

## Merging Facts of Contemporary Art

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Rapidly changing culture and taste of people resulted in the new and quite different stylized form of art. Today the artists are taking up different forms of arts into a single work to give it a new form. This mingled form of art is becoming the necessity of the 21st century. A child doesn't want to play with the same toy each time; likewise the artist and the society cannot stand with the same traditional form of art. Interestingly the artists themselves, in the race of modern society, are adopting a mix of best ever forms of art. After all the artists, especially the young ones, expect their work to be unique, reverent and glorifying. The scope of this article is limited to discussing visual and literary artworks, since these forms of art creation are the most prevalent media through which artists expressed their social realities. The analysis of visual and literary artworks is covering the important art streams in contemporary or modern period. Art has not always been what we think it is today. An object regarded as Art today may not have been perceived as such earlier. Historically, the fine arts were limited to painting, sculpture, architecture and engraving. Today, the fine arts commonly include visual and performing art forms, such as painting, sculpture, installation, Calligraphy, music, dance, theatre, architecture, photography and printmaking. By the middle of the 19th century, "modernist" approaches were introduced which adopted new subject matter and new painterly values. In large measure, the modern artists rejected, or contradicted, the standards and principles of the academies and the Renaissance tradition. By the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, artists began to formulate the notion of truth to one's materials, recognizing that paint is pigment and the canvas a two-dimensional surface. At this time the call also went up for "Art for Art's Sake."

In the early 20th century all traditional notions of the identity of the artist and of art were thrown into disarray by Marcel Duchamp and his Dada associates. Duchamp, as an artist, declared that anything the artist produces is art. For the duration of the 20th century, this position has complicated and undermined how art is perceived but at the same time it has fostered a broader, more inclusive assessment of art. We couldn't see a urinal pot as a work of art but when Duchamp put it into a gallery with his thoughts, we all accepted it as a work of art. Means anything can be a work of art but there should be an artistic means. Marcel Duchamp critiqued the idea that the artwork should be a unique product of an artist's labor. What we need is 'an Idea' or a concept. For instance, Subodh Gupta displays steel utensils in the gallery with a thought and no doubt a deep concept, that's why those utensils are different from the utensils displayed in some shop, because there the purpose is for sale not for the sake of art. But Gupta has installed them with an artistic thought. "Anything can be a work of art"- this thought has changed the traditional form of art, and art has become interlinked. After going through different types of art forms, we will come to know that they have roots in each other. For example, Installation art describes an artistic genre of site-specific, three-dimensional works designed to transform the perception of a space. Installation art can be either temporary or permanent. Installation artworks have been constructed in exhibition spaces such as museums and galleries, as well as public-

and private spaces. The genre incorporates a very broad range of everyday and natural materials, which are often chosen for their evocative qualities, as well as new media such as video, sound, performance, immersive virtual reality and the internet. Many installations are site-specific in that they are designed to exist only in the space for which they were created. On the other hand, Site-specific art is artwork created to exist in a certain place. Typically, the artist takes the location into account while planning and creating the artwork. Outdoor site-specific artworks often include landscaping combined with permanently sited sculptural elements (the movement is linked with Environmental art). Outdoor site-specific artworks also include dance performances created especially for the site. More broadly, the term is sometimes used for any work that is (more or less) permanently attached to a particular location. In this sense, a building with interesting architecture could be considered a piece of site-specific art. So architecture can also become a work of art which includes an environment also. But in a general sense, Environmental Art is art that helps improve our relationship with the natural world. In its early phases it was most associated with sculpture especially Site-specific art or Land art. And, Land art or Earth art is an art form that is created in nature, using natural materials such as Soil, Rock, organic media (logs, branches, leaves, and water with introduced materials such as concrete, metal, asphalt, mineral pigments. Sculptures are not placed in the landscape; rather, the landscape is the means of their creation. The works frequently exist in the open, located well away from civilization, left to change and erode under natural conditions. Many of the first works, created in the deserts of Nevada, New Mexico, Utah or Arizona were ephemeral in nature and now only exist as video recordings or photographic documents.

If we look at Performance art, it can be any situation that involves four basic elements: time, space, the performer's body and a relationship between performer and audience. It is opposed to painting or sculpture, for example, where an object constitutes the work. Performance art traditionally involves the artist and other actors. Although performance art could be said to include relatively mainstream activities such as theater, dance, music, and circus-related things like fire breathing, juggling, and gymnastics, these are normally instead known as the performing arts. Performance art is a term usually reserved to refer to a kind of usually avant-garde or conceptual art which grew out of the visual arts. In performing art, usually one or more people perform in front of an audience. 'Performance artists' often challenge the audience to think in new and unconventional ways about theater and performing, break conventions of traditional performing arts, and break down conventional ideas about "what art is," a preoccupation of modernist experimental theater and of postmodernism. Emerging in America and Europe in the early 1960s, Performance was an experimental art form inspired by Conceptual art, as well as Dada, Futurism, the Bauhaus and the Black Mountain College. Dada artists combined poetry and the visual arts; while Weimar's Bauhaus Design School and North Carolina's Black Mountain College integrated theatre studies with visual arts. Performance now includes events and "Happenings" by visual artists, poets, musicians, film makers, and video artists and so on. The late-1960s and 1970s also witnessed the appearance of "Body Art", a type of Performance in which the artist's own flesh becomes the canvas and subsequently "performs" in a suitably shocking, newsworthy manner. A happening is a performance, event or situation meant to be considered as an art. Happenings take place anywhere (from basements to studio lofts and even street alley ways), are often multi-disciplinary, with a nonlinear narrative and the active participation of the audience. Key elements of happenings are planned, but artists sometimes retain room for improvisation. This new media art aspect to happenings eliminates the boundary between the artwork and its viewer. Henceforth, the interactions between the audience and the artwork makes the audience, in a sense, part of the art.<sup>2</sup> Through Happenings, the separation between life, art, artist, and audience becomes blurred. The Happening allows the artist to experiment with body motion, recorded sounds, written and spoken texts, and even smells.

In conceptual art the idea or concept is the most important aspect of the work. When an artist uses a conceptual form of art, it means that all of the planning and decisions are made beforehand and the execution is a perfunctory affair. The idea becomes a machine that makes the Art.3 Means, a movement founded on the principle that art is a 'concept rather than a material object. That is to say, the 'idea' that a work represents is considered its essential component, and the 'finished product', if it exists at all, is regarded essentially as a form of documentation rather than as an artifact. The origins of Conceptualism go back to Dada and the early 20th century artist Marcel Duchamp, who was the originator of found art. The term describes art created from the objects that are not normally considered art, often because they already have a non-art function.<sup>4</sup> Assemblage is an artistic process in which a three-dimensional artistic composition is made from putting together found objects. Assemblage artists tend to use found objects, fragments and bits, often everyday manufactured materials or junk never intended as art materials.

In the era of technology, how can art be untouched with this, and technology based art works are result of this time. Such as Video installation is a contemporary art method that combines video technology with installation art. It is an art form that utilizes all aspects of its surrounding environment as a vehicle of affecting the audience. Today, video installation is ubiquitous, visible in a range of environments from galleries and museums to an expanded field that includes site-specific work in urban or industrial landscapes. Popular formats include monitor work, projection, and performance. The only requirements are electricity and darkness. Sometimes, the idea of a participatory audience is stretched further in interactive video installation. Some other times, the video is displayed in such a way that the viewer becomes part of the plot as a character in a film. Interactive installation is a branch of the installation arts category. Usually, an interactive installation will often involve the audience acting on it or the piece responding to the user's activity. There are several kinds of interactive installations produced, these include web-based installations, gallery based installations, digital based installations, electronic based installations, etc. Interactive installations are mostly seen from the 1990s, when artists are more interested in the participation of the audiences where the meaning of the installation is generated. At the turn of a new century, there is a trend of interactive installations using video, film, sound and sculpture. (Plate-8) Interactive art is a form of installation-based art that involves the spectator in a way that allows the art to achieve its purpose. Some installations achieve this by letting the observer walk in, on, and around them. Interactive art is a genre of art in which the viewers participate in some way by providing an input. Unlike traditional art forms wherein the interaction of the spectator is merely a mental event, interactivity allows for various types of navigation, assembly, and contribution to an artwork, which goes far beyond purely psychological activity. Interactive art installations are generally computer-based and frequently rely on sensors. In interactive artworks, both the audience and the machine work together in dialogue in order to produce a completely unique artwork for each audience to observe. However, not all observers visualize the same picture. Because it is interactive art, each observer makes their own interpretation of the artwork and it may be completely different than another observer's views.<sup>6</sup> Sound installation (related to sound art and sound sculpture) is an intermedia and time based art form. It is an expansion of an art installation in the sense that it includes the sound element and therefore the time element. The main difference with a sound sculpture is that a sound installation has a three dimensional space and the axes with which the different sound objects are being organized are not exclusively internal to the work, but also external. A work of art is an installation only if it makes a dialog with the surrounding space. A sound installation is usually a site-specific but sometimes it can be readapted to other spaces. It can be made either in close or open spaces, and context is fundamental to determine how a sound installation will be aesthetically perceived. The difference between a regular art installation and a sound installation is that the later one has the time element, which gives the visiting public the possibility to stay a longer time due possible curiosity

over the development of sound. This temporal factor also gives the audience the excuse to explore the space thoroughly due to the dispositions of the different sounds in space. Sound installations sometimes use interactive art technology (computers, sensors, mechanical and kinetic devices, etc) but we also find this type of art form using only sound sources placed in different space points (like speakers), or acoustic music instruments materials like piano strings that are played by a performer or by the public. Sound art is a diverse group of art practices that considers wide notions of sound, listening and hearing as its predominant focus. There are often distinct relationships forged between the visual and aural domains of art and perception by sound artists. Like many genres of contemporary art, sound art is interdisciplinary in nature, or takes on hybrid forms.<sup>4</sup> Sound art often engages with the subjects of acoustics, psychoacoustics, electronics, noise music, audio media and technology, found or environmental sound, explorations of the human body, sculpture, film or video and an ever-expanding set of subjects that are part of the current discourse of contemporary art.

After looking at all these different types of modern trends in art and their relation between each other, we can say that they all are interlinked, we cannot discriminate them with a particular term. Because in the contemporary art world Installation as well as Video art or may be Body art and Performance can also be there in a single work of art. Generally, the term Installation art is applied to interior spaces, whereas exterior interventions are often called Land art; however the boundaries between these terms overlap. We can't discriminate art works into the traditional terms as today all arts have come together and a new word has come-Work of Art, it can be an installation, an assemblage, a public art or something else. Art historians and philosophers of art have long had classificatory disputes about art regarding whether a particular cultural form or piece of work should be classified as art. In the late 1800s, photography and cinema were both considered not to be art, and prominent critics argued that early cubist paintings were not art. But today they are master pieces of art. Disputes about what does and does not count as art continue to occur today.

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