Artists Demographics

Sreevatsa Nukala

DS3500

In the first chart, displaying the relationship between nationality and birth decade of author, we see that western, white artists are the most widely represented group and span across the most decades of work. The nationalities that span across the most decades include Italian, British, German, French, and American. American artists spanned across the most decades with the most artists per decade, however, relative to historical context, America is a relatively new country. This shows a possibility of bias in what nationalities are represented in the MCA. The mid 1800s to mid 1900s makes up the bulk of the represented work, as would be expected in the Museum of *Contemporary* Art. Looking at the chart representing the relationship between nationality and gender, we can better confirm the fact that there exists a bias toward American artists in the MCA. Once again we can see that the most represented nationalities are also white. This chart provides insight into gender diversity as well. Only ∼16% of represented artists are female. Each country's outgoing lines also reflects this disproportionately represented amount of female artists. Many nationalities in the chart only have male artists. The third chart reaffirms the inferences I previously made. The male proportion of artists heavily outweighs the proportion of female artists in this chart as well. The most represented decades in the museum also seem to be the more recent ones, and the chart shows the 1840s to 1870s to only have male artists. We can conclude that the MCA represents white artists much more heavily than any other race. It also has a bias toward American artists, which can most likely be explained by geography and simply because the MCA is located in Chicago, an *American* city. From the charts alone, we can't know if the MCA is under representing female artists or if there are just less women in the 'art world'. Looking at the demographics of the artists, we can see that there exists a lack of racial and gender diversity. Our sankey diagrams reveal that the 'art world' may not be inclusive enough of a wide variety of nationalities and generally, female artists.

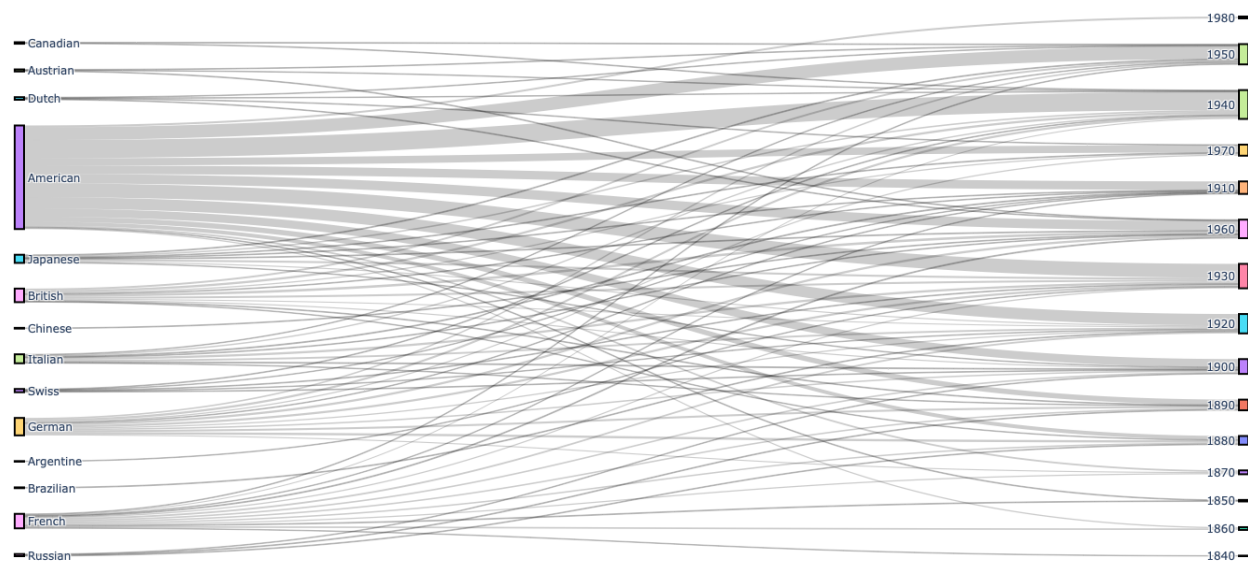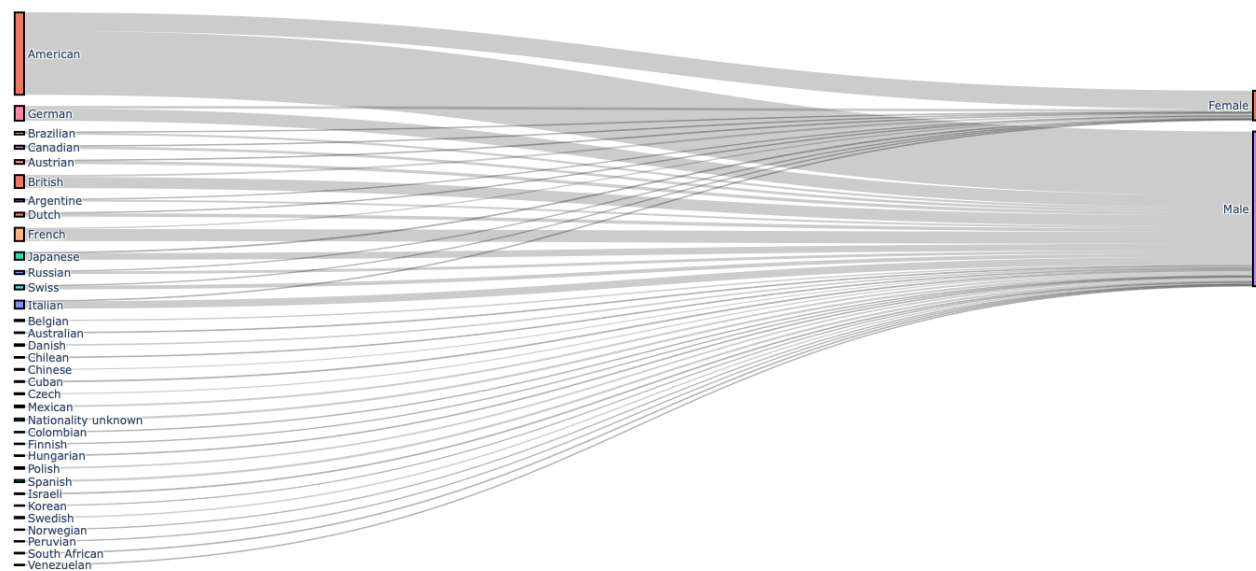Figure 1: Nationality to Decade Relationship

Figure 2: Nationality to Decade Relationship

Figure 3: Nationality to Decade Relationship