



The History of Art

Introduction

What is Art?

The term “art” is related to the Latin word “ars” or “artem” meaning skill or Craft.

“Art is a subject belongs to the human creative skills and imaginations.”

What is Fine Art?

Fine art refers to a **visual art** considered to have been created primarily for aesthetic purposes and judged for its beauty and meaningfulness, specifically, painting, sculpture, drawing, graphics, and architecture.

There is no one universal definition of visual art though there is a general consensus that art is the conscious creation of something beautiful or meaningful using skill and imagination.

Mimesis:
Art is the representation
or replication of something
beautiful or meaningful.



Definitions of Art



Expression:
Art is the expression of
subjective experiences and
emotions.

Formalism:
Art is the arrangement of
lines, colors, shapes, and
other aesthetic elements.



So Art can not be defined, it is everywhere in everyone of us. As the saying goes:

“Art is in the eye of the beholder, everyone has their own interpretation.”

What is History?

The study of collecting information about things and events happened in the past is called history.

History is a subject of inquiry; knowledge acquired by investigation about things and events.

Why do we learn about History?

What is Art History?

Art and History are two different subjects. Looking at the art of the past and what that art tells about the past is called Art History .

The purpose of the art history is that all art is influenced by a style which came before it. Therefore by looking back in the history of art we can see the origin of any art style.

Art Appreciation

How to Analyze an Art work?

Why does a work of art look the way it does?

Who made it and why?

What does it mean?

These questions and others like them appear in the mind of art historical inquiry.

Types of Analysis

Art historians use various types of analysis to provide answers. But in general, there are two types of analysis to criticize any work of art.

- Formal Analysis (Visual)
- Contextual Analysis (Interpretation Subject Matter)

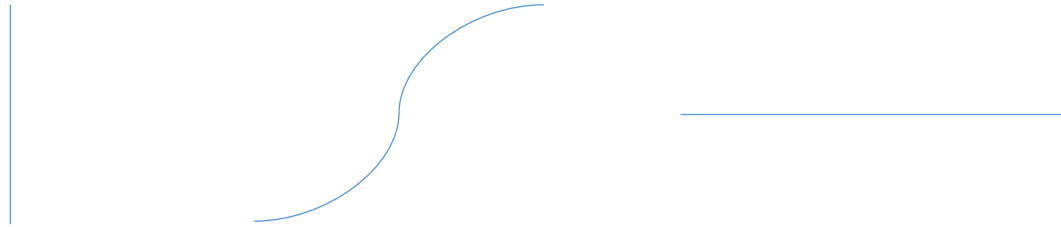
Formal Analysis of Art Work

Formal analysis belongs to visual experience. (Media, Technique and Process)

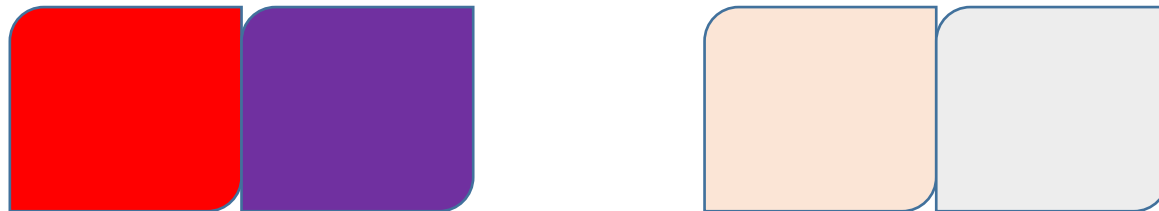
Formal analysis focuses on form rather than subject matter or historical context, this typically consists of two parts:

- description of the visual features or physical properties (form, Line, color and texture) of a work.
- and analysis of their effects e.g.

a prominent linear form might suggest strength if straight and vertical, grace or sensuality if sinuous, or stability and calm if long and horizontal.



Sharp contrasts in light and dark may make an image feel bold and dramatic whereas subdued lighting might suggest gentleness or intimacy.



Contextual Analysis of Art Work

Contextual analysis involves the cultural context of the art work means who is its artist, and what is its time period.

In contextual analysis the art work is analyze in social, religious, economical, geographical, artistic, historical and cultural perspective.

Elements of Art

- Line
- Shape and Form
- Color
- Space
- Texture
- Value
- Surface and depth
- Light and Shadow

Principle of Art/Composition

- Balance
- Emphasis
- Harmony/ Unity
- Rhythm
- Variety
- Proportion
- Contrast
- Movement

What is difference between art and artifact?
What is difference between artist and artisan?