



Art History Timeline

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Ancient & Prehistoric

A category of art used for artefacts produced by advanced and pre-literate societies up to the end Roman Empire: Chinese, Indian, Middle Eastern, Egyptian, Greek, Roman. Non-art; things made before most contemporary definitions of art were established.

Paleolithic



Venus of Brassempouy 25,000 years ago



Lanternman figurine, between 35,000 and 41,000 years old



Ancient Egyptian carving
British Museum



Head of Aphrodite 1st
Century BCE

5th Century AD



Peches Merle cave art 25,000 years ago



Discobolus by Miron
450 BCE Greece

Ancient & Prehistoric

Prehistoric Art

Images and artefacts produced by preliterate, prehistorical cultures beginning in very late geological history and ending when writing develops. The earliest Homo Sapiens 'art' is estimated to be 73,000 years old from South Africa, but most evidence dates from around 40,000 years ago.

Links to information and images: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prehistoric_art

Ancient Art

Images and artefacts produced by the advanced cultures of ancient societies such as China, India, Persia, Egypt, Greece and Rome. Although the word 'art' is often used to describe decorative objects from this period, and the Ancient Greeks established many of the concepts of art, art did not exist in ancient cultures. There was no word for art in Ancient Egypt for example. The word 'art' derived from the Latin *ars*, meaning skill or craft. Decorative objects and images in this period might be thought of as non-art - functional objects made without purely aesthetic, artistic intention.

Links to information and images: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient_art

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Traditional

Art where skills and techniques are used to depict realistic interpretations of the material and natural world, Biblical, symbolic or religious narratives and beliefs. Artists use conventions such as tone, perspective, composition and pattern, and employ traditions that imitate or derive from the work of their predecessors.

Lewis Chessmen
12th Century, Scotland



Approx
6th Century



The Creation with the Universe and the Cosmic Man, miniature of the Liber Divinorum Operum (1230), by Hildegard of Bingen



Creation of Adam, Michelangelo (1511)



Islamic Kufic dish 11th - 12th century



Mona Lisa or La Gioconda (1503–1516)
Oil on poplar panel



Saturn Devouring His Son, Francisco Goya 1820

1870



Steam-Boat off a Harbour's Mouth JMW Turner (1842). Oil on canvas.

Traditional

Medieval

Anglo-Saxon Important art from the Anglo-Saxon period includes the Sutton Hoo hoard, the Bayeux Tapestry, the Franks Casket, Hildegard of Bingen and the Lindisfarne Gospels Links to information and images: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-Saxon_art

Viking art Saxon period Known also as Norse art, Viking art is similar to Celtic, Germanic and Eastern European art. It is predominantly craft-based, mostly sculptural and textile based; metal, stone, wood, bone, ivory and textiles. Important art from this period are the Gotlandic picture stones the Oseberg Ship grave and Runestones. Links to information and images: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viking_art

Renaissance Baroque art encouraged - the rebirth of Classical antiquity and the emergence of realistic art. A new understanding of the natural and scientific world emerged. It began in Italy then spread throughout Europe. Significant artists of this period: Hieronymus Bosch Albrecht Dürer Raphael Michelangelo Mannerism Sandro Botticelli Leonardo da Vinci Pieter Bruegel the Elder Caravaggio

Baroque - Baroque art encouraged piety, realism and accuracy. There was a dramatic use of light and shade, dynamism and drama in their work. Significant artists of this period: Rembrandt, Velazquez, Peter Paul Rubens Artemisia Gentileschi Rachel Ruysch

Rococo - French art movement characterised by nature, soft colours, curved lines and themes such as love, nature and youthful entertainment. Significant artists of this period: Fragonard Jean-Antoine Watteau

Neoclassicism - art inspired by excavations of ancient Rome, exemplified by rational thinking and reason, aka 'the Age of Enlightenment'. Significant artists of this period: Piranesi, Joseph Wright of Derby, Marie-Denise Villers, Elisabeth Vigée Le Brun

Romanticism (1790-1880) Romanticism was a German movement that encompassed art, music, literature and architecture. It focussed on intense emotions, imagination and the power of nature. They used alternative sources than classicist ones. Significant artists of this period: Caspar David Friedrich William Blake Théodore Géricault Francisco Goya

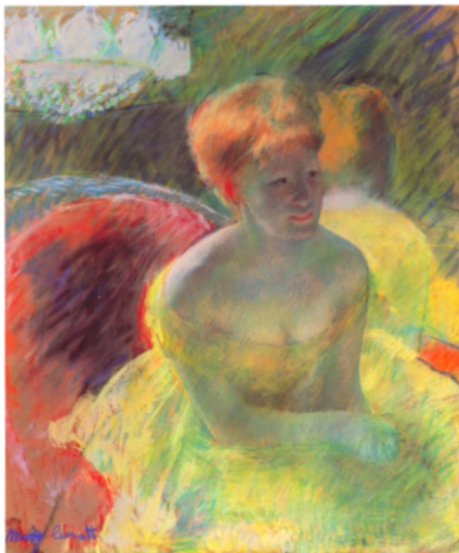
Realism (1830-1890) Realism refers to the subject matter, rather than the technique. Realist painters painted ordinary places and people engaged in mundane, everyday activities. Significant artists of this period: Jean-François Millet Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot Gustave Courbet Édouard Manet Winslow Homer

Modern

Experimental, original and personal Western artistic work produced during the period roughly from the 1860s to the 1970s. Modern art is described as employing new ways of seeing and using fresh ideas about the nature of materials and purposes of art.

1870

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Mary Cassatt, Lydia Leaning on Her Arms, Seated in Loge (1879)

Composition with Red, Blue, and Yellow, Piet Mondrian 1930



Les Femmes d'Alger (O.J.), Pablo Picasso, 1911, oil on canvas



The Treachery of Images, René Magritte, 1929



Campbell's Soup, Andy Warhol, 1968

1970



Barbara Hepworth, Pelagos 1946

Modern

19th century

Impressionism – a 19th century movement originating in Paris during the 1870s and 1880s. Four young painters: Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Alfred Sisley, and Frédéric Bazille shared an interest in painting outdoors or en plein air to capture the fleeting effects of the sun. They painted overall visual effects instead of details and used short, broken brushstrokes of pure, unmixed colours, not blended or shaded, as was typical. They faced considerable criticism in their day, but eventually won over their critics. Other significant artists of this period: Mary Cassatt, Edgar Degas, Édouard Manet, Berthe Morisot

Post-impressionism emerged as a reaction against Impressionists' concern for the naturalistic depiction of light and colour. Post-Impressionists built on the style of Impressionism but rejected its limitations: they continued using vivid colours, sometimes using impasto (thick application of paint) and painting from life, but were more inclined to emphasise geometric forms, distort form for expressive effect, and use unnatural or modified colour. Significant artists of this period: Georges Seurat, Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin, Vincent van Gogh, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Henri Rousseau

Pointillism A technique of painting with small dots of pure colour in patterns to form an image. Significant artists of this period: Georges Seurat, Paul Signac

Symbolism used art and poetry symbolically through language and metaphorical images, mainly as a reaction against naturalism and realism. Significant artists of this period: Odilon Redon, Edvard Munch, James Whistler

Art Nouveau International style of art, and architecture, often inspired by natural forms such as the sinuous curves of plants and flowers. It was popular between 1890 and 1910.

Art Deco Art Deco is a style of visual arts, architecture, and product design that first appeared in France in the 1910s and flourished in the United States and Europe during the 1920s to early 1930s. It featured bold geometric designs and bright colours. During its heyday, it represented luxury, glamour, and technological progress.

20th century

Abstract art uses visual elements of shape, form, colour and line to represent a departure from reality, either partially or fully. Significant artists of this period: Wassily Kandinsky, Robert Delaunay, Sonia Delaunay, Piet Mondrian, Hilma af Klint, Paul Klee

Fauvism – is the style of **les Fauves** (French for *the wild beasts*), a group of artists whose works emphasised strong colour and bold brush strokes over realistic depiction. Significant artists of this period: André Derain, Henri Matisse.

Expressionism tried to represent emotional experience, moods or ideas rather than physical reality. Significant artists of this period: Käthe Kollwitz, Marc Chagall, Leon Kossoff, Franz Marc, Oskar Kokoschka

Cubism Cubist works of art, depict subjects broken up and reassembled in an abstract form. Instead of depicting objects from a single perspective, the artist depicts the subject from multiple perspectives to represent the subject in a greater context. Significant artists of this period: Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque, Fernand Léger

Dada Developed in reaction to World War 1, the Dada movement consisted of artists who rejected the logic, reason and appearance of modern society. Significant artists of this period: Jean Arp, Marcel Duchamp, Max Ernst, Kurt Schwitters, Sophie Taeuber-Arp, Hannah Höch

Surrealism is an art movement in which artists depicted unnerving, illogical scenes and developed techniques to allow the unconscious mind to express itself: René Magritte, Salvador Dalí, Max Ernst, Dorothea Tanning

American Modernism : Georgia O'Keeffe

Sculpture is the art of making three-dimensional representative or abstract forms, especially by carving stone or wood or by casting metal or plaster. Significant artists: Alexander Calder, Alberto Giacometti, Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Louise Nevelson

Abstract expressionism is an art movement in American painting, developed in New York in the 1940s. Significant artists: Joan Mitchell, Willem de Kooning, Jackson Pollock, Franz Kline, Mark Rothko, Helen Frankenthaler

Land art also known as Earth art, and environmental art, is an art movement that uses the materials of the Earth, including the soil, rocks, vegetation, and water to create natural sculptures in remote locations. Significant artists: Richard Long, Andy Goldsworthy, Betty Beaumont

Pop art uses images of *popular* culture in art, to emphasise the banal or kitschy elements of any culture, most often through the use of irony. Significant artists: Richard Hamilton, Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, Andy Warhol, Ed Ruscha, David Hockney

Op art a form of abstract art (specifically non-objective art) that uses optical illusions as its theme. Victor Vasarely, Bridget Riley, MC Escher

Art History Timeline

Contemporary

Art from around the 1970s onwards. It is diverse and eclectic, covering a wide range of disciplines and mediums. The concept or idea behind the art is important, and art often relates to personal and cultural identity, family, community, and nationality.

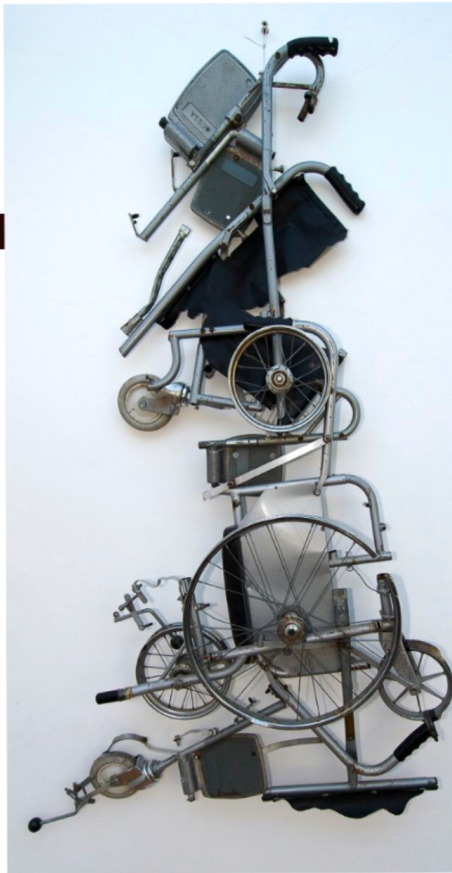
1970

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Untitled, Jean-Michel Basquiat, (1982)

Great Britain from a Wheelchair, Tony Hudson, 1994



My Bed, Tracey Emin, 1998



Flower Bomber, Banksy, 2003



Cold Dark Matter (An Exploded View), Cornelia Parker 1991



The Spirits Of The Pumpkins Descended Into The Heavens, Yayoi Kusama, (2022)

Present

Contemporary

Conceptual artists

Jeff Koons conceptual artist
Barbara Kruger conceptual artist and photographer
Yayoi Kusama performance artist, sculptor, painter
Lee Bul sculptor, conceptual artist
Mark Wallinger conceptual artist
Ai Weiwei conceptual artist
Cornelia Parker conceptual artist
Fiona Banner Installation artist
Jake and Dinos Chapman conceptual art
Martin Creed installation artist
Tacita Dean conceptual artist, filmmaker
Tracey Emin conceptual artist
Susan Hiller installation artist
Damien Hirst installation artist

Painters

Cy Twombly painter
Faith Ringgold painter, textiles
Agnes Martin painter
Takashi Murakami sculptor and painter
Chris Ofili painter
Paula Rego painter
Edward Ruscha painter, filmmaker
Jenny Saville painter
The Singh Twins painters
Frank Auerbach painter
Francis Bacon painter
Banksy graffiti artist
Michael Craig-Martin painter, printmaker
Lucian Freud painter
Keith Haring painter, graffiti artist
David Hockney painter

Sculptors

Rachel Whiteread sculptor
El Anatsui sculptor and installation artist
Marc Quinn sculptor
Yinka Shonibare sculptor
Tony Cragg sculptor

Louise Bourgeois sculptor and installation artist
Andy Goldsworthy sculptor, land artist, photographer
Antony Gormley sculptor
Anish Kapoor sculptor

Performance artists

Marina Abramović performance artist
Gilbert and George, performance artists
Yoko Ono performance artist

Visual artists

Julian Opie visual artist
Bob and Roberta Smith visual artist
Jenny Holzer interdisciplinary artist

Photographers & film makers

Cindy Sherman photographer
Sam Taylor-Wood filmmaker
Shirley Baker
Werner Mantz
Chris Killip
Man Ray

Ceramicists

Grayson Perry ceramicist, textile artist
Donald Locke
Andrew Lord
Simon Carroll

Architects

Frank Lloyd Wright
Frank Gehry
Zaha Hadid
Norman Foster
Le Corbusier
Antoni Gaudi
Bjarke Ingels

Other artists

Black artists

Frank Bowling
Steve McQueen
Donald Locke
Jean Michel Basquiat
Chris Ofili
Faith Ringgold
El Anatsui
Kara Walker
Lubaina Himid
Lynette Yiadom-Boakye
Yinka Shonibare
Romuald Hazoume

South Asian artists

Singh Twins
Lala Rukh
Rasheed Rana
Shahzia Sikander
Anila Quayyum Agha
Anwar Jalal Shemza
Anish Kapoor

Asian

Ai Weiwei
Yayoi Kusama
Takashi Murakami
Christine Ay Tjoe

Aboriginal art

Information about Aboriginal art
Artists of Papunya Tula
Australian Indigenous art movements and cooperatives

Chinese art **Japanese art**

SEND & Neurodivergent artists

Tony Heaton
Caroline Cardus
Sonia Boué
Stephen Wiltshire
Nnena Kalu
Linda Bell
Yinka Shonibare

Graphic Designers

David Carson
Saul Bass
Paula Scher
Milton Glaser
Paul Rand
Susan Kare
Abraham Games
Neville Brody
Jamie Reid