

The Humanities

ART APPRECIATION

“The Social Sciences attempt to see human beings in the mass, as subjects for generalizations, their behavior being a fit subject for prediction. The individual tends to be buried in the mass, of which he forms an element. The Humanities, on the other hand, are far more concerned with the individual, and especially with unique creations of the individual imagination which we call works of art.”

- Frank Willet

“African Arts and the Future: Decay or Development?”

- generally refers to ART, LITERATURE, MUSIC, ARCHITECTURE, DANCE, and the THEATER;
- engage both our intellectual and emotional selves;
- deepen and broaden our enjoyment at both level of understanding and the level of feeling;
- We are consciously and unconsciously having our values shaped by the art around us.
- We pass judgments & express opinions about art, we are all critics of the arts.
- The humanities are the records of man’s experiences, his values, his sentiments, his ideals, and his goals.
- They provide enjoyment and stimulation– when we try to understand and appreciate them.

The Arts

- constitutes one of the oldest and most important means of expressions developed by man;
- appreciating a work of art involves intellectual involvement;
- art is a product of man’s need to express himself and is not limited to the revelation of emotions alone;

- arts have significance in our lives, as we surround ourselves with things we like;
- there is a “life-enhancing” value of art;
- from clothing to habitation, from music to religion, a great work of art is never out of date.

SUBJECT

The subject of art may refer to any person, object, scene, or event represented in a work of art.

Arts that have subjects are called

REPRESENTATIONAL or objective arts

Non-objective arts

- do not present descriptions, stories or references to identifiable objects or symbols; they appeal directly to the senses because of the satisfying organization of their sensuous and expressive elements.

Objective arts

- PAINTING
- SCULPTURE
- GRAPHIC ARTS
- LITERATURE
- THEATER

Non-objective arts

- MUSIC
- ARCHITECTURE
- FUNCTIONAL ARTS

Ways of Presenting the Subject

REALISM

- When objects are depicted in the way they would normally appear in nature, the presentation is said to be realistic.



“Shoes” by: Vincent Van Gogh

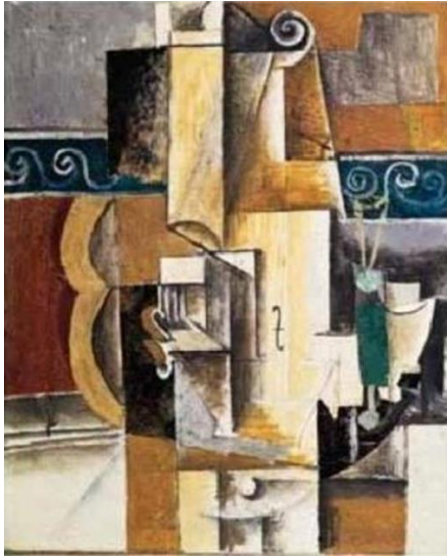


Van Gogh Gallery

Van Gogh, J. M. W. Turner, and Vincent van Gogh

ABSTRACTION

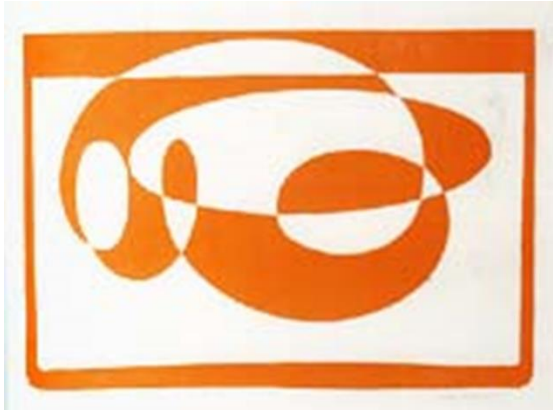
- When an artist becomes so engrossed in one phase of a scene that he does not show the subject at all as an objective reality, but only his idea of it, or his feeling about it, this is referred to as abstraction.



"Violin and Guitar" by: Pablo Picasso



"Nude and Still Life" by: Pablo Picasso



“Aquarium” MBy: Josef Albers

DISTORTION

- A technique employed by the artist to dramatize the shape of a figure to create an emotional effect; the figure has been drawn so that proportions differ from the natural appearance and measurements; it may also mean “twisting.”



“The Weeping Woman” by: Pablo Picasso



“Les Femmes d'Alger”
by: Pablo Picasso

SURREALISM

a combination of realism and distortion

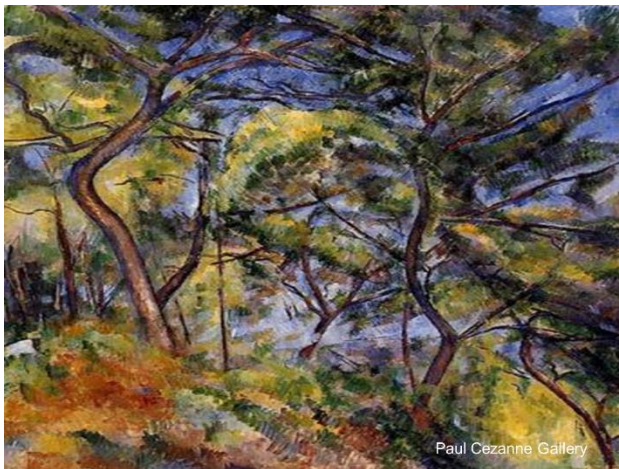


“The Old Guitarist” By: Pablo Picasso

Sources of Art Subjects

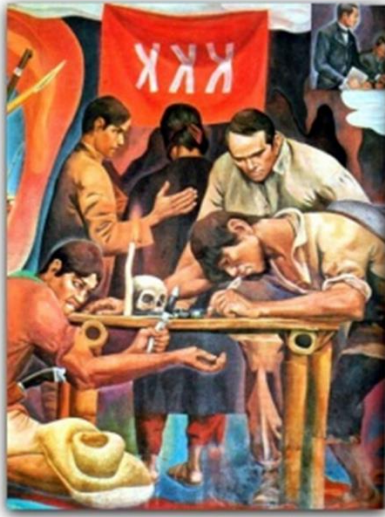
NATURE

Aspects of nature – animals, people, landscapes – have been the most common inspiration and subject matter for art.



HISTORY

- All art is conditioned by the historical period in which it is created. The dress, the houses, the manner of living, the thoughts of a period are reflected in the work of the artist.



"Katipunan" Carlos "Botong" Francisco



"Conquistadores" Carlos "Botong" Francisco

GREEK and roman MYTHOLOGY

- Stories from mythology center on the gods, goddesses, and heroes – these captured the imagination of artists.



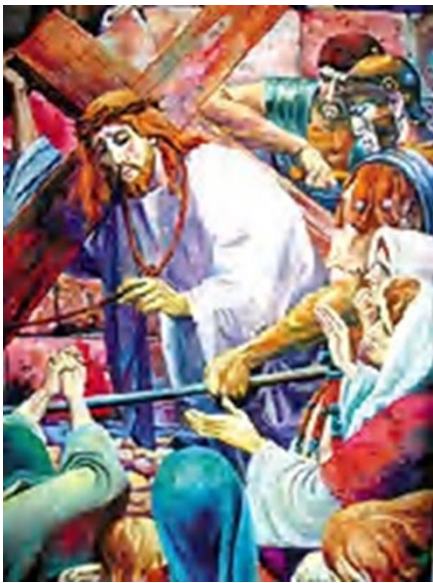
"Perseus and Andromeda" by Peter Paul Rubens

RELIGION

- Since prehistoric era until the present time, there was no difference between religion and art.



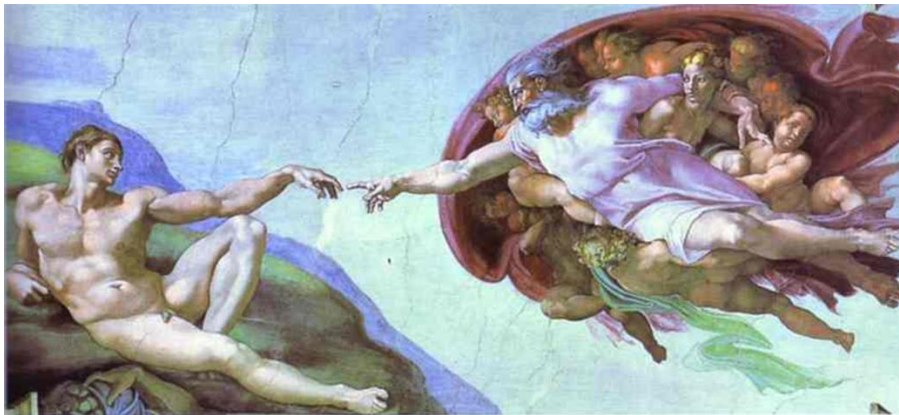
"The Sea of Galilee" by Rembrandt



Carlos "Botong" Francisco gallery



“Pieta” by Michelangelo



“ The Creation of Adam” by: Michelangelo

MUSIC

- Dance & Religion are the two sources of Music; Music is the art of combining and regulating sounds of varying pitch to produce compositions

expressive of ideas and emotions that are pleasing. In dance, music is essential to mark the rhythm.



SCULPTURE

- In the Medieval and the Renaissance church, sculpture in walls and panels were used for instructional purposes;
- Commemoration of the lives of important people can also be considered function of sculpture.



ARCHITECTURE

- Architecture is the only one of the major arts that is directly functional. It is also the art in which the proper performance of “function” is very important.





Art and its SOCIAL Function

- Social behavior is influenced by many works of art. This is manifested by the way we think, feel, move, or decide. Advertisements greatly influence the social behavior of the individual. Art tends to influence the collective behavior of people for cause.

Art and its PHYSICAL Function

- Many works of art were primarily made to perform functions to make our lives comfortable. Whenever art has function, this function influences and determines “form.” Functions change according to form, and if there are many functions, there will be many forms.

TYPES OF ARTS

- VISUAL ARTS

- AUDITORY ARTS

- Painting, sculpture, architecture, tapestry, and glassware are examples of VISUAL ARTS, also called “Space Arts”.
- Music and literature are AUDITORY ARTS, also called “Time Arts”.
- Theater, Opera, and Cinema are called
- “Combined Arts”

MAJOR and APPLIED ARTS

- The five major arts are music, literature, painting, sculpture, and architecture. Major arts generally express an emotion or idea – or both.
- The applied or minor arts are metalwork, weaving, ceramics, glass, furniture, photography, lettering, bookmaking, and the like. Applied or minor arts generally do not express emotion or idea but skills and craftsmanship.

What is appreciation?

- recognition of good qualities of person or something
- a full understanding of a situation
- synonyms= respect, esteem, comprehension

Is appreciation the same as “like” or “love”?

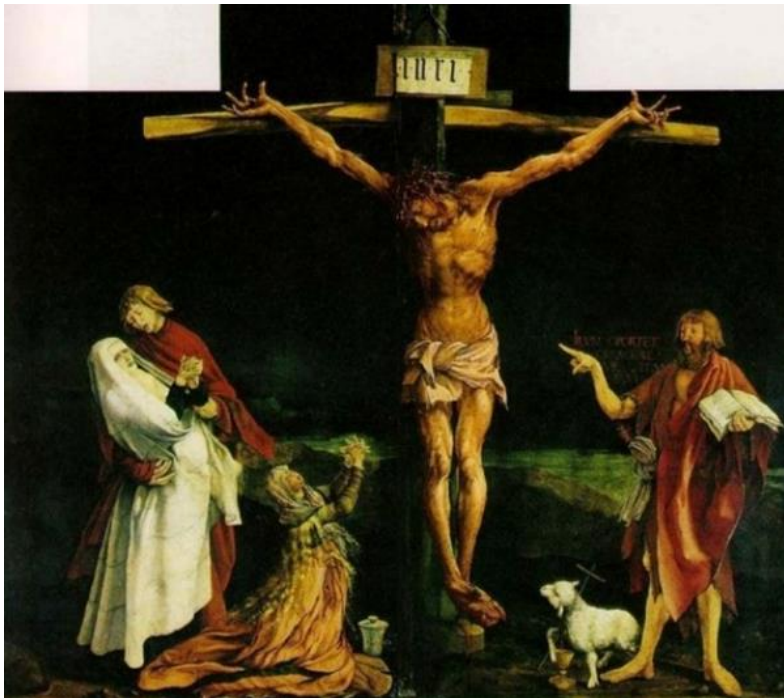


Art Appreciation

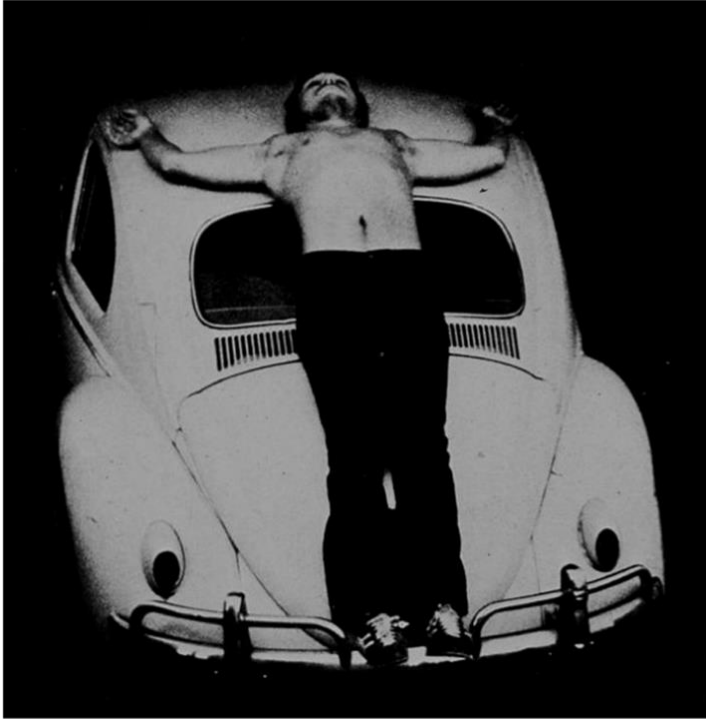
- recognition of the good qualities and understanding of art
- acquiring knowledge leads to appreciation
- knowing vocabulary, concepts, themes, processes, materials
- knowing context
- does not require liking or loving



Crucifixion (Corpus Hypercubus) by Salvador Dali oil on canvas 1954



The Crucifixion part of the Isenheim Altarpiece by Matthias Grunewald 1512-1516



Trans-Fixed Performance by Chris Burden 1974



The Starry Night by Vincent van Gogh 1889

Does knowing too much kill it?

Yes, if there are no more new discoveries made.

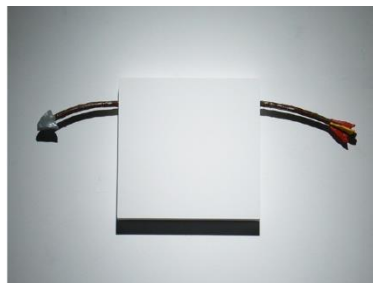
Why appreciate art?

History of art appreciation

- combined with art history
- beginning in early 19th century
- way of teaching morals and taste
- western, democratic ideals
- “refine the sensibilities of Harvard men”
- appreciate the good = being good
- by end of 19th c. more popular among women







art styles representation vs abstraction mediums Art history modern and contemporary art and science how to “read” art meaning in art