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GLOSSARY

Academic realism or academic art	A style of painting and sculpture produced under the influence of European academies or universities. In India, it arrived under the aegis of Colonialism, when art academies were established in Calcutta (now, Kolkata), Madras (now, Chennai) and Lahore by the middle of the nineteenth century.
Abstraction and abstract art	The process of taking away or removing characteristics from something in order to reduce it to a set of essential characteristics. Abstract artists exaggerate or simplify forms suggested by the world around them. This form of art is identified with modernism but has existed before it.
Aesthete	A person, who appreciates art and beauty and is sensitive towards it.
Art critic	A person, who specialises in evaluating and critiquing art, art practice and production. The reviews are usually, published in newspapers, magazines, books on websites.
Avant garde	Meaning 'advance guard' or 'vanguard', it refers to people or works that are experimental or innovative, particularly, with respect to art, culture, and politics. It stands for art that does not necessarily accept existing norms of aesthetic or political theories. In India, it has been associated with cultural practices of political radicals and liberal intellectuals.
Bibliophile	A person who collects and has love for books.
Chiaroscuro	The treatment of light and shade in a drawing or painting.
Colophon page	Consists of a brief statement about the publication of a book—place of publication, name of the publication, date of publication etc.
Community art	Art organised around a community situation. It is characterised by interaction or dialogue with the community. The term came into use in the late 1960s, when it grew as a movement in the United States, Canada, UK, Ireland and Australia. In India, artists like Navjot Altaf and K. P. Soman engaged with it around 2000. They have worked with local communities on social themes like exploitation, the rural–urban divide and caste disparities.
Connoisseur	A person who has immense knowledge in arts, food or drinks and can appreciate the same.

Cubism	The Cubist movement was associated with the works of Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque done in the year 1907. They were greatly inspired by the traditional African sculpture and the paintings of Paul Cézanne. In cubist artworks, objects are segmented for analysis, where instead of depicting objects from one angle of view, the artist depicts the subject taking a number of viewpoints.
Curators	Traditionally meaning a keeper of a cultural heritage institution (e.g., archive, gallery, library, museum, or garden), in contemporary art, a curator is a person who has to devise a strategy for display of artworks thematically selected. A curator is expected to address the viewing public, and hence, is responsible for writing labels, catalogue, essays and other supporting contents for the exhibition.
Digital artist	Someone who uses digital technology like computer graphics, digital photography and computer assisted painting in the production of art, which has the possibility of mass production of artwork.
Easel painting	A painting executed on portable support, such as a panel or canvas. Its technique dates back to the Egyptian and Roman periods. But with the introduction of oil painting, it became popular in Europe from the thirteenth century.
Etching	Opposite to woodcut, the raised portions of an etching remain blank while the crevices hold the ink. In pure etching, copper, zinc or steel plate is covered with wax or acrylic ground. An artist, then, draws through the ground with a pointed etching needle. The exposed metal lines are, then, etched by dipping the plate in a bath of etchant (e.g., nitric acid or ferric chloride). The etchant 'bites' into the exposed metal, leaving behind lines in the plate. The remaining ground is, then, cleaned off the plate. To make a print, the plate is inked all over, and then, the ink is wiped off the surface, leaving only ink in the etched lines. The plate is, then, put through a high-pressure printing press together with a sheet of paper (often moistened to soften it). The paper picks up the ink from the etched lines, making a print. The process can be repeated many times and several impressions (copies) can be printed.
Expressionism	The term refers to an art that expresses intense emotion. Expressionism is an artistic style, in which an artist attempts to depict the emotional experience rather than physical reality. Expressionists distorted reality through exaggeration, vigorous and visible brushwork and strong colour in order to express their ideas or emotions.

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Folio	An individual leaf of paper or parchment, either loose as one of the series or forming part of a volume, which is numbered on the front side only.
Foreshortening	Showing or portraying an object to be closer than it actually is or having less depth or distance as an effect of perspective or angle of vision.
Genre	A style or category of art, music or literature.
Gouache	Opaque watercolour is a type of water media, paint consisting of natural pigment, water, a binding agent, and sometimes, additional material. It is an opaque method of painting.
Illusionism	A style, in which artistic representations are made to resemble real objects.
Indigenous art	Arts and the ideas that draw inspiration from one's own past and culture, and traditional practices, which have roots in one's own past.
Installation art	A contemporary art form that does not necessarily break away from conventional media like painting and sculpture but combines most heterogeneous material to transform the perception of space and plasticity. It may use everyday material as also technology like video or internet to create a multi-sensorial impact on viewers and not just visual.
Internationalism	A trend in art that openly embraced art movements from Europe and the United States. Indian artists in the 1950s after Independence aspired to modernism in their practice and qualified as informed partners of world modernists.
Kalam	Style of painting.
Linocut	A relief printing process that makes use of a thin layer of linoleum (can also be mounted on a wooden block) and is easy to cut as it is a soft medium.
Lithography	A technique that emerged by the end of the eighteenth century. A porous surface, normally limestone, is used for making lithographs. The image is drawn on the limestone with a greasy medium. Acid is applied to transfer the grease to the limestone. It leaves the image 'burned' into the surface. Gum Arabic, a substance soluble in water, is then applied, sealing the surface of the stone not covered with the drawing medium.
Mandi	Local market for wholesale trade.

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Modernism	A phenomenon that modified and changed human lives. It has a universal approach and tries to apply that on all aspects of human life. Since its advent in the last decade of the nineteenth century, modernism would guide the manner in which human thought could process. The concept of modernism, which was largely developed as a philosophy and practice, found its way in colonised non-European countries, America, Africa and Australia.
Mural	An artwork done directly on wall, ceiling or any other large two-dimensional surface. It is one of the oldest formats of art, dating back to the pre-historic caves.
Mysticism	Religious practices with certain ideologue, ethics, rites, myths, legends, magic, etc.
Naturalism	A style and theory of representation based on accurate depiction of detail.
Neem kalam	Line drawing.
New media	An art form that creates artworks with new media technologies, such as digital art, computer graphics, virtual art and interactive art technologies, among others. It sees itself in sharp contrast to traditional media arts like painting and sculpture.
Performance art	A phenomenon that happened in the 1970s in the West, when artists wanted to use bodies, often their own to create an artwork. Either their performance was live, enacted before an audience or recorded, and thus, mediated by technology.
Physiognomy	A person's facial features or expressions or general appearance. It refers to an object as well.
Pintadoes	Painted in Spanish (may be on body).
Popular art	An art form possible by technology of reproduction so that multiple copies of art can be accessed by a large number of people. Calendar art is an example. Popular artists belong to high art and show their works in art galleries but adopt themes that relate with everyday life.
Printmaking	The process of making works of art by printing on paper. It is a process of creating prints with an element of originality, rather than just making a photographic reproduction. Prints are created from a single original surface, known as 'matrix'. Each piece produced is not a copy but considered 'an original' since it is not a reproduction of another work of art.
Realism	An artistic movement that emerged in France during mid-nineteenth century.

Renaissance art	The style in art (painting, sculpture, decorative arts and architecture) and literature that emerged in Italy (Europe) in about 1400, which revived the features and character of classical antiquity. The revival of European art and architecture under the influence of classical models during the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries.
Sfumato	The technique of allowing tones and colour to shade gradually in one another, producing softened outlines or hazy forms.
Video art	Art that uses kinetic images in video format with or without audio data. It emerged during the 1960s and 1970s in the West and became popular in India around 2000.