

Contemporary Art

Contemporary Art

Contemporary Art is art produced at the present time. We shall be looking at art from the 1970's onwards.

A few Contemporary Art Movements

- Conceptual Art or Conceptualism
- Video Art
- Installation
- Performance Art
- Graffiti Art
- Britart (Young British Artists)
- New Subjectivity (Painting)
- Contemporary Realism (painting)

Britart

Young British Artists or Britart, as it was abbreviated to, was the label given to a group of young artists who began exhibiting work together in 1988

They were famous for their:

- Openness to materials
- Shock tactics
- Entrepreneurial spirit

The Brit Artists include:

- Damian Hirst
- Tracey Emin
- Mat Collishaw
- Gillian Wearing
- Chris Ofili
- Sam Taylor-Wood
- Jenny Saville



Holy Virgin Mary, Chris Ofili
(with elephant dung)

Conceptualism

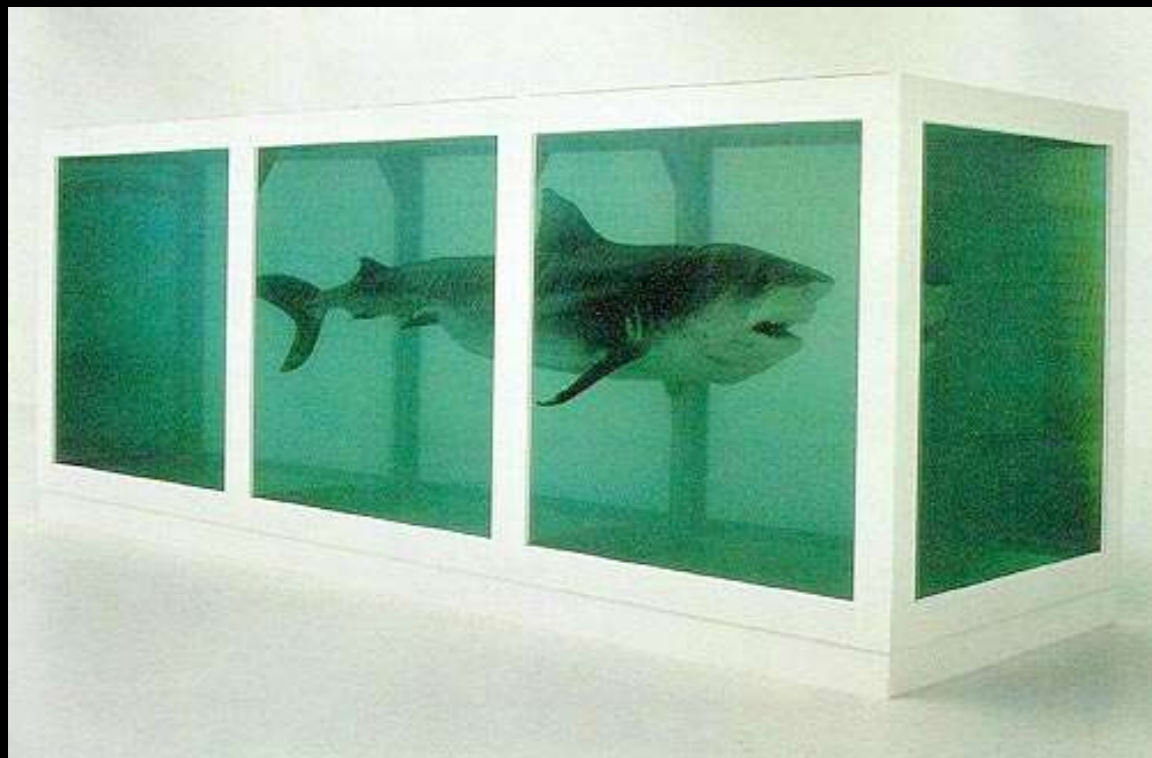
The concept/idea and the process of creating the piece is more important than what the finished work looks like

Marcel Duchamp and his urinal was one of the first pieces of conceptual art

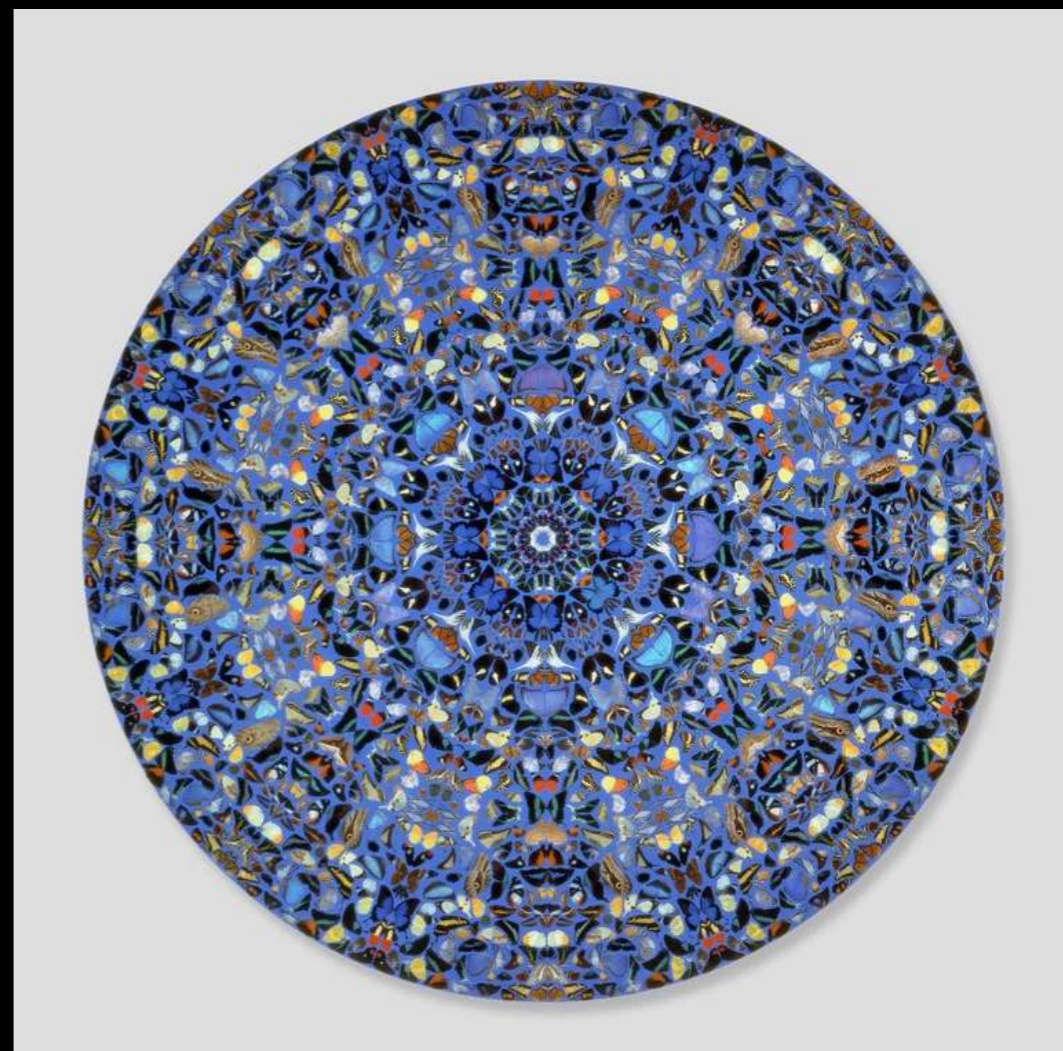


Fountain, 1917

Damian Hirst - British -1965 -



*The Physical Impossibility of Death
in the Mind of Someone Living*
Tiger shark in Formaldehyde, 1991



Kaleidoscope butterfly paintings
circa, 2007



For the Love of God
Platinum skull, 8601 diamonds,
original teeth, 2007

Installation Art

- Installation Art is 3 Dimensional, large scale and often site specific (designed for a specific space, i.e. a gallery)
- The viewer is immersed within the art piece. Sometimes it is just visual stimulation and other times performance, video or sound is included



Test Site, 2006
Turbine Hall, Tate
Modern, Carsten Höller
Alternative transportation in tall spaces and feeling of freedom, lack of control and euphoria when sliding

My Bed, Tracey Emin
Nominated for the Turner Prize - 1999
Emin claims that the bed displayed was in the same state she left it after spending several days lying in it have suicidal thoughts



Jenny Saville

A Contemporary figurative/portrait painter. Associated with the YBA. Her style can be compared to Lucien Freud's

Saville's style:

Large scale nudes/portraits - obese, transgender, plastic

Surgery

Strong bush strokes

Patches of colour

Solidity and mass of flesh



Graffiti Art

- Around since Ancient times Graffiti has often been seen as vandalism
- A type of guerrilla art that communicates and evokes social consciousness
- Protest art
- Brings art to the masses



Train Graffiti



Hip Hop inspired Graffiti



Punk Graffiti

Stencil Graffiti

Blek le Rat - the first Stencil Graffiti artist. Worked in Paris in the 1980's



"the only free animal in the city" and one which "spreads the plague everywhere, just like street art" Blek le Rat



London, 2008, Blek le Rat



Banksy - Anonymous British Graffiti artist

Inspired by the work of Blek le Rat. His works have popped up in major cities around the world. Many councils regard him as a vandal. However, many regard his political and social commentary as works of art and he is estimated to be worth £20 million

Performance Art

What is is performance art?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcyYynulogY>

Marina Abramovich - Newsnight

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSz-ZhjDKuU>

Mixed Media

Robin Rhode interview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cVHtwuAm0E>

Robin Rhode

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNPu84Ldh4k>