

ART AND FILM APPRECIATION

COMPARISONS OF ARTS

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Roll. No: PHI/18/47

Aesthetics as a philosophy of beauty and art tries to discover a conceptual Unity among various arts and present a comprehensive definition of the concept of art it also takes into account the variety in Arts and the characteristic differences prevailing among them and brings out special feature inherent in each kind of art.

Ancient Greeks thinkers divided art into two parts – Productive and Imitative.

Productive

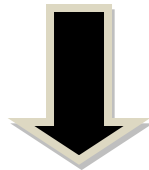


Commercial arts of manufacturing artifacts for day to day life .

Art of making Garments , Chair ,Table ,Utensil.

Makers are called Artisans .

Imitative



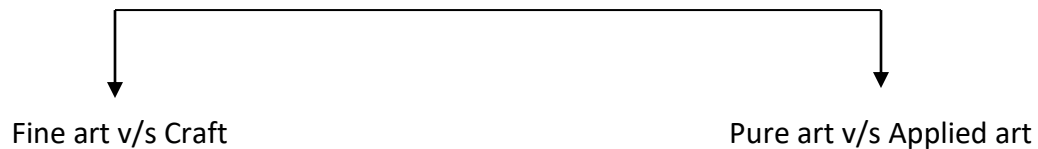
This included Painting , poetry, culture, music, drama.

These art made life like images of objects and create illusions of reality.

Purpose was not to serve utility but provide enjoyment in nature.

But it was different in ancient India as there was no such distinction as all kinds of art serve the purpose of utility . It was the only source of livelihood for the Artisan . Rather an umbrella term “kala” corresponding to western term “art” was used.

Modern day classification



Similar to how Greeks defined productive arts crafts are almost identical to that in the modern context. The imitative arts like painting sculpture music et cetera are similar to the fine arts of today. Such art is now viewed as representation, expression of feelings and emotions et cetera. The basic difference between the two is that craft entails skill and technique whereas fine arts are concerned with originality and imagination.

There are similarities between the two both involve a skill in making something they are technological activities carried out for specific goals and for realizing some intentions which may be commercial, social, moral, religious or pure aesthetic. They both need designing and proper planning in handling the material involved.

Amidst of creating several things necessary for day to day life and enriching his life with innumerable artifacts that made like more comfortable man developed an aesthetic interest and started making things not for utility but for the pleasure and started making things creating presentable appearances in the objective world. This is how "fine art" was born.

There are a few differences between Fine art and Craft . (i) Utility (ii) Position of the Product (iii) Relativity and absoluteness .

The utility product can be attractive and have an aesthetic value to it . For example a well designed house constructed by the architect is useful for residential purpose but can be appreciated as an object to beauty also. Utility and beauty can definitely go together yet a craft is valued basically for its utility function and an object of fine art is valued for its potential to look beautiful and emotional responses and represent values of rational life. A painting is valued as a work of art for its visual qualities and the impact it makes on usual sensibilities and emotions. Do not expect the craft to impress a sensibilities and move us emotionally. Aesthetic experience is an experience of joy and thrill and it is caused by the very presence of some objects and their outstanding forms and contents this kind of experience one expects to get in an art gallery and music concerts we hardly think of it as an object that must be possessed as a consumer item Virgil C Aldrich in his book philosophy of art points that the work of the artist begins where the work of an artisan ends. The craft man has his own expertise in his activity and knows the merits and demerits of the material is using. He is an artist in his own right but of a different nature. He can even make it look prettier . The artist is not much concerned with

the looks of the object for example an instrument , he is inspired by the very feel of the strings and the resonance of sound they create where as a craftsman can never dream of a evoking such emotion in the listener

The importance of craft varies with the changes in the economic and social condition of the society many crafts considered valuable in ancient and mediaeval periods are no longer in use as the socio-economic conditions have changed post industrial revolution. The phenomena of getting "out of date" and "irrelevant" is applicable to crafts but not to the products of fine art , the work of art hold their influence for the admirers of all ages . Beauty is not a relative value like utility which keeps on changing. Fine art are the product of rational enlightened persons who reflect in their visions of life , sensitivity to certain basic human factors , cultural values, they have in aura of universality about them. Since they are not means of utility like craft objects, absolute value as ends in themselves. Let it be Shakespeare , Valmiki , Kalidas or Leonardo Da Vinci their compositions are preserved as a heritage of our culture in our society that transcends the limits of time.

Collingwood has a different Criterion to classify art . He puts art into the categories of craft; and art proper. Art proper is a spontaneous expression of emotions where as craft is an activity of making something with pre meditated needs.

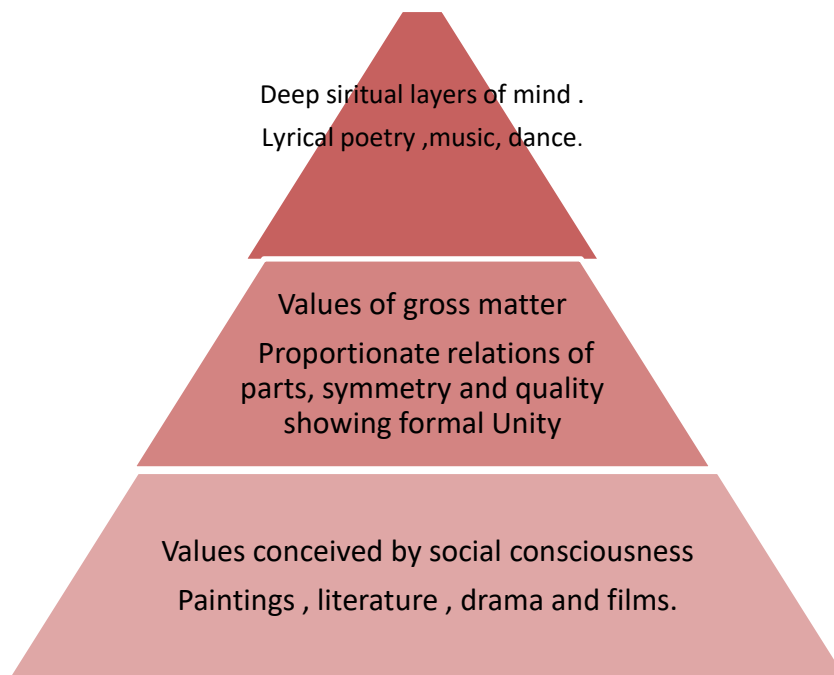
John Dewey believes that the classification of arts to 'fine' and 'crafts' is due to incidental factors and not necessarily due to the nature and motive of the activity. Hence to divide arts as those which satisfy utility purpose and those which are meant for pure aesthetic purpose is arbitrary.

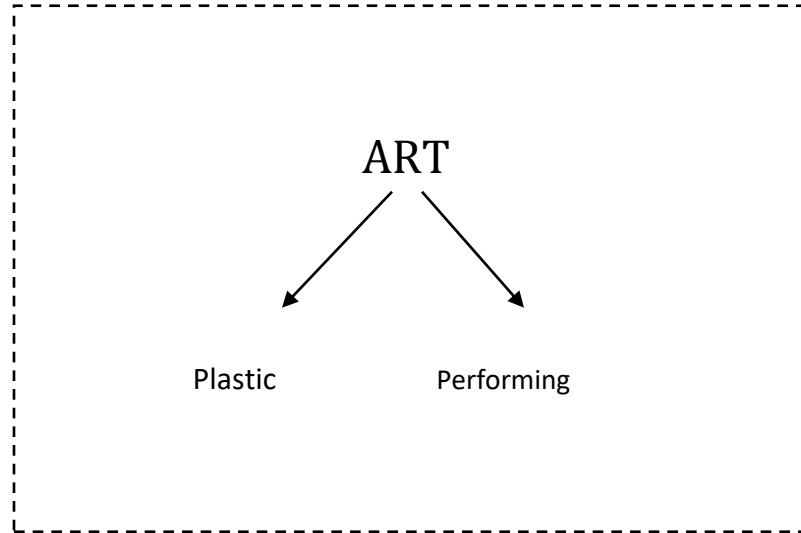
Another way of distinguishing Arts is as 'pure' and 'applied' the term 'applied' suggest that there is an application of some specialized knowledge in the production of these arts for Example invention of a camera is an applied art based on the knowledge of the technology pertaining to the principles of light and function of the eyes. But we also known as there is a lot of improvement in the techniques of making the camera and taking the photograph this kind of improvement characterizes the artistic activities the scientific principles are same but the techniques of applying them is different. The craft and applied arts have one common that is they are brought into existence for utility purpose prima facie stop the value is dependent on the degree of utility the server but there is a process of continuous improvement in the techniques of making and artifacts of previous data outmoded by the later development of artifact. The success of the crafts depend on the skill with which they are executed but still alone is not enough for the progress in applied arts more developed the technology of Applied Sciences are the products of applied art. The pure arts contrasted gains applied arts are not

different from the fine arts they are called pure when compared with applied arts the fine art are pure since they do not involve application of some other form of knowledge 9 are the created for any specific practical purpose the creative artist is Keen to express his inner aspirations and feelings in art and the very urge to create aesthetic objects artist and not the desire to make useful objects.

It is convenient to illustrate the nature of applied art and fine art and pure art in a complex art like cinema. The artisans who make sets for the studio for various scenes,dress makers, makeup men and women etc .The technicians operate the movie camera and control sound, vision and light are the applied artists. The script writers , directors ,actors and actresses, music directors and playback singers , artist in the orchestra and many more such persons are the artists whose art is neither craft nor applied art but pure and fine art employed only for the aesthetic purpose.

According to Aristotle, arts are distinguished from one another on the basis of their subject matter media and style used in them. The later philosophers initiated metaphysical principle for classifying fine arts and display hierarchy among them.





Showing the dimensional aspects of matter like painting, culture sculpture are called plastic the arts which are performed during certain duration of time are called performing arts. Music, dance, drama are the examples of performing arts. Literature belongs to none of the categories rather constitutes a separate category of its own. These react can be viewed as visual and auditory arts. Architecture, painting, sculpture, mines etc are visual arts while music is auditory. Dance when conjoined with Music as is the practice in India is a mixture of both visual as well as auditory. Drama is a complex art comprising of visual literary elements.