

## Lecture 9

## Sculpture of Greek Goddess

- Made of marble
- Not many ornaments & details

## Bodhisattva

- Made of cyst stone spelling?
- Lot of ornaments on the body (precise details)

Differences in scale of both.

Similar folds in the draperies at bottom

Marble allows larger scale sculpture as it is hard, sturdy & durable in nature

Cyst stone being softer in nature allows minute details but on a smaller scale sculpture

Culture & its impact on art-

eg. Art by Henri Matisse (1925)

- Background itself is so dynamic that - the figure becomes a bit static.
- Triangular formation of the figure.

## ① culture of "representation"

(FORM) Static figures  
like in  
Matisse's  
& Cezanne's  
work  
(capturing the  
form of a human)

by color (COLOR)

eg in Matisse's  
(1905) work

'The Green Line'

↓  
image of Matisse's  
wife

The Green Line  
passes through  
the middle of  
the face indicating  
the pattern of a  
light source.

Both these aspects  
of representation  
of form & color are

(shaded highlighted)

embedded in  
the 1925  
Decorative Figure  
by Matisse. Part-  
of a larger culture of  
artists experimenting with  
these forms at the time.

(with darker tones  
of colors)

## ② Impact of 'politics' on representation (geopolitics)

- Matisse was a privileged white French male.
- visual culture of non-European parts like Morocco, Northern Africa, Middle East, India was brought-into focus by artists like Matisse.

[Many Europeans thought - that - the  
visual culture of non-European  
parts was primitive.]

→ this kind of ideology was also  
highlighted in the paintings of  
the time (like in the 1925  
Decorative Figure by Matisse)

• Every kind of art was called 'oriental'  
— kind of derogatory in nature  
(generalising every kind of art  
outside western-Europe as 'oriental')  
This  
kind of-  
pattern was  
also incorporated  
by Matisse in his paintings

### ③ Culture of 'who' (Hierarchy)

eg Anurita Sher-Gil's self-portrait

Amount of attention an art gets  
is also affected by who made it,  
what-kind of culture/hierarchy did  
the artist belong to.

Matisse was a White-French privileged  
male unlike Anurita Sher-Gil who  
was not considered as a global  
artist due to being of Indian origin  
even though she lived in Paris.

Matisse incorporating 'oriental' elements

into his art- was not considered copying, but when an Indian artist incorporated some European elements into his art- (eg. during independence movement), then it was criticised as copying.