

Artistic Techniques

“The earth without art is just ‘eh,’” (Unknown). Art is a big deal in the world, back in the caveman time, through the Renaissance period, to now. Art usually tells a story and makes people feel different emotions. That is a huge reason on why it is so popular. To create their masterpieces, artists use many different types of mediums, such as paint, pencil, clay, string, and a camera.

To begin with, painting is one of the most popular techniques in art. People use paint to create murals, which are paintings on walls, and artwork on canvas board or paper. There are different kinds of paint, including acrylic, oil, and watercolor. Acrylic paint is fast-drying and is water-based. It can be used on all kinds of materials. Oil paint is slow-drying and has been used since the twelfth century. This type of paint is mainly used on canvas since it takes so long to dry and is commonly glossed with oil. Watercolor paint is made of pigments in a water-based solution. Artists use this kind of paint on paper, papyrus, or bark papers. Acrylic paint is the most common out of the three because it can look like oil or watercolor paint, based on how it is used. One of the most famous painters is Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519). He was a painter in the Renaissance period and is famous for the Mona Lisa and Last Supper paintings.

Another popular technique in art is drawing. This is popular because of the many mediums that can be used. A graphite pencil is the most common, but others are charcoal pencils, crayons, pen, chalk, pastels, colored pencils, and markers. Charcoal has a unique look and is easy to smudge to get different effects. Chalk is a soft white limestone that is usually used to make backgrounds on pieces of artworks, such as sunsets. Pastels are made of powdered pigments and are similar to oil paints, except they are dry. A famous artist is Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564). He was famous for creating more than ninety chalk-and-ink works.

A third technique is sculpting. A very famous sculptor is Donatello (1386-1466). He lived in the Renaissance period and was a master in sculpting with bronze, wood, and stone. Creations in the sculpting category include pottery, jewelry, and mosaics. Pottery is made by molding clay into a desired shape and putting it into a kiln, which hardens the clay. A mosaic is formed by putting together small pieces of colored glass or stone to create a bigger picture. It is usually used for decoration.

The final popular medium in art is photography. The pictures can show amazing aspects of the world at different angles. Photographers can also use different lenses and settings to get an even better picture. Photoshop is also a part of photography. People may use this to enhance and edit their photos to make them more appealing to look at. A very popular photographer is Ansel Adams (1902-1984). He is famous for his stunning landscapes, which are used on calendars, posters, and books.

To conclude, art has been around for many years and brings joy to people. It can tell a story or make people feel emotional by looking at it. Art can be presented in many different ways, also called mediums. There are many different mediums as well such as paint, pencils, clay, and a camera. I find art very interesting and beautiful. It's amazing how one piece of artwork can make people feel many different ways.