

Impact Statement

Trevelle Bitton, Grade 7.

Genius Under Beauty, 2019.

Acrylic on canvas board, 24 x 18 Inches.

Milken Community Schools, Los Angeles, CA

Unsung Hero: Hedy Lamarr

I had my eyes set on the beautiful mind and face of Hedy Lamarr ever since I heard of the project. Lamarr was an Austrian actress and model during the 1930s and 40s. She was considered the most beautiful woman in the world during her time of fame. Though she was solely known as a pretty face and fashion icon, there was a genius hiding behind all the makeup and flashy clothing. What really grabbed my attention was a realization I had. If you go up to any person, anyone at all, educated or clueless, and asked them who invented Bluetooth or Wi-Fi they'd stop, think, then either say "I don't know" or "Wasn't it Steve Jobs?" This idea fascinated me. She did such an iconic thing that is now day to day life for most people. Lamarr was an intelligent woman who was never recognized for the work she did.

Recreating Hedy was one of the most difficult tasks I've ever completed. I went through about 15 different concepts, 3 of which I began creating a final piece for, two of which were tossed. The vision I had in my head was something I just couldn't express onto paper. I spent a month going through different styles and colors and designs. It was hard to concoct the perfect balance of brain and beauty.

In the end, I constructed my final piece using the idea of hidden knowledge and colorful fame in mind.

Hedy Lamarr, originally Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler, was born in Vienna. She was the daughter of a banker and a concert pianist. During her teens, she was discovered by an Austrian film maker. She starred in *Lady of the Tropics*, *Boom Town*, *Algier*, and *Ecstasy*. Hedy started flowing towards inventing after she got bored of her film career since she was only casted as a pretty face. Along with her friend, George Antheil, a composer, she created a communication system now known to us as Bluetooth which can be found in many cellular devices. She invented all this during the disasters and catastrophes of World War Two. I find her impressive, beautiful, ingenious, courageous, and most of all fabulously. She truly is a real hero who deserves to be recognized.

I plan on sharing my project with my community by exhibiting it along with my Artist Statement at the end of the year Art Show at Milken Community School. The Art show is on May 23rd, 2019. I will also be exhibiting it on March 29th 20-19 at MIX. MIX is the Milken Innovators Expo. Attached please find a video clip of MIX where you can see the Unsung Hero Exhibit from 2017 at the end of the clip at the Art Show.