Innovative Art Movements:

Cubism, Dada, and Surrealism


Drawing I – Course 0104340  Instructor: Dr. Brown
Objectives:

Students will be able to answer the following essential questions:

• Why did the CUBISM ART MOVEMENT begin?

• How is creating art in the “CUBISM” style different from creating “OBSERVATIONAL” art?

• What ELEMENTS OF ART are emphasized in CUBISM?
CUBISM
By the beginning of the 20th century, Europe’s most advanced artists were becoming less concerned with creating an illusion of realism in their work, and more concerned about concentrating on the analyst of forms, color, and line.

- **CUBISM** is the creation of art that depicts objects as an artist KNOWS them, not as he SEES them. This art shows all sides of an object at once. To do this, artists combined fragments of different points of view into a single image; OVERLAPPING lines; making objects appear TRANSLUCENT; INTERSECTING lines and creating RANDOM ANGLES.
Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque became the originators of a new art movement, called “Cubism”, that was influenced by African art.

In the period between 1907 and 1909, sometimes called the “Negro Mask” period, Picasso and Braque defied Western traditions of beauty by representing the subject in terms of block-like forms. This is what gave rise to the name “Cubist”.
George Braque began collaborating with Picasso on this new approach to painting, which was based on collapsing perspective into overlapping planes. They played with ideas of illusion to trick the eye, by introducing lettering, paint thickening, and paper collage.
In 1914, Picasso’s paintings became more colorful and exuberant. Cubism became a license for freedom rather than a restraining discipline.

Some Cubist, including Braque, found Picasso’s later work hard to follow.

By the end of World War I, there was widespread reaction to Cubism, called the “Return to Order”, but Cubism had already left its mark on the Art world.
When we draw observational art, we draw what we see.

When we created our 3-D Compositions, we drew solid forms, like this rectangular prism. We drew the forms as we would see them, if they were sitting in front of us.
Cubist draw what is **KNOWN**, by making forms and shapes **transparent**.
These artists also use overlapping and intersecting lines, producing random angles in works of art to better emphasize line, shape, and color.
In this portrait line drawing, the facial features are drawn as we might **SEE** them.

In the drawing below, the facial features include what is **KNOWN**: that we have **two ears, two eyes** and **two nostrils**.

In **Cubism**, **PROPORTION** is changed by changing the **PERSPECTIVE** from what we **SEE** to what we **KNOW** exist.
REVIEW QUESTIONS
• Why did the CUBISM ART MOVEMENT begin?

• How is creating art in the “CUBISM” style different from creating “OBSERVATIONAL” art?

• What ELEMENTS OF ART are emphasized in CUBISM?
Study The Following Images of Cubistic Art.

Choose One or Two That May Influence Your Own Composition.

AFTERWARDS, IN YOUR SKETCH BOOK, IF TIME PERMITS, BEGIN PLANNING YOUR PRIMARY FORMS AND SHAPES FOR YOUR CUBISM COMPOSITION.

PRACTICE IN YOUR SKETCH BOOKS BLENDING COLORS USING THE OIL PASTEL CRAYONS ON YOUR TABLES.
VOCABULARY REVIEW
CUBISM

the creation of art that depicts objects as an artist knows them, not as he sees them. This art shows all sides of an object at once. To do this, artists combined fragments of different points of view into a single image;

OVERLAPPING lines and GEOMETRIC FORMS and SHAPES; making objects appear TRANSLUCENT; INTERSECTING lines and creating RANDOM ANGLES.

TRANSLUCENT

clear; transparent: easily seen through
DADA AND SURREALISM
More than any previous art movement, Dada rejected established institutions. This movement grew from the discontent of the “Great War”, World War I.

Dada challenged the rules of art, everyday objects as art, political collage, the use of chance, and playful metaphysics—all these techniques energized the movement.
Hans Arp, also known as Jean Arp, was a leading participant in the Dada movement in 1916. Arp created forms that are freely drawn to echo nature and its processes.
Surrealism was started in Paris by the poet and critic Andre Breton.

Influenced by Sigmund Freud's work in psychology and dreams and by the political writings of Karl Marx.

The Dada movement opened the door for the Surrealism movement.
Although there was no single style of Surrealists, there are two dominant strands; dreamlike paintings and those using free association, which the Surrealist called **automatism**.

These artists sometimes incorporated photography in their work in order to link the real and surreal by manipulating photographic techniques.
Surrealism has had a lasting impact on visual art, advertising, films, literature, digital media, CD/DVD Covers, and gaming, to such an extent that the word “surreal” has come to mean **anything fantastic or dreamlike**.
Study The Following Surreal Images.

Choose One or Two That May Influence Your Own Composition To Be Completed In Class.
Discussion and Vocabulary

In at least one paragraph, answer the following questions in complete sentences:

• Which culture impacted the cubism movement?

• What events in history influenced the Dada and Surrealistic movements in both Europe and America?

• Describe the lasting impact of surrealism on society today.