

The difference and similarities between surrealism art and pop art

Surrealism art

Surrealism art started in the early 1920's with the aftermath of World War 1. The characteristics of surrealism art are strange images, dreamlike or symbolic images, surrealism stood for freedom in these times as it was an act of freedom and people's way of things to show they were not afraid. A lot of surrealism was based on imaginative and based on dreamlike art as said by sources of research. A lot of artists chose surrealism to fight through their trauma and turned their trauma into a form of art and expression, hence why some art works do look uncanny or out of the ordinary. Key dates for surrealism movement are 1927-1966, with the main countries and cities concentrating on the movements were Paris and New York surrealism was the most recognised art movement by millions across the world. Where most artists created their work on imaginative and dreamlike mind-set there was a couple who used this movement to express their trauma from World War 1, artists influenced their work around their experiences throughout the war and took their pain on to their canvas one of these artists were Yves Tanguy. Yves Tanguy was an inexperienced artist in the beginning his work relying on mentors and art classes to improve his work and find his one

style. Yves used old psychiatric cases and looked through patients notes and started to create his own style of work adding the dark and gloomy landscapes in most of his creations. His best-known art piece was his famous and moving work 'mama, papa is wounded' done in 1927, characterized by deserted landscapes littered with rocklike objects and painted with a precise illusion, his works include an overcast sky with a view that seems to stretch endlessly, as indicated in the book {Yves Tanguy and surrealism (2001).}. Despite his common subject matter of war he styles his work with a sense of limited dream like reality. Like most French families he suffered the loss of his brother whom was killed in world war 1 his work always seems to have the bleakness of landscapes and the dark and gloomy style of his work may refer to the impact of the war and how it made him feel and the loss of his brother just made him see the bleakness and dullness of art resulting in Yves naming his art work in really disturbing titles. Yves used oil painting as well like most surrealism artists.

In October of 1924 there was a surrealism manifesto written and Published by Andre Breton where he discusses the difference and consciousness of a dream state mind and the reality of day to life and how it can affect us. As written in his manifesto {Breton, A. (2016). Manifesto of Surrealism} he wrote how the mind dream state and imagination side of our minds can sometimes be dangerous as that is all we want in life is what we dream of, and in the reality of life we barely have what we dream of instead we have what we can afford. He

mentions how surrealism is based on a “belief in the superior reality of certain forms of previous neglected association's” meaning how artists tend to make their work on failed thoughts so instead they just turn to the bizarre kind of work something you only see in dreams.

Pop art

Pop art first began in the mid 1950's in the United Kingdom and then in the late 1950's in the United States and flourished in the 1960's in both countries and worldwide. It was created as a against the original way art was made and the cultural traditions on how art should be seen. Young artists explored pop art as they believed the art, they are being taught in art school is the art that they see in museums and felt the art had nothing to do with their personal lives or what was happening all around them in their day-to-day life, so instead they found inspiration in Hollywood movies, advertising, and pop music album but most importantly they looked at comic books for their imagery. Pop art in the United Kingdom was fuelled by American popular culture viewed from a distant by British civilians where American artists were inspired by what they saw and experienced living within their culture.

One artist that stood out from the rest was Roy Lichenstein whilst in the early 1960's gained acknowledgement for

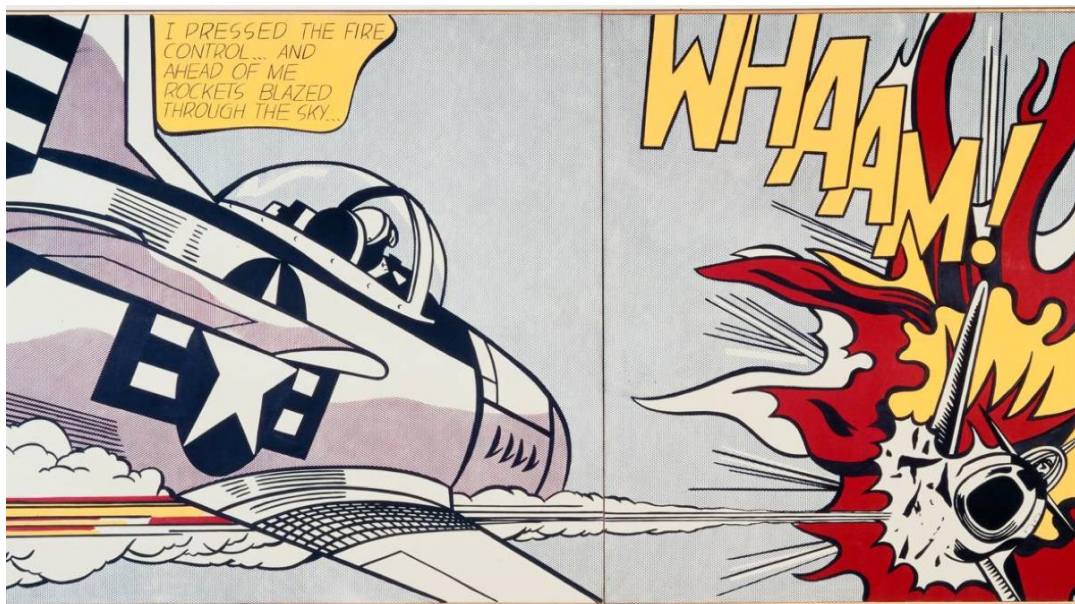
paintings sourced from popular comics at the time and from earlier times. His work alongside others fulfilled the beginning of pop art during the 60's. Employing a complex technique that involved cropping images to create dramatic compositions. To this day pop art is continuing to this day with artists young and old from all around the world still influenced by the work, ideas and techniques used by well-known successful artists all around the world, as indicated in the book {Roy Lichtenstein (2003).}

However, to this day a lot of artists still are using similar techniques to what Roy Lichtenstein used with his work when he was well known in his time.

In 1961 there was an artists called Claes Oldenburg who wrote a statement called {"I Am for Art..." (1961). Claes Oldenburg.} where he mentions how art is created not only by the artists but the everyday life the artists lives and how the art is created by on what the artist hears around them, on what sees around them, on what the objects the artists touch and feels. He then wrote how the artwork artists create is more from what the public see and glance at in the museums and galleries, the public does not understand the hard work and dedication that went into creating the wonderful result.



Mama, Papa is wounded!, Yves Tanguy 1943



Whaam!, Roy Lichtenstein, 1963

Differences and similarities

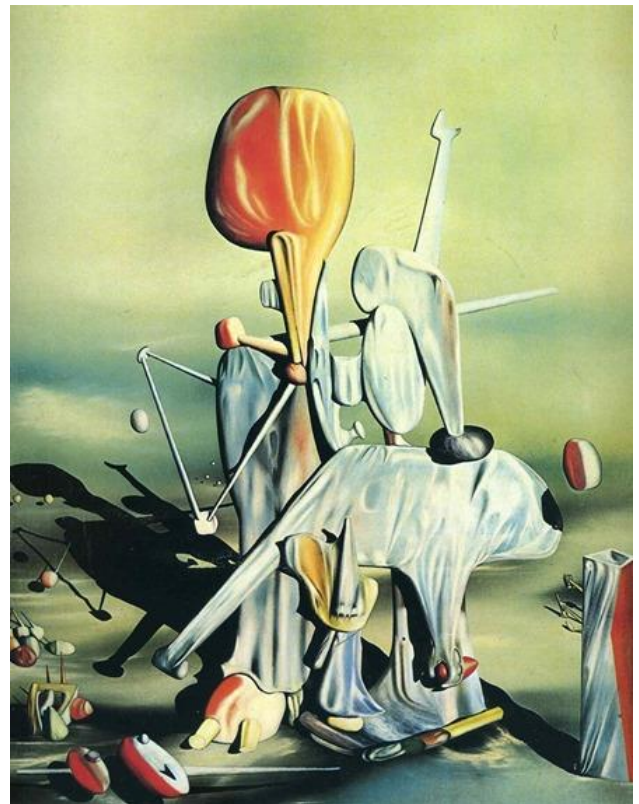
Between both surrealism and pop art there are some similarities and differences with pop art having the happy and colourful vibe in most artwork and surrealism having the uncanny feeling in most cases. With these two art images the main difference is the way the images have been drawn, Both the images have the same colour scheme. However, in Roy Lichtenstein's work you can see that there is a lot of colours even in the background making it a very colourful piece of work while Yves Tanguy has a splash of colour but still a very dull landscape background. The similarities between both are that they both pick objects to add the main colour too which catches your eyes straight away. the most obvious difference is that in Roy Lichtenstein's work he uses comic book writing in most pieces while Yves does not use any writing whatsoever and sticks to a calmer approach. The meaning behind both artists is as well completely different with one artist turning his grief and fears into art and the other to show off happy and fun art both coming from completely different eras and different life experiences a trauma.

In my opinion I do like the pop art movement for the joys it portrays but I do feel like surrealism has more of a meaning and story to each art work done by many artists as in most work you can see how the trauma has affected the artist and I just really admire how they can turn all their trauma and fears

into such an amazing form of art and how easily you can feel their emotions impacted the art piece.



Girl with Tear I Roy Lichtenstein 1977



Through Birds Through Fire But Not Through Glass 1943

Differences and similarities

The similarities between with two images are that they are both very abstract and has a pop of colour in both in a certain place or object they also both seemed to have a strange confusing type of design making people query and having an interest in the pieces. Again, with the differences with the pop

art you can tell instantly it has a comic book appearance to it and even though with the dull background it still is a lot cheery and colourful. Whereas the surrealism still has the uncanny background with the colour scheme the artist used, there is no definite image in what the artist has done instead you really have to use your imagination on what you can see in the image.

To conclude there's not a lot of differences between the two art works rather there is more similarities and both the art works are quite the same to each other in many ways but the main way I would say is the colour scheme and the bizarre way the art is being drawn they're far from the regular art we see in museums and art galleries today. Instead, they are rather playful with the style and colours being used that is what I really like about them as they really make you stop and think about what is going on and the meaning behind the artwork. I believe both the art works styles should be used should be used more often today.

Reference list below

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The differences & similarities

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Written

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