

Elastic Beauty

Beauty can be defined in many ways. The juxtaposition of these images exhibits the contrast between natural and man-made beauty. The image of the flowers of the left displays an example of beauty provided by natural occurrences. The image of the buildings is an example of man-made beauty, specifically an architectural type. Beauty is defined as “a combination of qualities, such as shape, color, or form, that pleases the aesthetic senses, especially the sight.” In itself, beauty is an opinion of the individual, making it elastic and easily changeable. The Boston skyline is, by opinion, beautiful to most who live in the city because of the various buildings and structures that are a part of the landscape. During the campus walk, I saw many examples of natural and created beauty. The Massachusetts State House is an example of architectural beauty with its golden dome and its uniform, pillared style. As seen in the image on the left, the beauty of the blossoming trees is used to enhance the visual appeal of the building that they are placed in front of. I believe that there is an incorporation of both designed and natural beauty seen throughout the tour. All the statues that we observed were placed in the park or surrounded by trees on Commonwealth Avenue. It was discussed on the tour how the memorial for the firefighters was created with the intention of being easily interacted with. The placement of these statues and the surrounding nature adds to the aesthetic of the art and provides publicly accessible beauty.

Heather Nadolny

