

## Surrealism

Some artists, influenced by the theories of Sigmund Freud, attempted to portray the inner workings of the mind in their artworks. This group of artists became known as the **Surrealists** and included artists such as **Salvador Dalí** (1904–89), **René Magritte** (1898–1967), and **Joan Miró** (1893–1983).

## Bauhaus

In Germany a school of design called the **Bauhaus** established standards for architecture and design that would have a pro-

found influence on the world of art. Bauhaus adhered to the idea that form should follow function and should be true to the materials used.

## Abstract Expressionism

Beginning in the 1940s, **Abstract Expressionist** artists followed Kandinsky's dictum that art, like music, could be free from the limitations of pictorial subject matter. The Abstract Expressionist movement included **Willem de Kooning** (1904–97), **Lee Krasner** (1908–84), **Franz Kline** (1910–62), and **Jackson Pollock** (1912–56).

## Pop Art, Minimalism, and Photorealism

### Pop Art

1960s **Pop Art** violated the traditional unspoken rules regarding appropriate subject matter for art. **Andy Warhol's** (1928–87) soup cans, Brillo boxes, and images of movie stars were created with a factory-like silkscreen approach used to mock the art world.

### Minimalism

**Minimalism** sought to reduce art to its barest essentials. Acrylic paint and the airbrush enabled Minimalist painters to achieve very precise outlines, which resulted in the term "hard-edge painting."

### Photorealism

A Pop-inspired group of artists began to produce works that aimed to create a kind of super-realism or what came to be called **Photorealism**. In these works, a hyper-real quality results from the depiction of the subject matter in sharp focus, as in a photograph.

### Earthworks

One intriguing development in the contemporary art world since the 1970s is **Earthworks**. An artist known by the single name **Christo** (1935– ) is responsible for creating much interest in these kinds of Earthworks. He wrapped several well-known monuments in fabric, built a twenty-four-mile-long cloth fence in California, surrounded eleven Florida islands with pink plastic, and set up orange fabric gates on pathways throughout Central Park.

## Brief Overview of Nonwestern Art

### Chinese Art

The most famous work of ancient Chinese art is the two-thousand-mile-long Great Wall, constructed over the course of centuries.



One of the most amazing works from the early period of Chinese art history is the monument to the first emperor to unite the kingdom—the Emperor of Qin. He had a full army of soldiers

and their equipment, including their horses, created life-size in clay and buried as part of his tomb.

### Indian Art

Much Indian art reflects the tremendous influence of Hinduism. Images of Shiva, who dances gracefully with his multiple arms, are particularly striking.

### Japanese Art

Japanese artists are best known in the Western world for their printmaking.

### African Art

Some of the oldest examples are cave paintings in what is now Namibia, painted in c. 23,000 BCE. In many cases, traditional African arts challenge the Western concept of art for art's sake—functional items such as baskets, ceramics, and textiles are prized objects for many African cultural groups.

### Oceanic Art

Some of the most important art traditions of the Asmat cultural group of Melanesia relate to warfare. Enormous carved wooden shields decorated with beautiful black, red, and white abstract patterns were traditionally used for protection in raids.

### Islamic Art

Following the Koran's scriptures, Islamic art is largely non-figurative. Abstract or calligraphic decoration can be found on most Islamic art objects. The Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem (687–692) is one of the oldest examples of Islamic architecture.

### The Americas

Great civilizations grew and flourished in the Americas, and great pyramids rivaling those of Egypt rose as central features of large cities.