

ART OF DISSSENT



Street or Village Street

Themes

- Disorientation
- Light and dark
- Dehumanization

Before the Viewing

- Why do spinning tops appeal to children?
- What is the symbolism of light or the lamp?
- Describe the things that make people become 'hollow'.

Discussion

- List the symbols and/or motifs that are used in this painting and are used in other Fick works. Why is he reusing certain ideas?
- Why is there no ground? Why is everything floating?
- How are opposites used in this painting?
- Although there is no obvious reference to the Nazi regime, what is life like in the world that Fick creates?

Activities

- Cut out the separate parts of this painting. You may make any item larger or more complete. Glue your new pieces in different ways on a background you create. For what themes are you aiming?
- Draw the whole person who has been cut in half on the right hand side.
- If the two figures in this painting could speak, what would they say?

Extensions

- T.S. Eliot's Poem "The Hollow Men" tells of people who are both hollow and stuffed at the same time. "We are the hollow men, headpieces filled with straw, Alas!" In Eliot's poem and in Fick's painting, what creates the hollowness?
- At the time Fick created these works, surrealism was in full swing. How do Fick's works compare/contrast with those of Dali, Tanguy or Magritte?
- Imagine the painting "Street" as a dream. Using a dream analysis book, what does this painting say?