

ART PROJECT

FAUVISM

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15/5/2002

Introduction:

Fauvism is one of the many art movements that took place in the 20th century. Fauvism was about in-between 1901 –1906. In this movement colour played a major part, as this was the first modern movement that let it take over. This art movement only lasted for about 5 years and mainly took place in France. It consists of bold arbitrary colours that clash to form the fauvist style of art. These arbitrary colours are ones that are unrelated to the forms in our natural world. It is famous for its harsh brush strokes and strange techniques. Although the movement has finished it has been one of the important movements, causing revolution in the movement of art.

The French word “fauve” means wild beast as they fauvist movement was a great shock to the public (as new art movements normally are). The public thought that the artist was trying to release his anger onto a canvas by showing his brush strokes and making each colour stand out boldly on the canvas. By using different contrasts in colours they were not the colours of the natural form so it came out onto the canvas in a whole different manner.

One leader of the fauvist movement was Henri Matisse who was a great fauvist as you can see by the quality in many of his art works during this art movement. He and two others Maurice de Vlaminck and Andre Derain formed the main core of the fauvists. Their ideas came from the post-impressionists such as, Van Gogh, Gauguin and Seurat. By studying the work of these postimpressionists they were able to form their ideas into works of art.

Influence of impressionism:

Impressionism was the art movement in which painters were able to go outside into the open and paint pictures of real objects. They were able to go outside due to the fact that now most equipment needed to paint had been made portable and so they didn't have to carry large tins of paint but small tubes of it. Painters would go outside and paint a rough drawing of whatever interested them and then go to the studio to finish there drawings off.

The paintings of that time were bright and full of colour whereas the time before impressionism painters thought that there old masters painted in dark colours like browns and blacks. They didn't want betray there masters so they continued to paint in dark colours as well. However when they got outside they realised that there were more colours than these dark browns and so the pictures became brighter. In the end it turned out that old masters paintings were actually bright colours but by sitting in dark rooms with only a fire to light it up the fire made the pictures much darker than they really were.

When the Japanese were selling their goods to France they would wrap them up in the pictures taken from a camera as they were so cheap and plentiful. When people discovered this art they were soon intrigued by it. They then unwrapped the art and sold it.

This influenced the impressionists a great deal and some started to paint in dots. The Fauves were very interested in the impressionists especially the complimentary colours they used.

The Influence of Van Gogh:

Fauvism is not the only art movement van Gogh has influenced. In most peoples minds he is one of the most influential artists ever. It seems that new artists love his work and seem to find their inspiration in his art works. His drawings have always been the most highly thought of and it seems they always will be.

Van Gogh was one of the most influential artists of all time. He played a major role in influencing the Fauves to become the artists they were. Van Gogh grew up in a world of art where all the painting were very dark which encouraged him to use lighter and brighter colours in his drawings which influenced the Fauves much like the complementary colours. Van Gogh used to experiment a lot with his colours and the Fauves picked up on this.

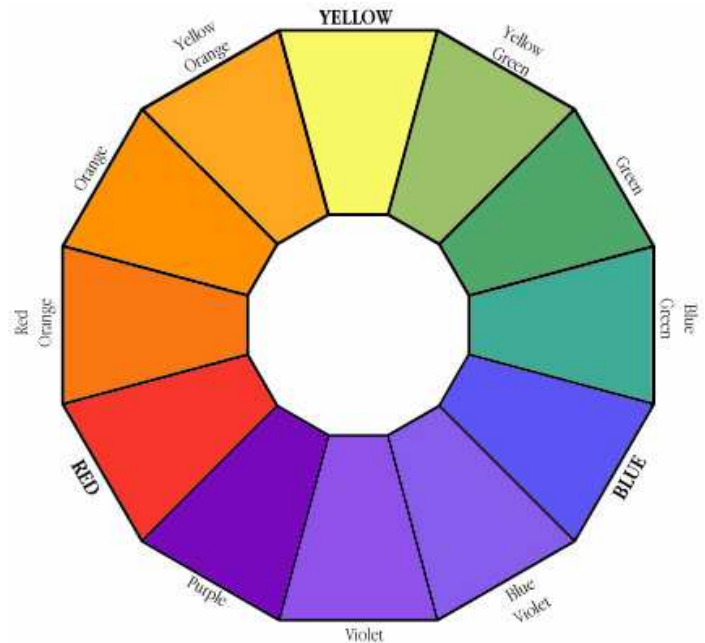
He showed in his work all that can be achieved by experimenting colours, which lead to the use of using opposite colours on the colour wheel in fauvism.

The Idea Behind the Use of Colour to Express Emotion:

By using colour to express emotion the painter can show how he is feeling at the time of painting his painting. He is able to convey if he feels anger or joy at the time by changing shades of colour or the colour completely. This emotion also shows itself in the face of the drawing of the object. If you were to draw an angry person or something evil darker colours would give a bit of extra emotion to the picture. On the other hand a happy occasion would be drawn with lighter colours to give the emotion of happiness.

The Idea Behind the Use of Complimentary Colours:

A complementary colour is the opposite of any colour on the colour wheel. As you can see there is a large contrast between the opposites. This means that the darker colours can be used to intensify the shadows in fauvism. The colours stand out so much because they are the complete opposite of each other they have nothing in common. This helps the Fauves to bring out all parts of their drawing as you can see the boldness of the colours and the harsh brushstrokes help distinguish them.



I don't particularly like this painting done by Matisse it doesn't really appeal to me that much. I think that there are too few colours to contrast and work with to make it look more like a fauvist artwork. There is nothing much happening in the drawing so you couldn't look at it for a while and not get bored. To make this better maybe he could have made the object bigger with more curls and colours



I quite like this painting by Derain. I like the colours he has used on the houses and background to make it look a lot different to what it actually is. I like the way he has the mixture of dark and light colours. Although he has only got the dark meeting the light at a few points of the drawing it has still worked out nicely and he has made a nice drawing.

This is one of my favourite fauvist drawings yet. I really like to look at Vlaminck's drawings especially this one. Although I could not find many of him most the ones I have seen have been very interesting.

I like the way he has the mixture of colours everywhere in his drawing. In some parts of the picture you can hardly tell whether its night or day. The city seems to be set in the night and the boats and water in the day. Its drawn like they are two separate places merged into one, which I find quite amazing. The city is drawn very well with all the shadows and contrasts into it.



Bibliography:

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