



Painting

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE MEDIUM OF TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF PAINTING

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ABSTRACT Painting in India started decades ago and there has been numerous changes and development in its technical medium of presentation. People from all around the world admire Indian painting because of its beautiful way of presentation and the Indian content in it. The purpose of this article is to represent the various medium of development in the world of painting, starting from the charcoal painting to Digital painting. The past, present and future technical aspects of paintings is explored in brief. Each and every artist have their unique sense of representation of a painting and even the medium of colors like poster color, acrylic color, oil color and Digital medium etc. are used by them according to their availability and convenience. Change and development is the rule of the world and the same applies for the world of painting too. The artists who have quickly adopted to the new changes have not only survived, but also prospered in this world of painting. It is always an interest in people to know about the evolution of certain profession. Hence, this information will be an asset to the knowledge of the readers.

KEYWORDS : Painting, Indian Culture, Acrylic color, Poster Color, Indian painting, Traditional painting, Mughal Painting, Rajput Painting, Mysore painting, Digital painting, Aesthetics, Artist, Creativity.

INTRODUCTION

Visual representation of elements have always attracted people all over the world. In a house, when a small child encounters with a chalk or a pen/sketch pen, he/she roughly draws something on the walls. Similarly, human being in the earlier period also expressed their imaginations on the rocks with different medium like charcoal, ashes etc. in the caves, where they lived. The evolution of Indian painting started around 30,000 years ago, which can be seen in places like Bhimbetka Cave Painting, which is located in Raisen district in Madhya Pradesh. Similarly in other places like Panchmarhi hills also, these kind of pre-historic art work can be seen. As time progress, many new technical mediums emerged one after another that created excellent arena for paintings in India.



Image 1: Rock Painting on Panchmarhi hills
Source: www.bradshawfoundation.com

Pen And Ink Drawing

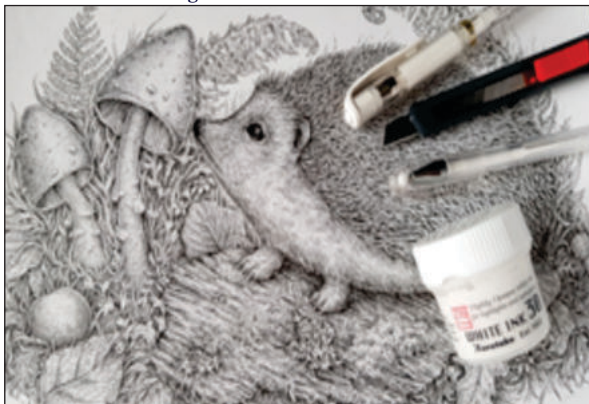


Image 2: Pen and Ink drawing with instruments
Source: <https://thevirtualinstructor.com/blog/how-to-correct-mistakes-in-pen-ink-drawings>

This is one of the most old and traditional style of representing a painting through pen and ink. This style was used by western artists around the ancient Egyptian era. The color used in these kind of art is mostly black color. During the earlier period, printing were mostly done using blocks. Hence, only single color were permitted in commercial printing process through machinery. Artists used to represent the drawing, sketch, text etc. using single color using this medium of Pen and Ink. In old days, book illustrations were done using Pen and Ink, which suited for printing along with the text easily, as it represented single color tone. Draftsman use the process of Pen and Ink in representation of architecture by making blue print of buildings, structures etc. People of Asia including Japan, China, Korea and India use this medium with variety of pen and ink instruments which were developed by them as an evolutionary process, one after the other.

Water Color Painting



Image 3: Water color painting of Britain
Source: https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/bwtr/hd_bwtr.htm

After Pen and Ink era, water color started to dominate the world of painting. The application of color in a visual representation was an evolution at that time period. More people started to show their interest in creating water color painting, hence the commercial preparation of water color elements started. During the 1780s, the water color pigments were very costly and only a few with good financial background could only use the medium. Slowly, the production increased and water color were available in plenty. Painting using water color became a hobby to several people and their outing with color and canvas became a habit. Exhibition of water color painting became a part of club affairs and people in modern countries like England enjoyed the visual representation through this color medium. Public Exhibitions of these works started to become a commercial affair and good artists and painters became celebrities. Paintings were purchased by royal people and decorated them in their homes and commercial establishments. These water colors started to become a lifestyle accessory of every household, hotels, offices, club houses, entertainment zones etc. Children today use water color for their drawings in the school life and is an exciting part of their curriculum.

Acrylic Color Painting



Image 4: Acrylic Color painting

Source: <https://www.mojarto.com/artworks/laxman-aelay/untitled-acrylic-on-canvas-red-yellow-orange-black-colours-by-contemporary-artist-in-stock-273202>

Acrylic colors look somewhat similar to water color, but there are some technical differences which makes it better than water color in form of looks and durability. The main technical advantage of Acrylic color is that it dries faster as compared to water color. They are even water resistance, once it dries up. This capability of this color helps in durability of the painting. This color has the capability to add depth to the drawings by applying texture kind of effects, which makes it look very real and appealing. There are different varieties of acrylic color according to the need. One is the acrylic color for commercial purposes and other for student purpose. Other varieties include Heavy body, Medium viscosity, Open, Iridescent, Pearl and Interference, Acrylic Gouache, Craft Acrylics, Interior and Exterior Acrylics. Acrylic color helps the artist to create large size painting on canvas without worrying about the drying time of the color. All types of colors are supported in acrylic, which gives a wide scope for the artist to experiment and deliver a master piece of art.

Oil Color Painting



Image 5: Oil Painting on Canvas – Frances Anne Hopkins

Source: <https://www.britannica.com/art/oil-painting>

Oil painting is created in form of layers i.e. drawing elements one over the other in regular intervals. The bottom of the canvas is coated with primer to give a smooth effect on the upper colors. The drying time required for oil color is comparatively more than water color and acrylic color. The effect derived out of oil color painting is much more realistic and can create a glossy kind of effect even on a cloth canvas. The variation of texture can be created through oil colors and the look of each surface can be given a unique effect. Glazes are applied to the top of the layer to form depth, add luminosity and display the specular highlights. This is one of the costliest form of painting in terms of production. Accordingly, the sale price of an oil painting is higher than other medium of painting.

Tempera Painting



Image 6: Italian Renaissance Art

Source: https://www.artfactory.com/art_appreciation/

Tempera painting is mostly done on wood. The size of the tempera paintings were very small during those times. Egg yolk is mixed by ground color pigments to form the tempera colors. This technique is used with limited colors and it creates more luminosity and gloss effect to the content. The colors dries very soon and does not give the scope to the artist to modify the design frequently. Hence, this format is not used for bigger paintings, because if the artist starts the drawing from one corner of the canvas and ends on the other, the starting point of the color becomes dry and cannot be mixed further.

Pen Tablet And Touchscreen Monitors - Digital Painting



Image 7: Digital Painting

Source: <https://pixels.com/featured/kingdom-come-tamer-elsharouni.html>

Digital painting created an evolution in the world of painting. The medium of painting were limited to paper and canvas in the old times. But after the emergence of computer and graphics, digital painting has marked its impression in a great way. Today, Digital paintings are used in various platforms starting from home decoration, graphics art, illustration art, background design in Animation TV series and Films etc. The biggest advantage of the digital medium of presentation is the no cost involved in purchase of colors. Computer screen has the capability to display all kind of colors ranging from water color, poster color, oil color and many others. There is no entry barrier in terms of investment for creating a painting. Any person with artistic skills can use software's and create Digital Painting. One of the best software used for creating digital paintings is Photoshop. Apart from this, there are many other open source software's like Krita, GIMP etc. which helps the creators to create designs and paintings for free on their platform. The use of Pen Tablet has helped the artists to draw the painting in a realistic way as they did in a paper or a canvas. There is no limitation in doing modification and adjustment to the paintings at a later stage, because subjects are stored in different layers in painting and the user can manipulate the layers at any time without effecting the other elements in the painting.

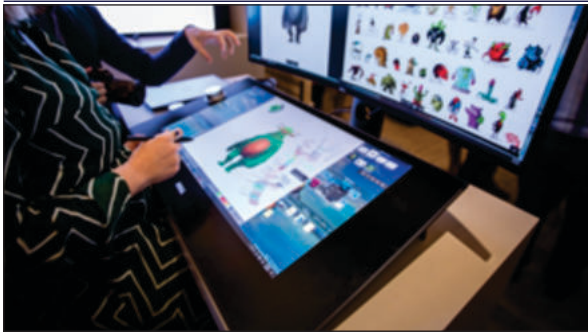


Image 8: Dell's Canvas 27-Inch Touchscreen Display

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEUr2EX2SNs>

Touchscreen monitors have also helped the artists to represent their drawing in a much easier way. The monitors can be placed like a canvas and the artist can draw exactly in the same way as painting on canvas is done. An artist feels the way of paintings, when the process of drawing is same in manual process as well as in digital process. Technology, sometimes defeats the old and experienced people with a completely new system. But, technology like Touchscreen monitors have kept the dignity of the old and experienced artists in mind and they can move forward with knowledge and experience, which they have gathered in their old forms of paintings. The future of painting lies in digital painting and the new artists who are emerging use computers to convert their fascination into reality. The advancement of technology has not only helped to create paintings at a faster pace, but also the social media has helped to showcase the works of new artists to the whole world.

CONCLUSION

Paintings have had a glorious journey from its beginning till date. The past, present and future of the painting mediums have been admired, used and appreciated by artists all over the world. Any new technology in creating art or painting has been accepted open handedly by the artists. Creative people always demand for more tools and options to enhance their ideas and create a new masterpiece for the world to see. The journey has been very long and the biggest advantage of painting is that even the oldest form of presentation has a great value as the modern form has. People today are also fascinated towards ink and paint in the same way as they see the modern digital painting. Acrylic paintings has got its importance in creating commercials and mythological content. Similarly, each era of painting has established a particular market and loyal audience for its own. Even today, some people prefer oil painting or any older medium of painting compared to the digital painting. Hence, painting mediums are never old and always has its own importance in the new world. All the developments in the medium of painting have created an own genre of admirers for themselves.

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