

RENAISSANCE AND BAROQUE ART

The Renaissance is a term used to refer to a cultural movement that existed from the 14th century to the 17th century. It began in Italy in the Late Middle Ages before spreading significantly to other regions within Europe. The movement entailed the innovative flowering of Latin and vernacular literature starting from the 14-century resurgence of learning based on classical resources. Baroque paintings on the other hand are associated with the Baroque cultural movement. This movement is commonly identified with the Catholic Revival, Abolitionism, and the Counter Reformation. The existence of Baroque paintings in Protestant and non-abolitionist states underscores its wide spread in many parts of Europe. It is worth noting that Baroque Art was mainly characterized with vital aspects such as deep color, intense light, dark shadows, and great drama as opposed to the Renaissance, which usually showed the moment prior to the event taking place.

This paper explicates themes, subject matters, formal elements, and the relationships of culture of the Renaissance and the Baroque Art.

The theme of religion characterized the Renaissance largely. The Renaissance involved the design of images that reflect religious significance and the spread of spiritualism around the globe. Most of the aspects of this art involved the presentation of the images of key religious figures such David and also brought forth the creation of Adam by God. This is an indication that the Renaissance was also aimed at promoting the spread of religion across the globe and

ensuring that people get the correct religious message that would guide them effectively. The emphasis on the theme of religion among Renaissance artists such as Michelangelo indicates their belief in a supernatural being and the desire to want to spread the similar message to other people around the world.

Baroque Art is also characterized largely by the theme of religion. It can be noted that it emanated from the Catholic Revival, and it wanted to bring forward a strong emotion of religious inclinations among individuals in Italy and other parts of Europe. Paintings such as that representing the birth of a virgin by Francisco de Zurbaran is a significant representation of religious matters relating to Catholicism and other faiths. It was meant to emphasize the belief system of these individuals and ensure they pass the message to other people effectively. Therefore, the theme of religion is conspicuously represented in Baroque paintings hence emphasizing the significance of religion.

Another significant theme of the Renaissance is the theme of politics. The Renaissance entailed some paintings and structures with strong political messages. For instance, it involved a political map showing the division of Italy into smaller states that formed a vital political center. The representation of key political structures was instrumental in ensuring that the areas of key political dominance are indicated. The political map of the Italian Peninsula is a key example of the theme of politics. Additionally, there were images of key political figures such Lorenzo de Medici hence emphasizing the theme of politics.

Notably, Baroque Arts also involved the theme of history. It was aimed

at illustrating the history of Italy through significant paintings that reflected the nature of life among people and other key historical events across Italy and the entire Europe. The portrait of Salvator Rosa is an indication of the history of Italy and the close relationship of the people to their history. The theme of history is vital because it boosts the understanding of the early Italy and the chronological manner in which it developed in line with its history. The theme of history also boosts an in depth understanding of the present Italy in relation to the past Italy.

One of the key subject matter of the Renaissance was humanity. It was focused on addressing key aspects relating to humanity through vital paintings and aspects of art. These paintings were aimed at addressing the entire nature of humanity and the relatedness of humanity to other significant things such as religion. Renaissance centered on humanity and was aimed at bringing out humanity in a clear manner. In line with this subject matter, the Renaissance came up with important portraits of political figures and the creation of Adam. This is indicative of the origin of humanity and the leadership of humanity within society.

The key subject matter of Baroque Arts is religion. Baroque Arts originated from Catholic Revival and were aimed at bringing out significant details relating to religion and human connection to this religion. Significant portraits and paintings of religious figures such as Noah were a vital representation of the focus on religion and address of vital religious characteristics of the Italian society. Additionally, Baroque Arts highlighted the birth of the virgin hence reiterating the subject of religion. This is to show the significance of the virgin in religion and the connectivity to human beings. Therefore, Baroque Arts were aimed at illustrating religion and enabling people understand vital

aspects that make up religion within society.

The Renaissance entailed elements of calm rationality as it involved the presentation of events prior to their happening. This implies that one was to draw meaning of the upcoming events by reading and understanding the nature of the portrait designed by Renaissance artists. For instance, the portrait of David is composed and still and does not show the real action. This means that people have to be more careful to derive the desired message from these portraits.

Baroque Art is composed of the elements of great drama, deep color, dark shows, and intense light. It evokes emotion and passion among individuals through the indication of the manner in which particular events take place. For instance, it would represent David hurling a stone at Goliath unlike the Renaissance where David is still and composed. The illustration of the way in which particular events take place evokes emotions among individuals and links individuals closer to the action being highlighted. The emotions expressed by people are an indication that a particular action has been understood significantly, and a closer relationship has been established among individuals.

Culture was also a significant aspect in Renaissance portraits and images. It reflected the culture of Italy in the Late Middle Ages hence indicating the nature of life and activities that most people participated in during this time. The period between the 14th and the 17th century represents the Renaissance that was aimed at transforming cultural learning among individuals and ensuring that the overall systems worked effectively.

The Baroque Art occurred in the Catholic Revival, Abolitionism, and the Counter Reformation. This is vital to the understanding of the culture of religion in Italy and the significance of this form of art to the development of aspects of culture such as religion and cultural thoughts around Europe. The culture of Europe and the strong religious beliefs of the region were reflected through the paintings that evoked emotions of religious events.

In conclusion, the Renaissance and the Baroque Arts were significant forms of cultural movements that entailed portraits and paintings with different meanings. Both of them existed in Europe and played an instrumental role in highlighting the culture of the people. Culture was highlighted through religious portraits, political portraits, and other human-related paintings.