

Coexistent Perspectives

PG ONLINE SHORT COURSE



Coexistent Perspectives

History of the Western Aesthetics

An Introduction to
Western Perspectives on
Visual Culture

Art History Timeline and Movements

The **Coexistent Perspectives** short course will provide the opportunity to explore the **historical-cultural context of art and design** and to **construct a own map and timeline** of some of the **key movements, artists and works** over the past 500 years.

Key Themes and Ideas

The **Coexistent Perspectives** short course will also provide the opportunity to explore visual culture through a number of **key themes and idea** such as **semiotics** and **existentialism**.

Ways of Seeing - Ways of Thinking



Western Perspectives on Visual Culture



7.1 in
18 cm



7.1 in
18 cm



History of the Western Aesthetics

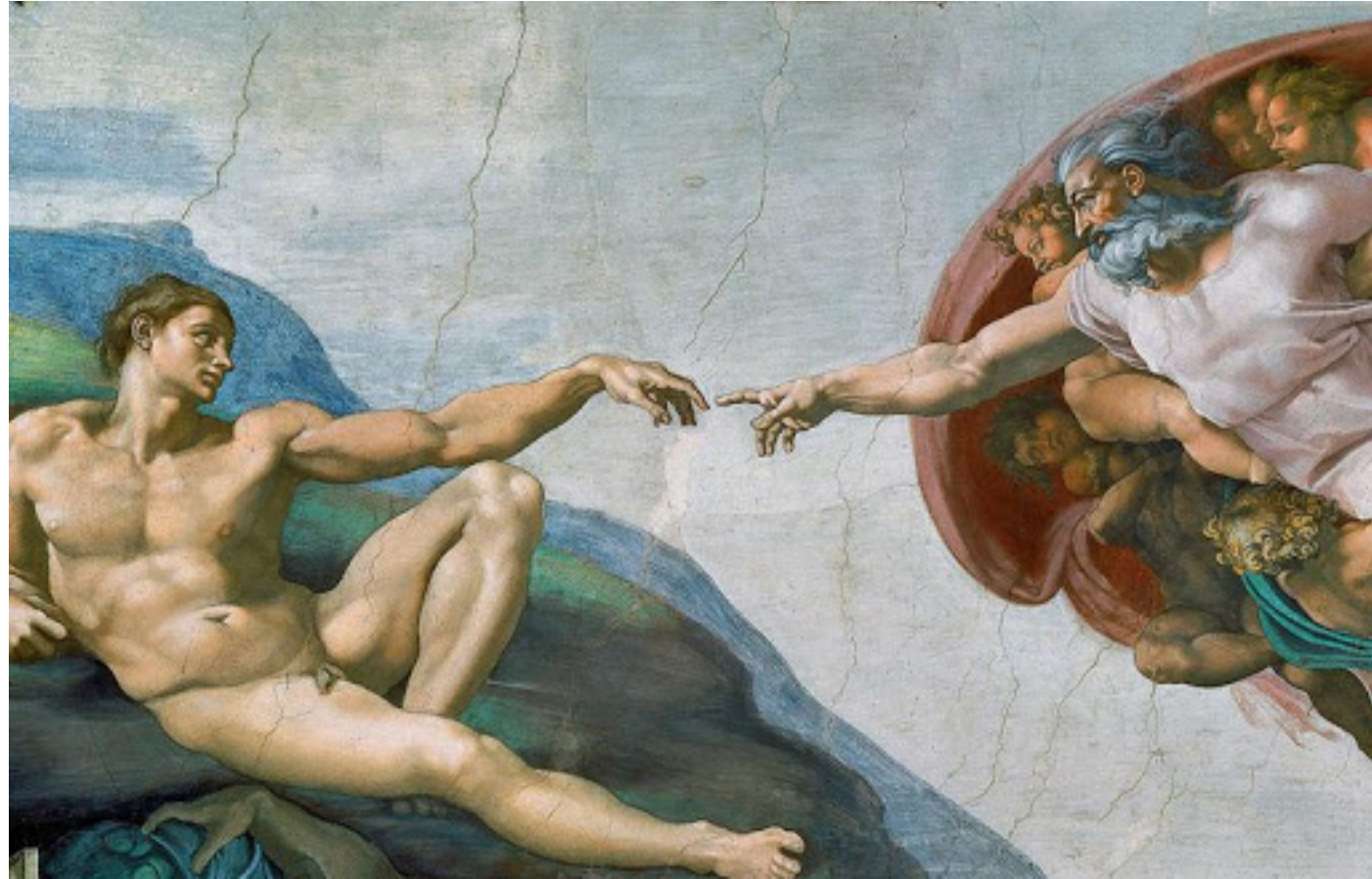
Art History timelines and movements

- Historical-Cultural Contexts
- Renaissance & Baroque
- Modern Era (Age of Enlightenment)
- 20th Century - The Early Period
- 20th Century - Postwar and Postmodern
- Contemporary Art

key themes and ideas

- **semiotics** – signs and symbols
- **formalism** – formal elements in art and design
- **the sublime** – negative pleasures
- **existentialism** – the search for meaning
- **post-modernism** – after modernism and beyond
- **post-humanism** – after humanism and beyond
- **art in the anthropocene** – the contemporary condition

themes and Ideas



The Creation of Adam (1508-1512) Michelangelo



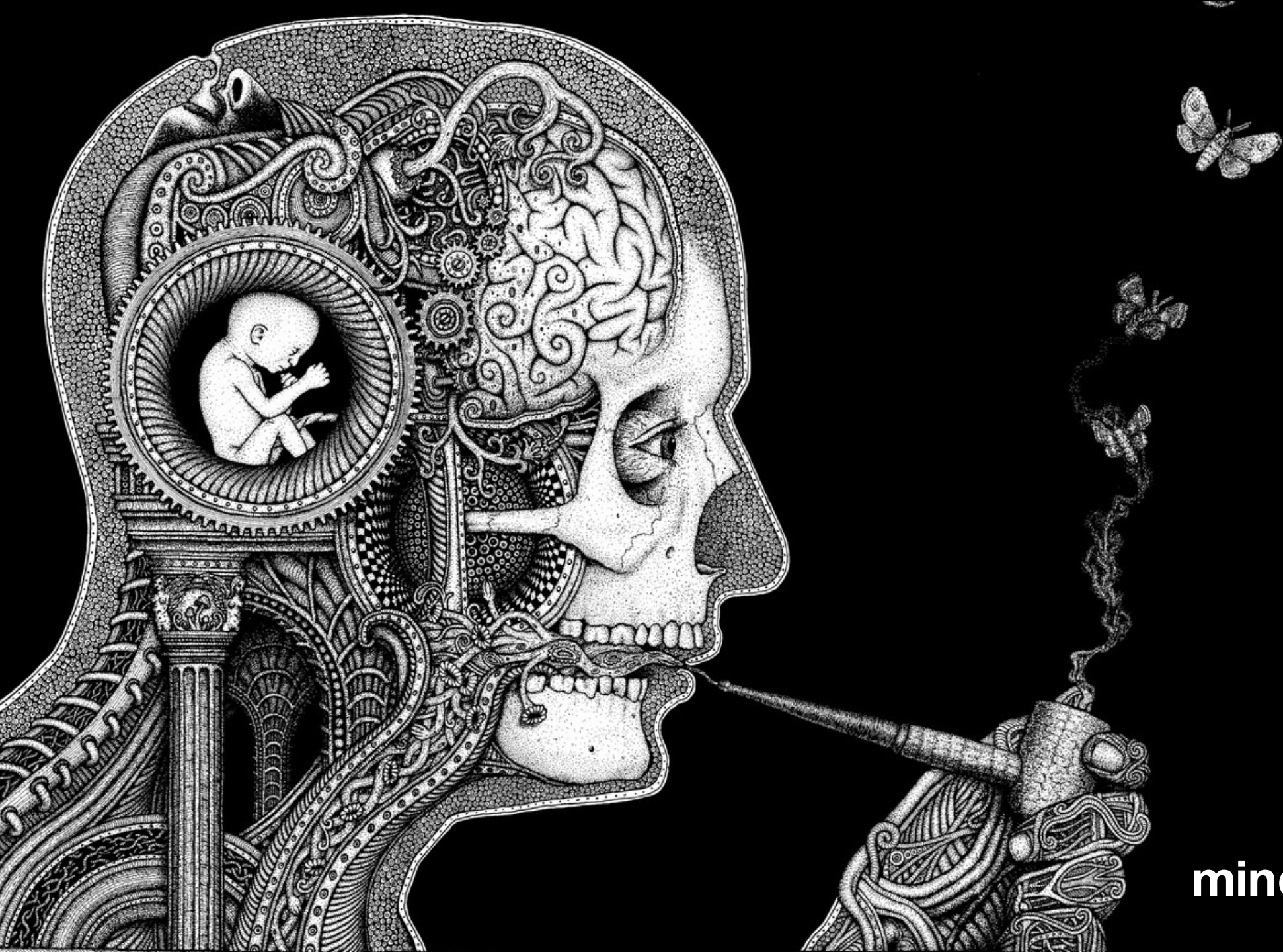
THE HUMAN PROJECT

when did we become 'human' ?

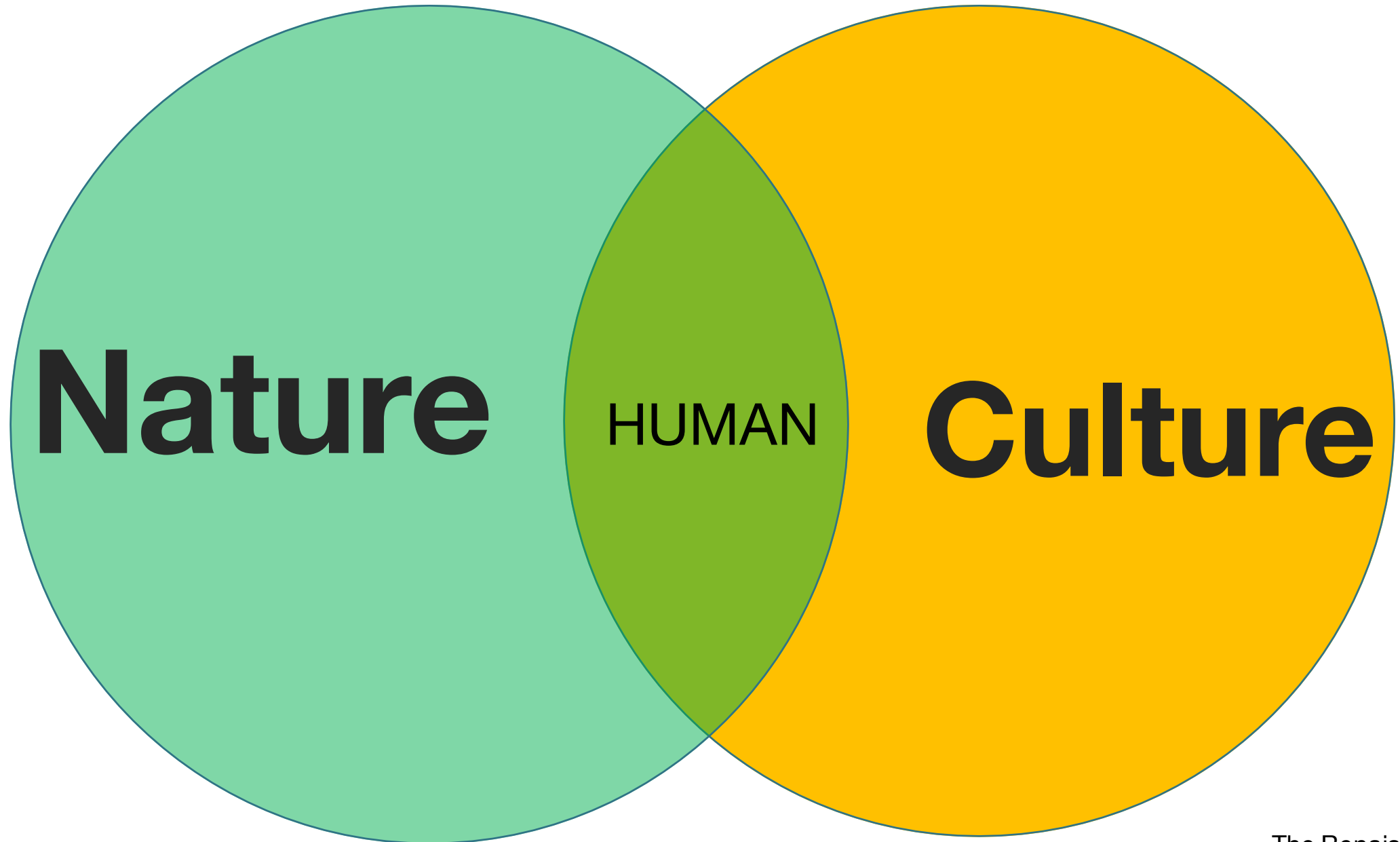
(Renaissance) humanism – (Post)humanism

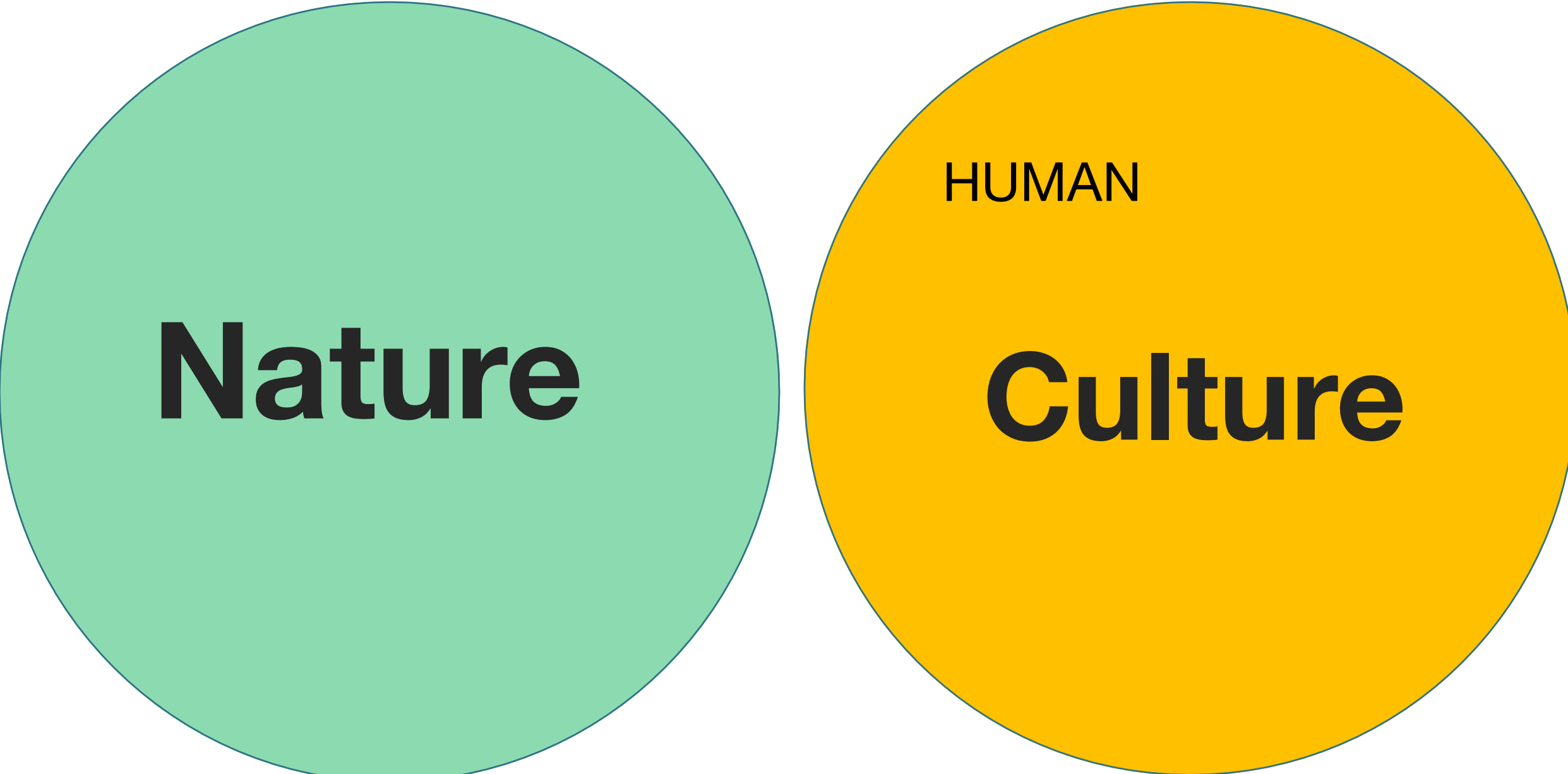
The birth of the human 'project'...

...what is the future for the human project?



mind-body dualism

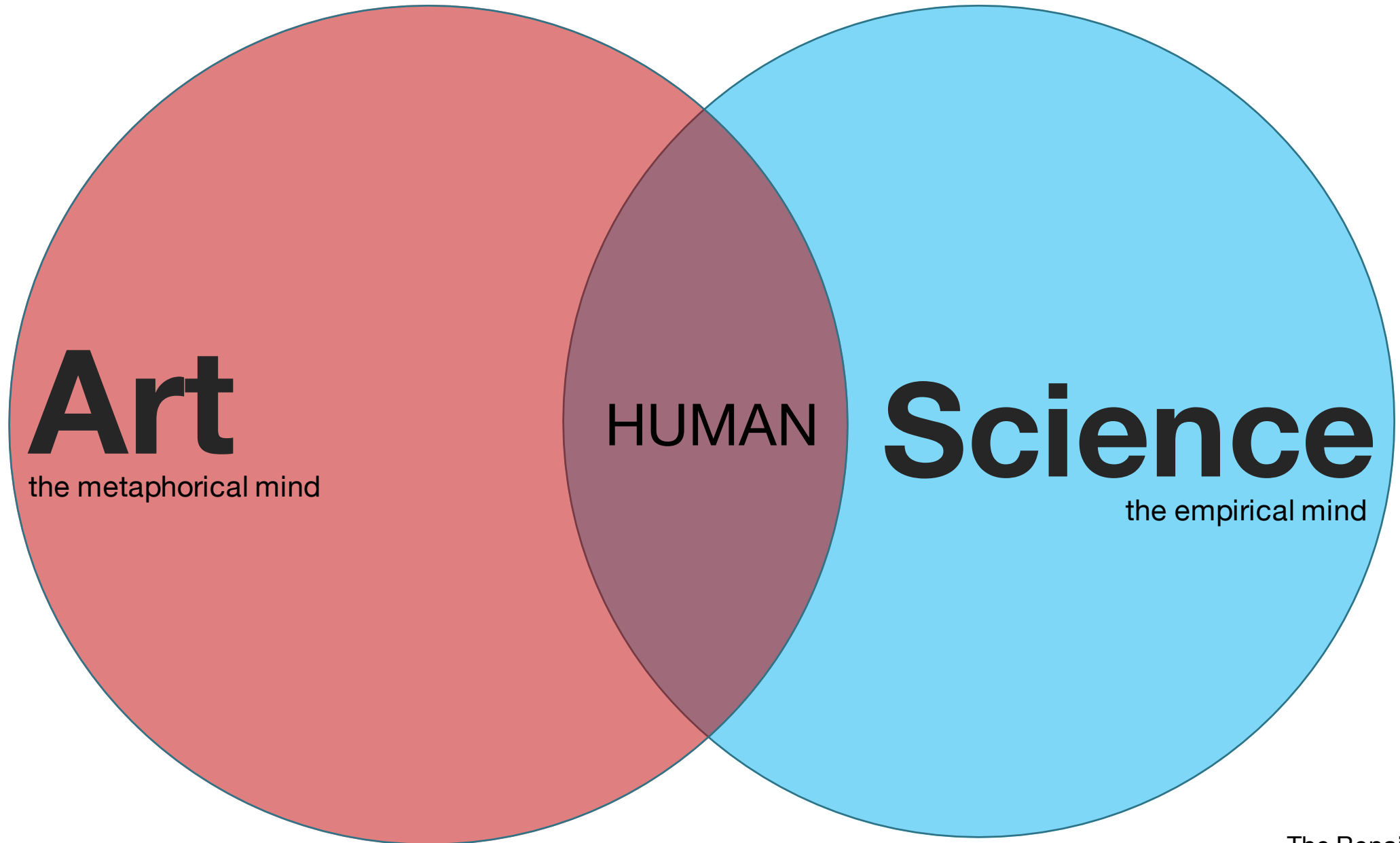


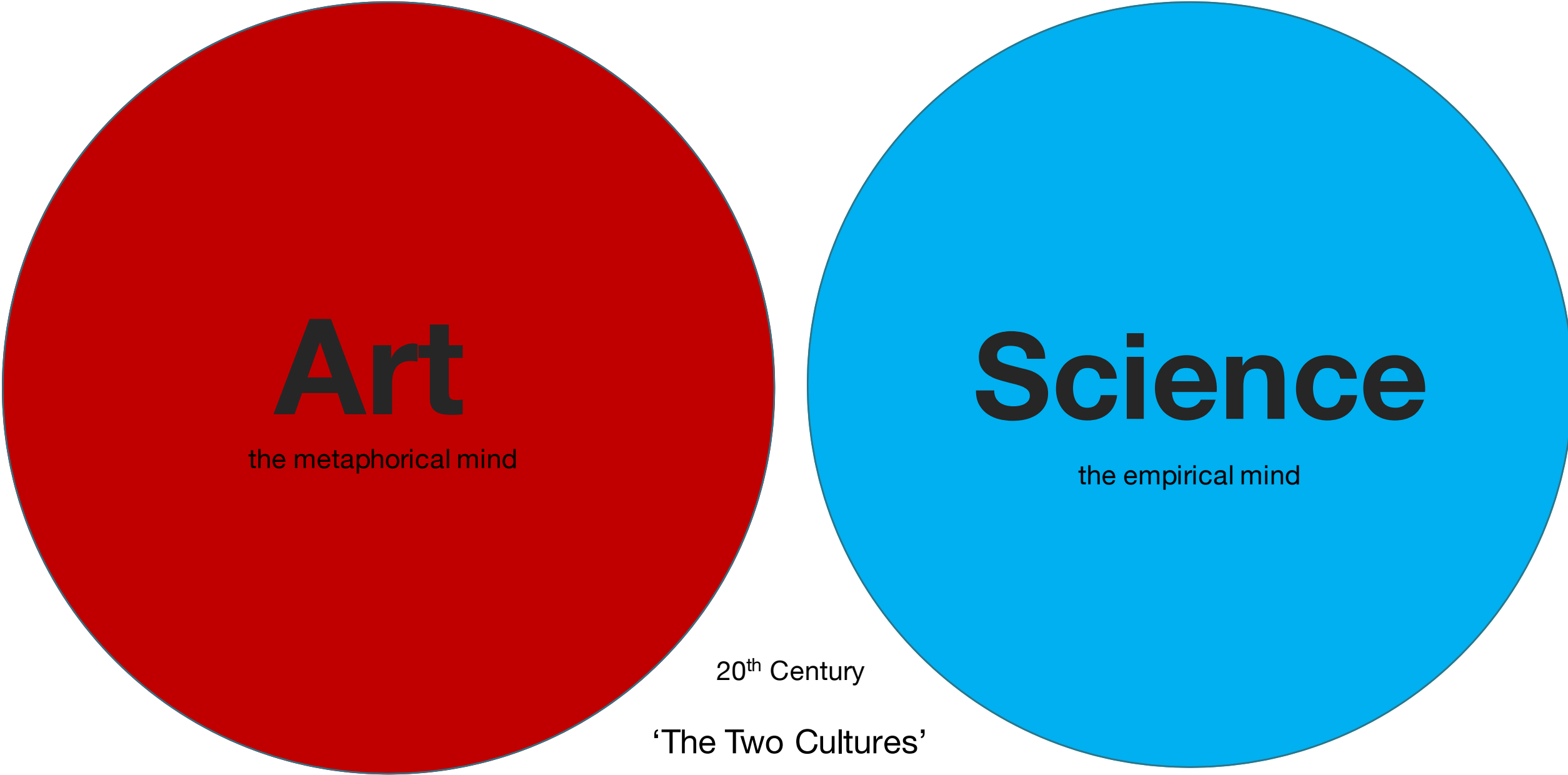


Nature

HUMAN

Culture





Art

the metaphorical mind

Science

the empirical mind

20th Century

‘The Two Cultures’

C.P. Snow & F.R. Leavis

PLATO

virtual

abstract



ARISTOTLE

physical

real



APOLLONIAN

ORDER
IDEAS
RATIONAL
LOGIC
MIND

DIONYSIAN

CHAOS
EMOTIONS
IRRATIONAL
INSTINCT
BODY

The yin yang symbol — order and chaos

Known

Yang

Order

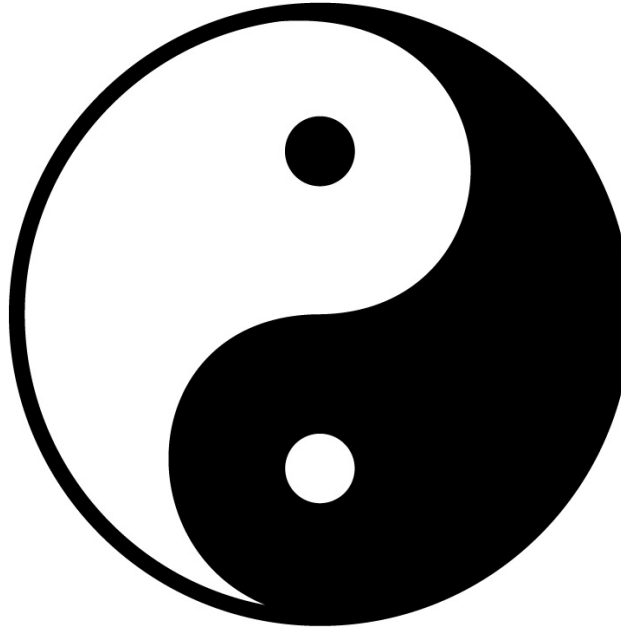
Masculinity

Day

The known

Authoritarianism

Fascism



Unknown

Yin

Chaos

Femininity

Night

The unknown

Decadence

Nihilism

In Ancient Chinese philosophy, **yin and yang is the idea of dualism**, that seemingly opposite or contrary forces may actually be complementary, interconnected, and interdependent in the natural world.

semiotics

the signifier and signified

The famous pipe. How people reproached me for it! And yet, could you stuff my pipe? No, it's just a representation, is it not? So if I had written on my picture 'This is a pipe', I'd have been lying!

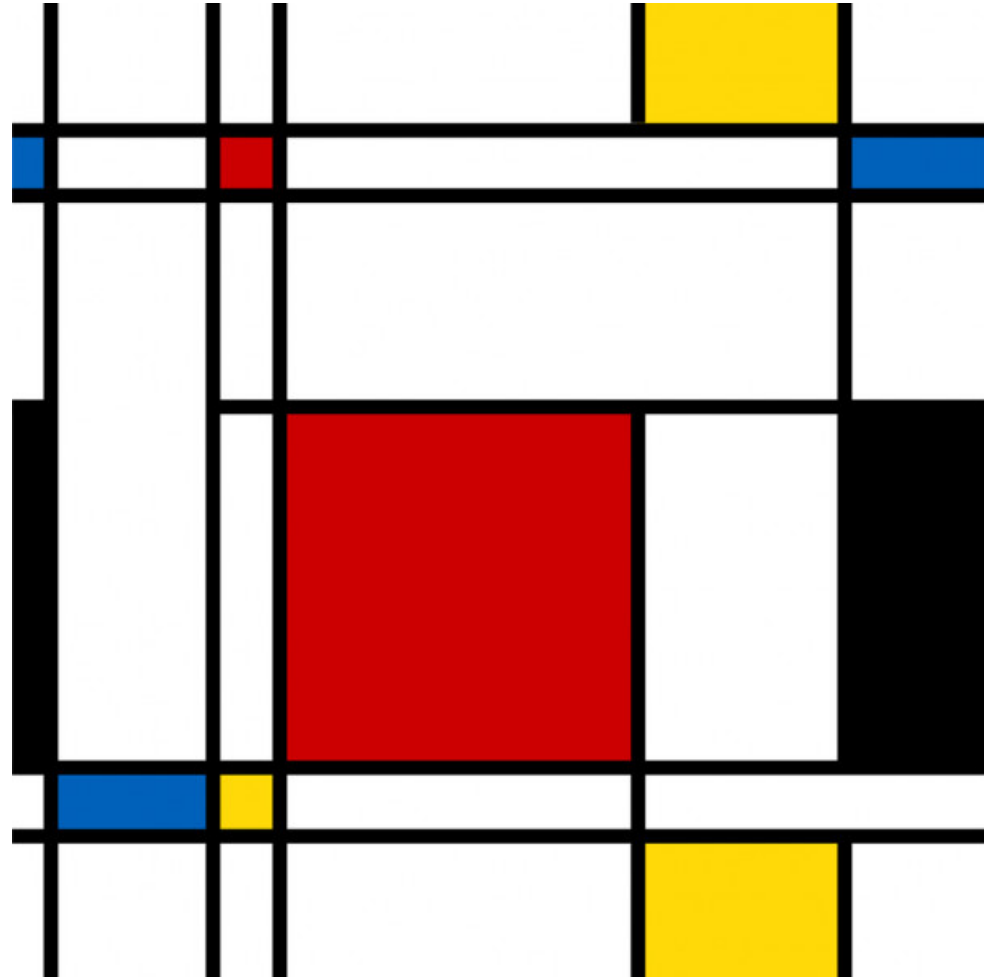
— René Magritte



René Magritte's The Treachery of Images (1929)

formalism

Formalism describes the critical position that the most important aspect of a work of art is its form – the way it is made and its **purely visual aspects** – rather than its narrative content or its relationship to the visible world. In painting therefore, a formalist critic would focus exclusively on the **qualities of colour, brushwork, form, line and composition.**



Piet Mondrian (1872 – 1944)

the sublime

negative pleasures



Wanderer above the Sea of Fog (1818) Caspar David Friedrich

existentialism

The philosophy of Existentialism was an influential undercurrent in art that aimed to explore the role of sensory perception, particularly vision, in the thought processes. Existentialism stressed the special character of **personal, subjective experience** and it insisted on the **freedom** and **autonomy** of the individual.



The Scream (1893) Edvard Munch

post- modernism

post== 'after' | pre== 'before'



Modernism

(late 19th - mid 20th C.)

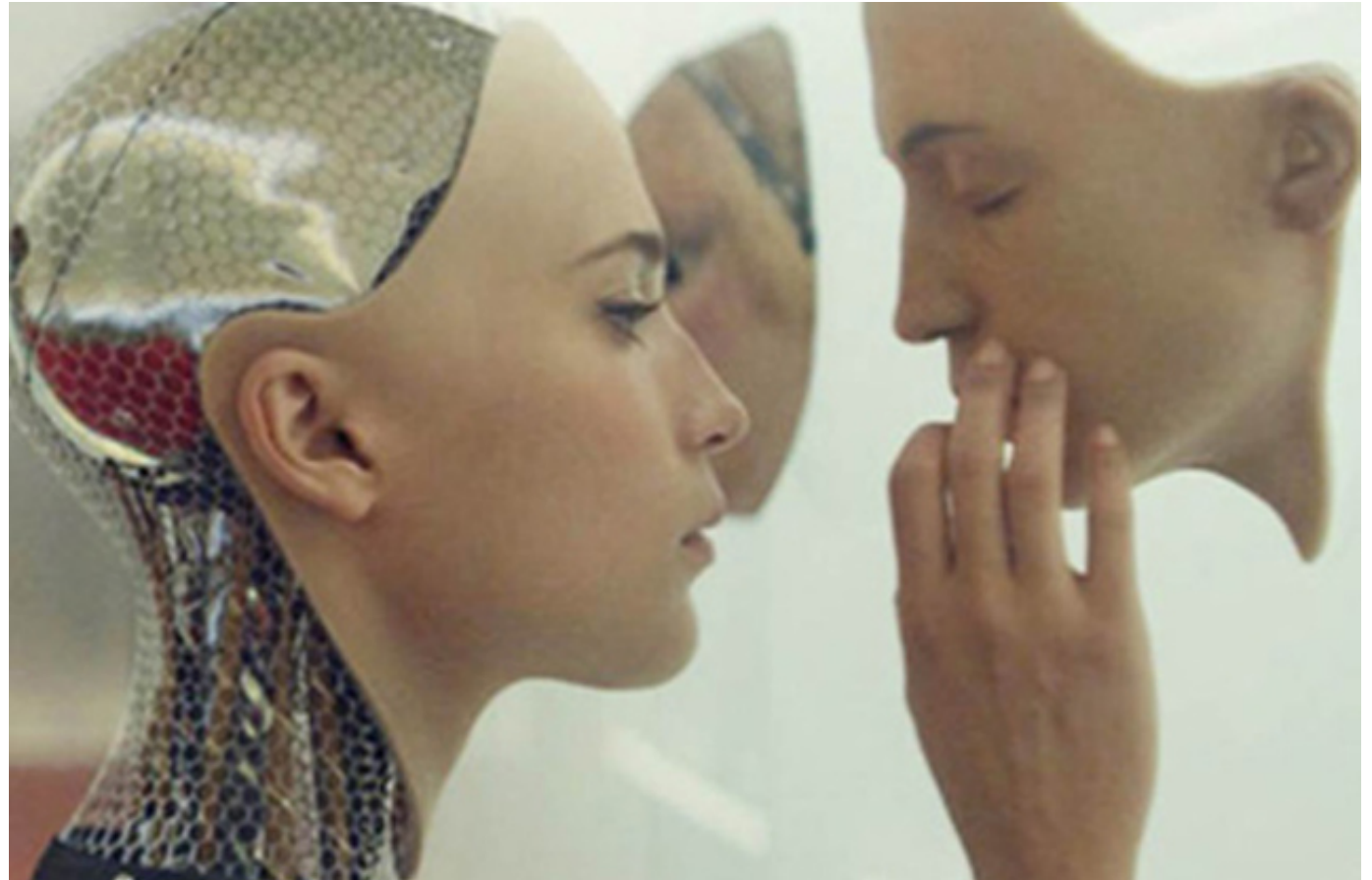
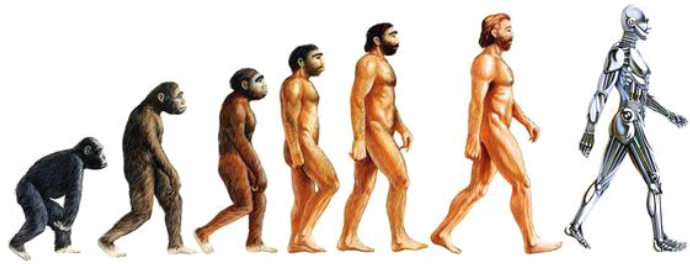
v/s

Post-modernism

(late 20th C. - present)



post-humanism



Ex Machina (2014) director Alex Garland

art in the anthropocene

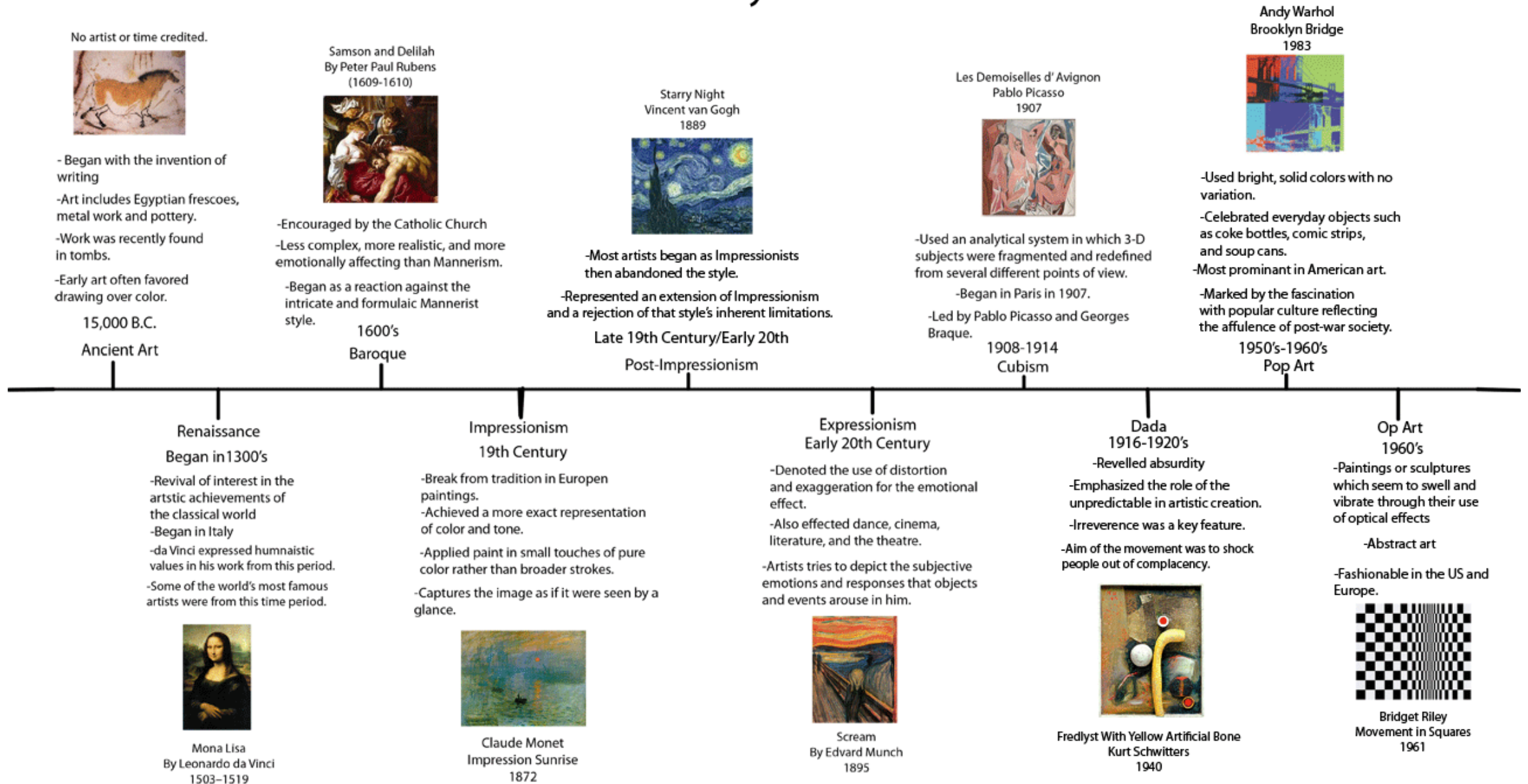


Life of Objects, (2013) Mary Mattingly

timelines and key movements



Art History Timeline





Academic Art
1500's-1900s

Academic art is a style which is very precise there is nothing abstract about it. This style was influenced under the academies of European Art.

Symbolism
1750's-1890's

Symbolism as an art form was representing ideas or qualities as a symbol. This was achieved through the use of colour and line strokes.

Romanticism
1750's-1890's

Romanticism reached its peak between 1800-1840 the art form was a revolt against traditional styles. Through this art form artists expressed their feelings, painting even mythical paintings.

Impressionism
1870's-1880's

Impressionism started in France it went against conventional art methods. Artists would skip detail and would rather paint the sensation that they felt, this was created using small brush strokes and unmixed palettes.

Art Nouveau
1890's-1910's

Art Nouveau was another art form that originated in France. The main concept behind the theme was artists stopped looking for ideas from the past and started looking what was around them. This had a huge impact on the style of soft furnishing and furniture.

Expressionism
1890's-1930's

Expressionism is where the artist will strive to achieve an emotional reaction from the audience by manipulating reality.

Fauvism
1900's-1910's

Fauvism was a very short lived art movement, it was inspired by artists like Van Gogh and was all about colour. "The Fauvists believed absolutely in color as an emotional force".

Cubism
1900's-1920's

Cubism was a major art movement led by Picasso. A Cubist will aim to show all viewpoints of a person all at once.

Surrealism
1920's-1960's

Surrealism was the precursor of Dadaism. In many surrealist paintings you will see random objects placed next to each other, this was to provoke the subconscious.

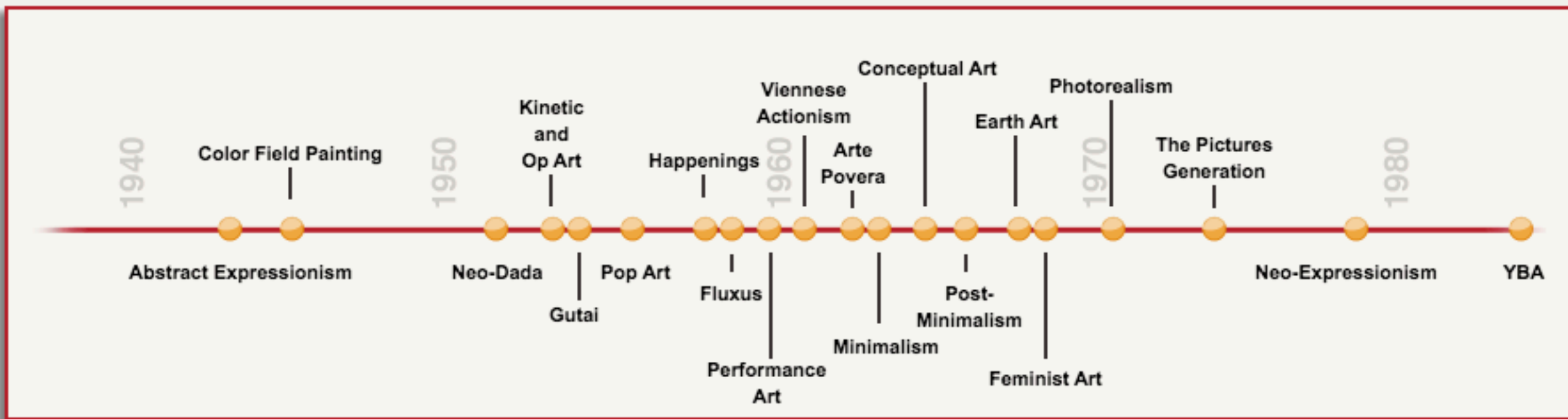
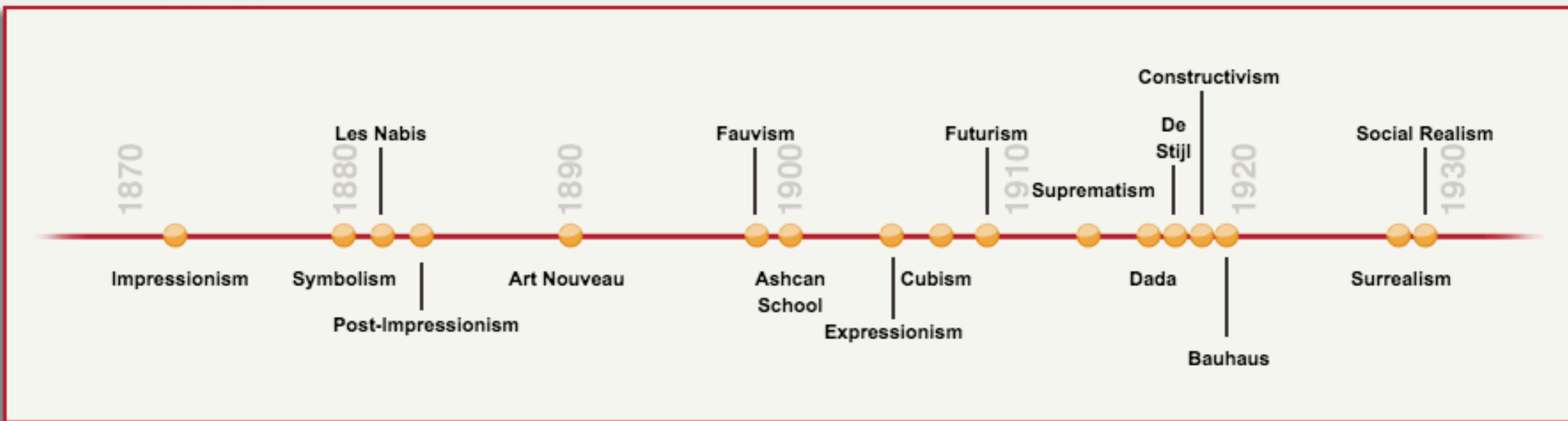
Pop Art
1950's- Present Day

Pop art is still today a very big art movement. It started in the 1950's but really took off in 1960's, a lot of themes from Pop art are inspired from adverts or comic books.

Internet Art
1970's-Present Day

With technology improving everyday computers and the internet have drastically changed what artists can accomplish. The Art is digital and can even be interactive, this art movement is yet another step forward and goes against conventional ideas.

MOVEMENTS: 1870 to 1930



Medieval

A.D. 500–A.D. 1400

CHARACTERISTICS

Dark imagery, biblical subjects,
Classical mythology, Gothic
architecture

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Abbot Suger, Cimabue, Giotto

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Cimabue

Crucifix, 1288

Giotto

Lamentation of Christ, 1305



Cimabue, *Crucifix*, 1288

Renaissance

1400–1600

CHARACTERISTICS

Natural elements, individualism, realism,
attention-to-detail, precision of human
anatomy

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS Leonardo da
Vinci Michelangelo Raphael

INFLUENTIAL WORKS Leonardo da Vinci
Mona Lisa, 1503 Michelangelo
David, 1504 Raphael
The School of Athens, 1511



Raphael, *The School of Athens*, 1511

Mannerism

1527–1580

CHARACTERISTICS

Stylized features, exaggerated details,
decorative elements

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Bronzino, Francesco Salviati, Giorgio Vasari

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Bronzino, *Venus, Cupid, Folly and Time*, 1540

Giorgio Vasari

Allegory of the Immaculate Conception, 1541



Bronzino, *Venus, Cupid, Folly and Time*, 1540

Baroque

1600–1750

CHARACTERISTICS

Ornate, grandeur, richness, stylistically complex, dramatic

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Caravaggio, Johannes Vermeer, Rembrandt van Rijn

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Caravaggio

The Calling of St Matthew, 1600

Rembrandt

The Night Watch, 1642

Johannes Vermeer

Girl with a Pearl Earring, 1665



Caravaggio, *The Calling of St Matthew*, 1600

Rococo

1699–1780

CHARACTERISTICS

Lightness, elegance, natural forms,
asymmetrical design, subtle colors

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Antoine Watteau, Francois Boucher

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Antoine Watteau

Embarkation for Cythera, 1718

Francois Boucher

Venus Consoling Love, 1751



Antoine Watteau, *Embarkation for Cythera*, 1718

Neoclassicism

1750–1850

CHARACTERISTICS

Renewed interest in classical antiquity,
harmony, simplicity, and proportion

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Antonio Canova, Jacques-Louis David

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Jacques-Louis David

Napoleon Crossing the Alps, 1801

Antonio Canova

The Three Graces, 1816



Jacques-Louis David, *Napoleon Crossing the Alps*, 1801

Romanticism

1780–1850

CHARACTERISTICS

Imaginative elements, focus on passion, emotion, and observing the senses

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Francisco Goya, Henry Fuseli, William Blake

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Henry Fuseli

The Nightmare, 1781

William Blake

The Ghost of a Flea, 1820

Francisco Goya

Saturn Devouring His Son, 1823



William Blake, *The Ghost of a Flea*, 1820

Realism

1848–1900

CHARACTERISTICS

Detailed depictions of everyday life

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Gustave Courbet, Jean-François Millet

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Jean-François Millet

The Gleaners, 1857

Gustave Courbet

Woman with a Parrot, 1866



Jean-François Millet, *The Gleaners*, 1857

Art Nouveau

1890–1910

CHARACTERISTICS

Long, sinuous lines and curves

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Alphonse Mucha, Antoni Gaudí, Gustav Klimt

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Antoni Gaudí

Church of Sagrada Família, 1882

Gustav Klimt

The Kiss, 1908

Alphonse Mucha

Princess Hyacinth, 1911



Alphonse Mucha, *Princess Hyacinth*, 1911

Impressionism

1865–1885

CHARACTERISTICS

Short, quick brushstrokes, separation of color, sketch-like finish, modern subject matter

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Dance in the City, 1872

Claude Monet

Impression, Sunrise, 1899



Claude Monet, *Impression, Sunrise*, 1899

Post-Impressionism

1885–1910

CHARACTERISTICS

Subjective visions, symbolism, abstraction

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Georges Seurat, Vincent van Gogh

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Georges Seurat

A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte, 1886

Vincent van Gogh

The Starry Night, 1889



Georges Seurat, *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte*, 1886

Fauvism

1900–1935

CHARACTERISTICS Expressive color, line,
and brushwork, bold surface design, flat
composition

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

André Derain Henri Matisse

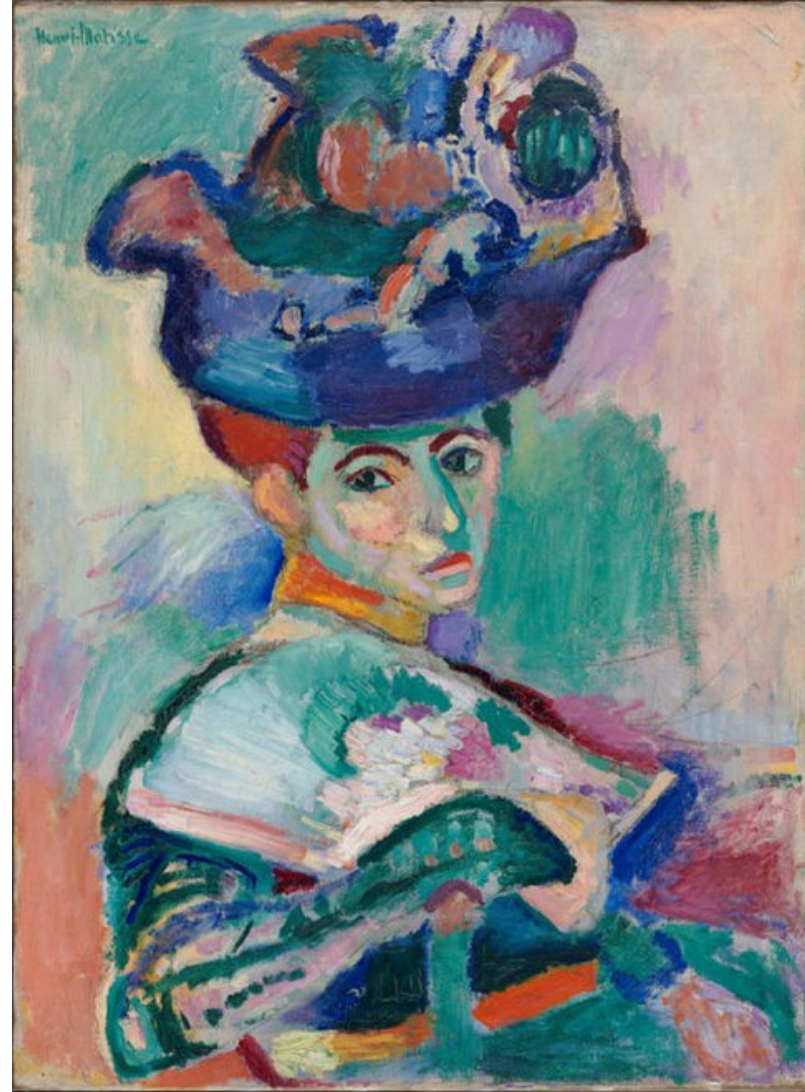
INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Henri Matisse

Woman with a Hat, 1905

André Derain

The Houses of Parliament, 1905–1906



Henri Matisse, *Woman with a Hat*, 1905

Expressionism

1905–1920

CHARACTERISTICS

Distortion of form, strong
use of colors

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Edvard Munch Wassily Kandinsky

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Edvard Munch

The Dance of Life, 1900

Wassily Kandinsky

The Blue Rider, 1903



Edvard Munch, *The Dance of Life*, 1900

Cubism

1907–1914

CHARACTERISTICS

Abstraction, flat, two-dimensional surfaces,
geometric forms, contrasting vantage points

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Georges Braque, Pablo Picasso

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Georges Braque

Violin and Palette, 1909

Pablo Picasso

Guernica, 1937



Georges Braque, *Violin and Palette*, 1909

Surrealism

1917–1950

CHARACTERISTICS

Exploration of dreams and unconsciousness,
inspired by Sigmund Freud

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Max Ernst, René Magritte, Salvador Dalí

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Salvador Dalí

The Persistence of Memory, 1931

Max Ernst

The Robing of the Bride, 1940

René Magritte

The Son of Man, 1964



René Magritte, *The Son of Man*, 1964

Abstract Expressionism

1940–1950s

CHARACTERISTICS

Spontaneity, improvisation, colossally scaled works, unique techniques

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Jackson Pollock

Autumn Rhythm (Number 30), 1950

Mark Rothko

Orange and Yellow, 1956



Jackson Pollock, *Autumn Rhythm (Number 30)*, 1950

Op Art

1950s–1960s

CHARACTERISTICS

Use of colors, patterns, shapes, and contrast to create images that appeared to be moving or blurring

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Bridget Riley, Jean-Pierre Yvaral, Victor Vasarely

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Bridget Riley

Blaze, 1964



Bridget Riley, *Blaze*, 1964

Pop Art

1950s–1960s

CHARACTERISTICS

Use of everyday, mundane objects, bold, vivid colors, mass media

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Andy Warhol

Campbell's Soup Cans, 1962

Roy Lichtenstein

Brushstrokes, 1962



Andy Warhol, *Campbell's Soup Cans*, 1962

Arte Povera

1960s

CHARACTERISTICS

Use of soil, rocks, paper, and other natural elements to create a pre-industrial sentiment

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Alighiero Boetti, Giovanni Anselmo, Mario Merz

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Mario Merz

Giap's Igloo, 1968



Mario Merz, *Giap's Igloo*, 1968

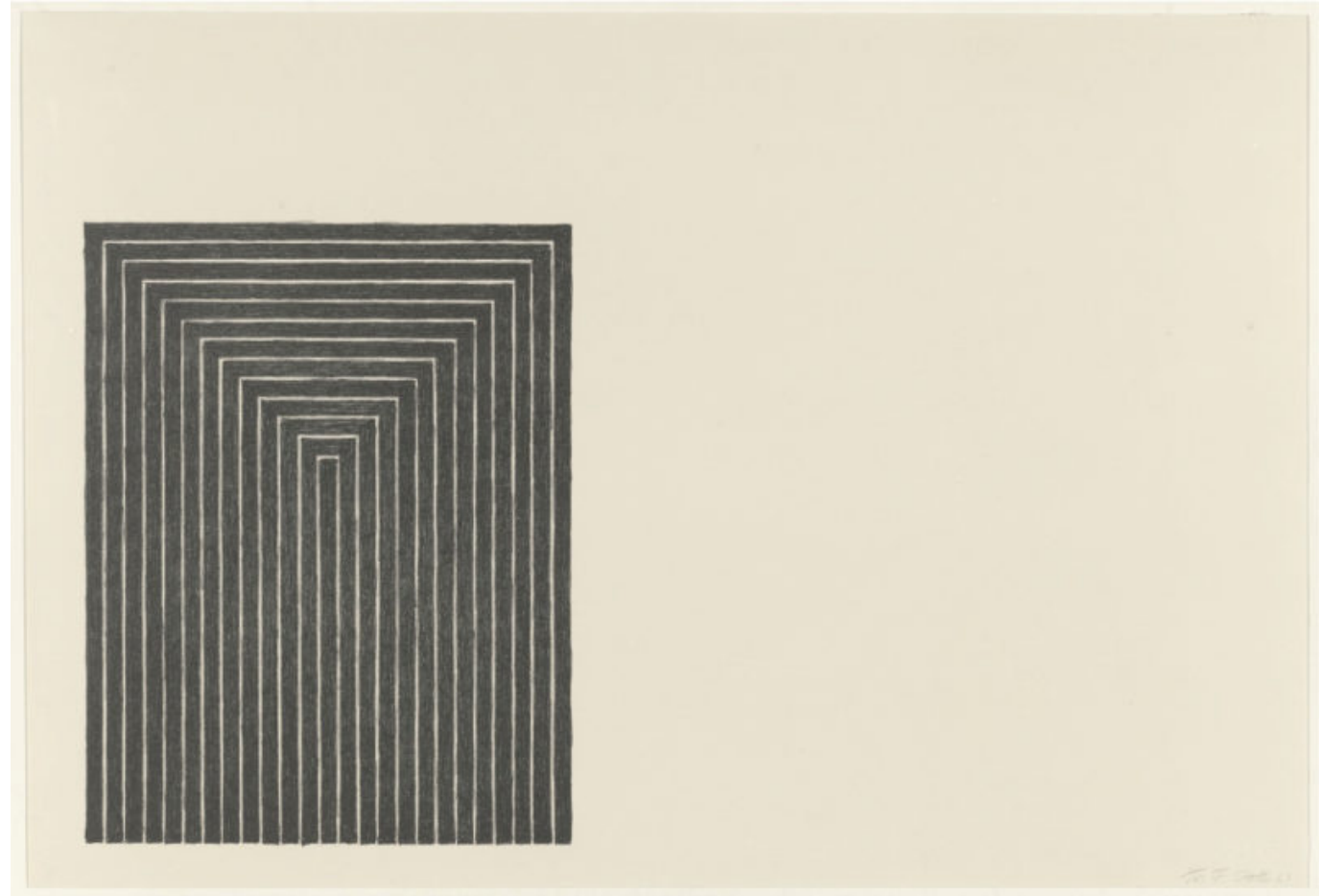
Minimalism

1960s–1970s

CHARACTERISTICS A focus on exactly what the art portrays, aside from outside realities and emotions

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS Carl Andre Donald Judd Frank Stella

INFLUENTIAL WORKS Frank Stella
Black Series I, 1967



Frank Stella, *Black Series I*, 1967

Conceptual Art

mid-1960s–mid-1970s

CHARACTERISTICS

An emphasis on ideas over visual components in the form of performances, ephemera, and other forms

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS

Joseph Kosuth, Marcel Duchamp, Sol LeWitt

INFLUENTIAL WORKS

Joseph Kosuth

One and Three Chairs, 1965



Joseph Kosuth, *One and Three Chairs*, 1965

Contemporary Art

1970–present

CHARACTERISTICS Exploration of Postmodernism, Feminist art, Neo Expressionism, Street art, Appropriation art, Digital art, and other small schools

LEADING CONTRIBUTORS Jeff Koons

INFLUENTIAL WORKS Jeff Koons

Michael Jackson and Bubbles, 1988



Jeff Koons, Michael Jackson and Bubbles, (1988)