



A Post-Modernism Case Study

Maurezio Cattelan Comedian

Presentation by Sean and Steve

Next >

What is Post Modernism?

What is Post Modernism?

Post Modernism is a literary, cultural, and philosophical movement that emerged in the mid-20th century, characterized by:

- **Skepticism toward grand narratives:** challenges universal truths and absolute ideologies.
- **Fragmentation:** Celebrates discontinuity and multiple perspectives in texts
- **Absurdity:** Use of absurd elements to show skepticism towards conventions

Campbell Soup Cans by Andy Warhol, 1962 ▶



Examples of Postmodernism

Postmodernism spans various media. Ex:

Literature

- **"Kew Gardens" by Virginia Woolf**

A modernist short story that used postmodern devices like stream of consciousness and fragmentation.

Art

- **Andy Warhol's *Campbell's Soup Cans***

Blurs the line between high art and consumer culture, embracing irony and repetition.

Film

- **"Pulp Fiction" (1994)**

Directed by Quentin Tarantino, it employs non-linear storytelling, self-referential humor, and pastiche.

What is *Comedian*?

Comedian

Maurezio Cattelan, 2019

The Comedian is a highly post-modern artwork. It featured a banana duct-taped to a wall, questioning the role of consumerism, celebrity, and context in the art world. By using everyday objects, he underscored post-modernism's tendency to blend high-end and low-end cultures.

Sold over

100,000 \$

this piece also sparked debates on the definition on art, further highlighting the absurdity of art's financialization on contemporary market.