Beauty of Arts & Spirit of Science

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Abstract- Science has significantly influenced art since ancient times, with advancements in communication, hieroglyphics, and cave paintings. Scientific innovations, such as telescopes, pigments, and photography, have shaped the character and development of art. Leonardo da Vinci and the Renaissance influenced fusions of science and art, while photography and digitalization have enhanced our understanding of art. Art serves as a bridge between science and art, allowing scientists to understand abstract concepts. Art is crucial for studying science, enabling ideas exchange and accurate understanding of reality. While abstract notation and complex equations are common, art's surface-level nature can be deficient. In the West, painting and sculpture are considered superior to decorative arts, but their importance extends beyond architecture. Leonardo da Vinci, a Renaissance man, made groundbreaking contributions to science and art. Merian, Morse, and Meatyard expanded their fields due to scientific and philosophical interests. Da Vinci's aesthetic achievements, like The Last Supper and The Mona Lisa, continue to draw audiences.

Keywords: Artistic Pursuits, Bringing two worlds together, Development, Inventions, Scientific Contributions.

Introduction

The Merging of Two Worlds...

Actually, ever since man first began to draw, science has had an impact on art. It could be the complex system of communication found in the well-known hieroglyphics of ancient Egypt or the depiction of motion, life cycles, and evolution found in prehistoric cave paintings and symbols. One has never gone far away from the others.

Beyond this, other scientific advancements and practises have occasionally changed the nature and evolution of art, including;

Using the Telescope

Before Galileo taught mankind how to study the universe, the sun, moon, and stars were closely linked to the realm of the gods. In paintings made before the invention of the telescope, the sky was portrayed as a mysterious place; the sun and moon in Raphael's "Mond Crucifixion" really had faces peering out at the observer.

The invention of the telescope allowed us to recognise these celestial objects as real, observable bodies. This caused artists to start using more realistic techniques; Donato Creti's painting "Moon and Jupiter" shows stars and planets as seen through a telescope as a result.



Fig.1 Galileo Galilei (Astronomer)

The Pigments

Various types of earth, clay, rock, and plants have been used for millennia to create different coloured pigments for paintings and artwork. People have progressed beyond their primitive roots thanks to science. They were able to use more advanced chemicals like lead and lapis lazuli because of science.



Fig.2 Dyes & Pigments

The Photography

Unquestionably, one of the heights of human ingenuity is photography. As this astounding discovery progressed, newer media used light and chemistry to "print" a picture directly onto a treated sheet of silver-plated copper. Because it allowed artists to rapidly duplicate what they were seeing through images, the new technique was well-received. (Artwork adobe, 2019)



Fig 3 Sunset - Photography

The History and Combination of Art and Science

There have been many instances of art and science coming together since the beginning of time. A whole new world of possibilities and colors opened up to humanity when man first found fire, as is obvious from the history of science alone. We had the power to melt things to create new ones, melt things to see new things, and heat things up. Some would contend that art is more important than science. However, a creative explosion of some form has typically accompanied every era of enlightenment or scientific innovation.

Leonardo da Vinci and the Renaissance had major influences on many of the most well-known fusions of science and art that can be found in our history books. The perfect fusion of symmetry and color, tone, and angles has actually always been there in one of the most well-known paintings in existence. (Artwork adobe , 2019)



Fig.4 Famous Paintings Of All Time In The History Of Art

How the interaction between science and art is evolving

As new techniques, programmes, and technologies are regularly created, we may notice an almost constant flow of changes between art and science. Photography has always had a big influence on the world of art. It gracefully enhances and broadens the scope of our innate creative powers. As more potent and superior cameras are created, this influence appears to be growing.

However, as time goes on, digitalization will unquestionably overtake all other factors in importance. Science and art have long coexisted in a mutually beneficial relationship. The expanding digital revolution has now tremendously helped it. Thanks to "digital arts" like CGI, animation, and virtual sculpture, which have been giving us incredible insights into our prospective artistic futures, our understanding of art has advanced to an entirely new level. (Artwork adobe , 2019)

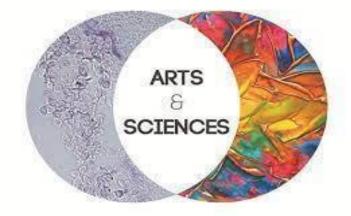


Fig.5 Art & Science

Art as a Bridge to Science

Making imaginative comparisons might occasionally be useful in understanding scientific discoveries. Since chemistry and other fields occasionally deal with abstract concepts, scientists frequently use physical models to express their ideas. For instance, origami, the Japanese art of folding paper, has been embraced by scientists and engineers as a versatile tool to create creative solutions and to imitate natural structures. Another poetic interpretation of Albert Einstein's theory of relativity states that whereas an hour feels like a minute while you're sitting with someone you admire, a minute is like an hour if you touch a hot stove. (Tinnesand, 2022)



Fig.6 Technology & Art

Why Is Art Crucial For Science Study?

It could seem as though science and art are mutually exclusive. The first is focused on the open exchange of ideas, whereas the second is about icy, hard statistics. Oftentimes, when we think about science, we imagine cryptic equations and abstract symbols. Another viewpoint that comes to mind is the rigor of science, the rule-based idea of resolving the problem correctly or incorrectly, and offering the suitable remedy.

Although one part of it might be somewhat accurate—responses must accurately and precisely represent reality—another part is inadequate since it is superficial. Albert Einstein once said, "The best scientists are artists." (Qamar)

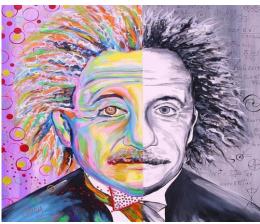


Fig.7 Albert Einstein (Theoretical physicist)

Art as Craft

The meanings of the words "art," "craftsmanship," and "technology" have changed significantly in the West—and only in the West—since the sixteenth century.

At that time, furniture makers, embroiderers, weavers, metalworkers, potters, and other practitioners of the so-called decorative arts were assigned a standing inferior to that of painting and sculpture. Any artifact requires both technical know-how and manual dexterity to create.

A ceramic vessel, a basket, or an embroidered one require the synchronization of creative concepts with dexterous handling and a mastery of the processes that insure permanence, no less than a temple, a painting, or a statue. Painting and carving methods do not supplant one another in the same manner that a new technological advancement does with a pre-existing device. The best illustration of how frequently architectural advancements have significance that goes beyond their intended use is the connection between structural and stylistic, or utilitarian and aesthetic, advancements. This is especially true of modern architecture. (Honour & fleming, 1982)



Fig.8 Rural Handicrafts

Pioneers in Science Who Also Had a Vision for Art

Though history has repeatedly demonstrated that many of the most brilliant people are polymaths, it is commonly considered that the left-right brain divide separates art from science. Leonardo da Vinci, the greatest artist-scientist who ever lived, is credited with writing, "To make a whole mind: Study the science of art; Study the art of science. (White, 2020)

Maria Sibylla Merian (1647–1717)



Fig.9 Maria Sibylla Merian, Caterpillars, Butterflies (Arsenura armida) and Flower (Palisaden Boom: Erythrina fusca), Plate 11 from Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinamensium (1705). Public domain collection from the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

<u>Scientific contributions</u>: Merian was a 17th-century naturalist and botanist. He was among the earliest researchers in Europe to study insects up close. When she started her studies, insects were still widely referred to as "beasts of the devil" and were thought to form naturally from soil. Her most significant studies were on the phenomenon of caterpillars turning into butterflies, which has gotten little earlier examination. She is credited with being one of the creators of the study of entomology and produced a two-volume treatise on caterpillars with 50 engravings in each volume.

Artistic pursuits: Merian first rose to renown as a floral artist before turning to scientific studies. She released a three-book series in 1675, each volume featuring 12 floral paintings. These exquisite drawings were made with the goal of being used by upper-class women as patterns for needlework, sketches, and paintings. They were not based on genuine observation, as was common at the time. But Merian's interests extended far beyond the parlor. Extremely adventurous, she made her own way to Dutch Surinam in 1699 (which raised many problems), documented a plethora of flora, and created some of the earliest color images of the New World.

Samuel Morse (1791–1872)



Fig.10 Samuel F. B. Morse, Gallery of the Louvre (1831–33) Courtesy of Terra Foundation for American Art.

<u>Scientific Contributions</u>: Samuel Morse studied philosophy and mathematics at Yale University, but he had a secret ambition to become a well-known historical painter. He continued to pursue his interest in the emerging field of electromagnetics after the dream passed, which was a blessing for the advancement of telecommunications. Morse shocked the world on May 24, 1844, when he transported the scriptural phrase "What hath God wrought?" from the United States Capital in Washington, District of Columbia, to Baltimore using his innovative technology. Morse had already invented the telegraph and the Morse code.

<u>Artistic pursuits</u>: Morse, a sincere attempt at painting, studied at the Royal Academy of Arts in London under the instruction of the painter Washington Allston and then Benjamin West. However, his remarkable accomplishments in the sphere of communications overshadowed his artistic career. His passion was painting monumental Neoclassical portraits of mythological and historical figures. One of his most well-known works is The Gallery of the Louvre, which is the most well-known and measures an incredible six by nine feet. He returned home to discover that Americans had rejected his aesthetic, which he blamed to the general bad taste of the populace.

Ralph Eugene Meatyard (1925–1972)



Fig.11 Ralph Eugene Meatyard, Lucybelle Crater and her 45-year-old husband's photo-Bell friend's sonshine, Lucybelle Crater (1970-72). Courtesy of DC Moore Gallery.

<u>Scientific Contributions</u>: Ralph Eugene Meatyard's scientific and philosophical interests in light and perception led to the expansion of his careers as a photographer and an optician. Born in Normal, Illinois, Meatyard is an optician who served in the war before receiving his license in 1949. A position with an optical business would bring him to Lexington, Kentucky, in 1950. This organization, which also had a photography business, introduced the doctor to photography. In order to reach what he called a condition of "No-Focus," in which the appearance of an item was divorced from its value, Meatyard, a Trappist monk who was

heavily influenced by Zen Buddhism and a pen friend of Thomas Merton, would spend around three months staring through an unfocused camera.

Artistic Pursuits: Creative Activities: Meatyard began taking photographs in the 1950s and did so up until his untimely death in 1972. His pictures were unusual at the time and frequently had blurry individuals in them. Later, while wearing bizarre, monsterlike masks, he also shot pictures of himself, his children, and other family members. Meatyard's photography was included in the exhibition "Creative Photography," put on by Van Deren Coke for the University of Kentucky, with photographs by Ansel Adams, Aaron Siskind, and Harry Callahan, but got little appreciation from reviewers during his lifetime. The Family Album of Lucybelle Crater, his posthumously published photo book, is one example.

Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)

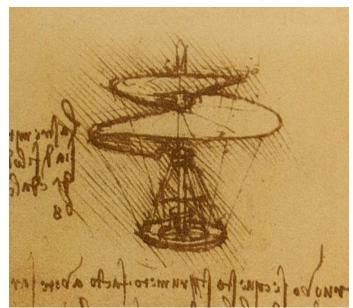


Fig.12 The aerials screws design by Leonardo da Vinci is found on folio 83-verso of the Paris Manuscript B collection at the Institut de France.

<u>Scientific Contributions</u>: Leonardo da Vinci was a true Renaissance man who was fascinated by a wide range of scientific fields, including anatomy, botany, astronomy, and geology. Even though he made important and ground-breaking contributions to science, his aesthetic accomplishments are what most people now associate him with. He performed body dissections to learn about the inner workings of organs and the composition of human bones. He also suggested that the earth was not the center of the sun's orbit. The calculator, the helicopter, and even the parachute are just a few of the inventions he recorded in his writings as ideas that would never be realized during his lifetime.

<u>Artistic Pursuits</u>: Da Vinci, along with many of his contemporaries and later successors, seems to have held the view that art, science, and nature are inextricably linked and cannot be fully understood without being combined. His drawings of the Vitruvian Man, another cultural classic, may be the most obvious illustration of his faith that scientific research may reveal order and balance in the cosmos. His works The Last Supper and The Mona Lisa continue to draw improbable crowds.

Conclusion

Science has significantly influenced art since ancient times, with advancements in communication, hieroglyphics, and cave paintings. Scientific innovations, like telescopes, pigments, and photography, have shaped art's character and development. Leonardo da Vinci and the Renaissance influenced fusions of science and art, while photography and digitalization have enhanced understanding. Art serves as a bridge between science and art, enabling ideas exchange and accurate understanding of reality.

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