

Postmodern art - late 20th century style

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Postmodern Art

The Encyclopedia of Art defines postmodern art as “ a late 20th Century style and conceptual theory in the arts and architecture, characterized by a general distrust of ideologies as well as a rather 'difficult' relationship with what constitutes art” [EncND]. One could surmise that the description is very generalized and could be a little ambiguous. Witcombe has supported the contended difficulty in defining postmodern art by disclosing that

“ The postmodern is deliberately elusive as a concept, avoiding as much as possible the modernist desire to classify and thereby delimit, bound, and confine. Postmodernism partakes of uncertainty, insecurity, doubt, and accepts ambiguity. Whereas Modernism seeks closure in form and is concerned with conclusions, postmodernism is open, unbounded, and concerned with process and ‘ becoming’”[Wit97].

Therefore, postmodern in art accepts exploring various styles, genres, forms and designs without bounds of limits. The website OnPostmodernism stressed that “ postmodernist art is characterized as a rebellion against the modern (including realism and the artistic elite)”[OnP10].

An example of postmodern art is Umberto Boccioni's Unique Forms of Continuity in Space, where a “ marching figure is shaped and polished by the Futurist motifs of wind, speed, and machinery” [OnP10]. As shown below, the work of postmodern art used bronze and the concept of a bronze figure being shaped into the forces of wind and speed is just astounding and defies previous limitations and restrictions of modern art.

Works Cited

EncND: , (Encyclopedia of Art par. 1),

Wit97: , (Witcombe par. 17),

OnP10: , (OnPostmodernism. org par. 1),

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