Why Is Art Important? – A Holistic Investigation into the Importance of Art

by **artincontext**

The importance of art is an important topic and has been debated …… many years. Some might think art is not as important as other disciplines like science or technology. Some might ask what art is able to offer the world in terms ……… evolution in culture and society, or perhaps how art can change us and the world. This article aims to

explore these weighty questions and more. So, why is art important to our culture? Let us take a …….

What Is Art?

There is no logical answer when we ponder the importance of arts. It is, instead, molded by centuries upon centuries of creation and philosophical ideas and concepts. These _____ only shaped and informed the way people did things, but they inspired people to do things and live certain ways.

We could even go so far as to say the importance of art is borne from the very act of making art. In _____ words, it is formulated from abstract ideas, _____ then turn into the action of creating something (designated as "art", although this is also a contested topic). This then evokes an impetus or movement within the human individual.

The section on **modern art** in the Rivoltella Museum, Trieste, Italy. This impetus or movement can be anything from stirred up emotions, crying, feeling inspired, education, the sheer pleasure of aesthetics, or the simple convenience of functional household items – as we said earlier, the importance of art does not have a logical answer.
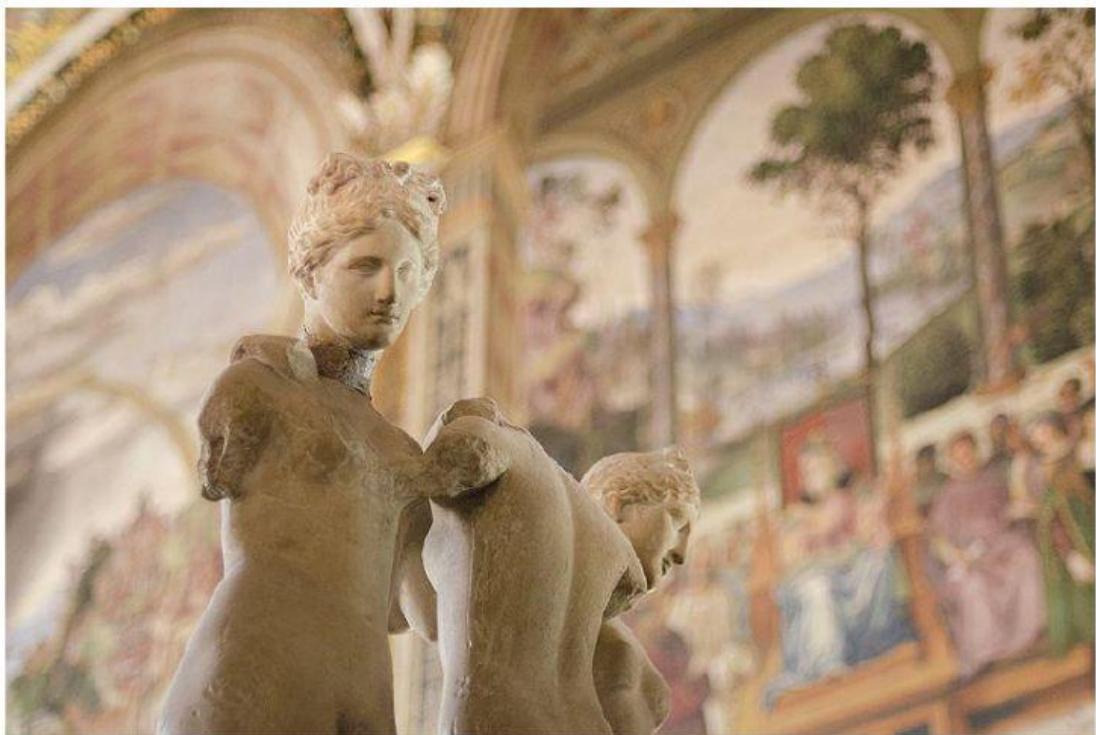
Before we go deeper into this question and concept, we need some context. Below, we look at some definitions of art to help ……….. our understanding of art and what it is for us as humans, thus allowing us to better understand its importance.

The Definition of Art

Simply put, the definition of the word "art" originates from the Latin *ars* or *artem*, _____ means "skill", "craft", "work of art", among other similar descriptions. According _____ Merriam-Webster's online dictionary, the word has various meanings; art may be a "skill acquired by experience, study, or observation", a "branch of learning", "an occupation requiring knowledge or skill", or "the conscious use of skill and creative imagination especially in the production of aesthetic objects".

We might also tend to think of art _____ terms of the latter definition provided above, "the conscious use of skill" in the "production of aesthetic objects". However, _____ art only serve aesthetic purposes? That will also depend _____ what art means to us personally, and not how it is collectively defined. If a painting done with great skill is considered to be art, would a piece of furniture that is also made with great skill receive the same label as being art?

Thus, art is defined by our very own perceptions.

Art has also been molded by different definitions throughout history. When we look …….. it during the Classical or **Renaissance periods**, it was very much defined by a set of rules, especially through the various art academies in the major European regions like Italy (Academy and Company for the Arts of Drawing in Florence), France (French Academy of Fine Arts), and England (Royal Academy of Arts in London).

In other words, art had an academic component to it so as to distinguish artists from craftsmen.

The defining factor has always been between art for art's sake, art for aesthetic purposes, and art that serves a purpose or a function, which is also referred to …….. "utilitarianism". It was during the Classical and Renaissance periods that art was defined according to these various predetermined rules, but that leaves us with the question of whether these so-called rules are able to illustrate the deeper meaning of what art is.

_____ we move forward in time to the 20th century and the more modern periods of art history, we find ourselves amidst a whole new art world. People have changed considerably between now and the

Renaissance era, but we can count …….. art to be like a trusted friend, reflecting and expressing what is inherent in the cultures and people of the time.

During the 20th century, art was not confined to rules like perspective, symmetry, religious subject matter, or only certain types of media like **oil paints**. Art was freed, so to say, and we see the definition of it changing (literally) in front of our _____ own eyes over a variety of canvases and objects. Art movements like **Cubism**, Fauvism, Dadaism, and Surrealism, among others, facilitated this newfound freedom in art.

Artists no longer subscribed to a set of rules and created art from a more subjective vantage point.

Additionally, more resources became available beyond only paint, and artists were able to explore new methods and techniques previously not available. This undoubtedly changed the preconceived notions of what art was. Art became commercialized, aestheticized, and devoid of the traditional Classical meaning from before. We can ………….. this in other art movements like Pop Art and Abstract Expressionism, among others.

The Types and Genres of Art

There are also different types and genres of art, and all have had ………. own evolution in terms ……… being classified as art. These are the fine arts, consisting of painting, drawing, sculpting, and printmaking; applied arts like architecture; as ……….. as different forms of design such as interior, graphic, and fashion design, which give **day-to-day** objects aesthetic value.

Other types of art include more decorative or ornamental pieces like ceramics, pottery, jewelry, mosaics, metalwork, woodwork, and fabrics like textiles. **Performance arts** involve theater and drama, music, and other forms of movement-based modalities like dancing, for example. Lastly, Plastic arts include works made with different materials that are pliable and able to be formed into the subject matter, thus becoming a more hands-on approach with three-dimensional interaction.

The Louvre Museum in Paris, France

Top Reasons for the Importance of Art

Now that we have a reasonable understanding of what art is, and a definition that is ironically undefinable due to the ever-evolving and fluid nature of art, we can ………….. how the art that we have come to understand is important to culture and society. Below, we will outline some of the top reasons for the importance of art.

Art Is a Universal Language

Art does not need ………………… (**Explain**) in words how someone feels – it only shows. Almost anyone can create something that ……………… (**Convey**) a message on a personal or public level, whether it is political, social, cultural, historical, religious, or completely void of any message or purpose. Art ……………… (**become**) a universal language for all of us to tell our stories; it is the ultimate storyteller.

We can tell our stories through paintings, songs, poetry, and many other modalities.

Art connects us with others too. Whenever we view a specific artwork, which …………………….. (**paint**) by a person with a particular idea in mind, the viewer will feel or think in a certain way, which ……………………… (**inform**) by the artwork (and artist's) message. As a result, art becomes a universal language used to speak, paint, perform, or build that goes beyond different cultures, religions, ethnicities, or languages. It …………….. (**touch**) the deepest aspects of being human, which is something we all share.

Art Allows for Self-Expression
Touching on the above point, art …………….. (**touch**) the deepest aspects of being human and allows us ……………… (**express**) these deeper aspects when words fail us. Art …………….. (**become**) like a best friend, giving us the freedom and space to be creative and explore our talents, gifts, and abilities. It can also help us when we need ……………… (**express**) difficult emotions and feelings or when we need mental clarity – it ………….. (**give**) us an outlet.

Art is widely utilized as a therapeutic tool ………… many people and is an important vehicle _____ maintain mental and emotional health. Art also allows us …………….. (create) something new that will add value to the lives of others. Consistently expressing ourselves through a chosen art modality will also enable us ………………. (**become**) more proficient and disciplined in our skills.