mr. King was a great American, and what this painting depicts is bigger than black history; it is quintessential American history.

Whether it shames us ... or ... prides us – all.