



Module 5 : Modern Art and Design

Lecture 12 : Cubist Sculpture, Collage (Synthetic Cubism)

The Lecture Contains:

 Collage (Synthetic Cubism)

 Cubist Sculpture

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Collage (Synthetic Cubism)



Plate 6A H. Matisse

6B Kurt Schwitters,
1919

6C Hannah Höch, 1919

6D Rajput Miniature,
16th C

(Read more Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collage> ; December 18, 2012)

The term collage derives from French **"coller"** meaning 'glue'. This term was coined by both Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso in the beginning of the 20th century when collage became a distinctive part of Modern Art. The synthesis of more than one material created a new thinking process. Assembling layers of material on a surface created visual stimulations and wider visual perspective. Perhaps this is the beginning of introduction of mass produced material such as- news paper, card-board, wood, etc. It gives new way of looking- denatured mass produced material may be baptized as art. The mass produced material has earned its aesthetic appeal like other conventional art works. Design profession must recognize that the inspiration and creativity of collage laid down the foundation for the mass produced product's recognition as work of art. Henri Matisse's collage (plate 6A) shows flat surface treatment can produce the desired depth of field in term of line and form. The freshness of solid color on a solid background creates dimension. Indian Traditional art of Rajput Miniature paintings (plate 6D) has similar three dimensional effects on flat surface. On the other hand Kurt and Hannah (plate 6B & 6C) use multiple colors and textured to create different complex dimensions. The effects of pasted material certainly became quite exciting and challenging followed by use of wood, fabric and other mass produced manufactured materials. Use of printed texts messages or alphabets became quite popular.

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Plate 7A Collage
Sculpture
(Wood-relief)



7B Picasso,
Collage
(Paper & Wood)



7C Picasso's
Collage
(Newspaper)



7D Mirror Collage Sculpture
(Mirror)

(Source: https://www.google.co.in/search?hl=en&q=Picasso%27s+Collage&bav=on.2,or.r_gc.r_pw.r_qf.&bpcl=40096503&biw=1318&bih=600&um=1&ie=UTF8&tbn=isch&source=og&sa=N&tab=wi&ei=SkXQUljXE8TqrQemqIFg ; December 18, 2012)

Collage art broke the conventional thinking and new way to recognize the essence of aesthetics.

'Readymade' and the DADA became the most radical movement of the century. It tried to destroy the established conventional art thinking. In fact non-art became their main philosophy. They tried to question the very foundation of the philosophy of art. Usage of mixed material (plate 7A-7D) challenged the conventional thinking of two dimensional paintings in color pigment or graphic printing. It tried to raise questions- Is there any law or rule that all the two dimensional art works have to be painted with color pigments? There is no such rule, through generations artists have followed the conventional practices without questioning. The new generation artists of early 20th century dared to question the traditional believes and practices, which threw validated the statement- 'Art for Art's Sake'.

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Cubist Sculpture



Plate 7A Picasso
(Chicago, 1967)



7B Head of a Woman
(Picasso, first cubist
sculpture)



7C Cubist Sculpture
(Composition)



7D Cubist Sculpture
(Metal rods Composition)

(Source: https://www.google.co.in/search?hl=en&q=cubist+sculpture&bav=on.2,or.r_gc.r_pw.r_qf.&bpcl=40096503&biw=1318&bih=600&um=1&ie=UTF-8&tbm=isch&source=og&sa=N&tab=wi&ei=HT3QULSYGs3LrQf5noCYAQ ; December 18, 2012)

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YAO; December 18, 2012)

Cubist sculpture is a style developed in parallel with cubist painting, centered in Paris. Around 1909 and evolving through the early 1920s the style is closely associated with the formal experiments of Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso. Most of the historians accept Picasso's 1909 bronze *Head of a Woman* (plate 7B) as the first cubist sculpture followed by Alexander Archipenko, whose 1912 *Walking Woman* (plate 8A) is cited as the first modern sculpture with an abstracted void, i.e., a hole in the middle. Picasso's cubistic sculpture (plate 7A) has shown interesting composition of mass and void. On the otherhand number of artists tried to play with pure solid geometric forms (plate 7C-7D) in abstract composition. Use of prefabricated metal rod welded to creating various forms is the extension of Picasso's *Bull Head* concept.

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