

# Pablo picasso and marcel duchamp

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Pablo Picasso & Marcel Decamp Pablo Picasso is one of the most influential artists of the 20th century. He was born in Spain but worked mainly in France, where he became the most well-known artist of his time. Picasso's massive output of paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints and ceramics was inspired by many different sources. In the early 1900s, Picasso developed a movement that signified him, it was known as "cubism". This movement marked the beginning of modernism. Marcel Decamp has been known for his rebellious ideas and actions in the 20th century.

He was born in France but moved to the USA, and became a US citizen in 1955. His works were known as "Ready-made". Duchamp's ready-made changed what art meant. He bought elements that would never have been regarded as art. Some people saw it as less art and more "putting together". This movement was called "Dadaism". This essay will discuss two artworks; "The Weeping Woman" - by Pablo Picasso, and, "The Shovel" - by Marcel Decamp. "The Weeping Woman" is a famous work by Pablo Picasso and holds a lot of meaning.

Picasso painted this work in 1937 after a town of Guernica was bombed. The artwork holds a lot of symbolic meaning and was inspired by the events of that point in time - the Spanish Civil War. The artwork focuses on the main victims of the attack - the women. The artwork is full of emotions and grief which is expressed through the use of thick lines and different colors. The work is basically the face of a crying woman. The woman was said to be Dora Mar, whom Picasso described as "always weeping". She was his close agent when he was most involved with politics.

The focus of the structure is the rough area of hard blue and white forms around the out and teeth, clamped violently on a handkerchief; the flesh seems to have been peeled away by acidic tears to reveal hard white bone and the handkerchief she stuffs in her mouth is like a shard of glass. Her eyes are expressed as black holes. As the eye travels up the artwork, we can see that the eyes and forehead are also broken and disordered, and the woman appears literally 'broken up' with grief. The roughness of the forms is backed-up by the roughness of the colors.

The face, neck and hand are painted in an acid, inconsistent yellow and violet and green. These colors may represent decay and decomposition. The yellow and violet however, are opposite colors, as are the blue and orange-red of the woman's hat. Furthermore, the background is painted in strong yellows, contrasting with the blues of the hat and the blues and violets of the hair. The inconsistent color scheme intensifies the impact of the painting. The Weeping Woman is a study of how much pain can be communicated by a human face.

The artwork translates the human emotions by paint. Picasso intention was for the viewers to feel the pain when viewing the painting. Marcel Duchess's artwork, the shovel, is very different compared to Picasso work. At first sight, it could easily be misinterpreted into being an everyday object kept in almost all homes. A person would not know it as art and would be confused to see it in an art gallery or museum. " Shovel" was the first Redeemed to be made by Decamp in 1915, after his move to the United States.

The Shovel may seem important and artistic to Marcel because no such object existed in France (from where he came). This shows that the shovel was nothing extraordinary to the citizens of the US, who would later be the viewers of the artwork, but something unfamiliar to the artist, therefore, an element of art in his sense. The original shovel was bought from a corner store from where Marcel lived. However, after his move, it was thrown away by his sister. Marcel replicated it and along its lower rim, he wrote the phrase: " In Advance of the Broken Arm/ (from) Marcel Duchamp 1915".

It is stated that the " from" in the phrase conveys that the object came from the artist, but was not made by him. According to the artist, the phrase written on the shovel is the main color to the artwork. It's a play on words. The phrase refers playfully to the function of a snowshovel which is to remove snow from the ground. Duchamp's title shows that without the shovel to remove the snow, one might slip and fall and even break an arm. Marcel Duchamp's artworks show that there is no difference between an artwork and an everyday object.

The shovel could easily be mistaken for a simple shovel if it were not suspended from the ceiling in a museum. Therefore, the location and position of the artwork stands as a critical part of the piece. Pablo Picasso's *Weeping Woman* can be looked at under the subjective frame as it is basically all about human emotions and feelings. The main subject of the artwork is the broken face of the woman. By looking at the artwork, one can feel the pain and sorrow that the subject would have been going through.

The work can also be placed under the structural frame as the face is made up of geometric shapes and the colors and their tones play a vital role in conveying the message. The cultural frame can also be a part of the work as it is stated that the Mater Dolorous, the weeping Virgin, is a traditional image in Spanish art, often represented in colorful, elaborate sculptures with glass tears, just like in the Weeping Woman. As for the Shovel by Marcel Duchamp, it can be categorized under the cultural frame as many scholars have seen sexual suggestions in this *Redeemed*.

Some note that the Shovel "is an obvious phallic symbol" Another once mentioned that the Sanskrit word for shovel is "languē," which is almost equal to the term for phallus ("languē"). In Status-Asiatic languages the same word means both "phallus" and "shovel. In conclusion, by examining both artists and their artworks, we can see that they are from the same time period, but hold two opposite views to art. The two artists' distinct differences represent a central logical and visual opening in the history and development of modern art.

While Picasso viewed modern art as a visual experiment, Duchamp came to believe that art was about ideas and attitudes. Picasso's artwork was a traditional artwork of that time whereas Duchamp was more about shifting the viewer's engagement of the works of art from pleasing to the eye to the service of the mind, challenging the traditional notion that beauty is a defining characteristic of art. According to Marcel, wings become art by putting them in places where one expects to find art.

Where Picasso expresses his feelings through colors and lines, Marcel expresses it through words and phrases. Where Picasso makes his artwork, Marcel "buys" them and plays around with them. Picasso works are made on a canvas and the painting is the crucial part however, with Marcella artwork, only the placement and position of the artwork is crucial and defines it as a work of art. The Shovel is hung from a ceiling in a museum where The Weeping Woman is simply hung on the wall. In the end, both are known as artworks today and are admired.