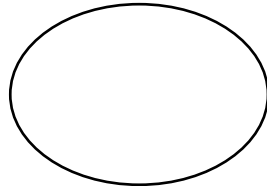


Canadian & First Nation Art

First Nations Art

Environment
Materials

People
Culture



Objects
Art

An Example: First Nations Art

ENVIRONMENT: Nature, woodlands, plains, coastal regions

MATERIALS: Wood, leather, stone, bones, clay

PEOPLE: Hunters, farmers

CULTURE: In sync with the spirit of nature

OBJECTS: Tools, pottery, clothes weapons

ART: Masks, totems, jewellery, specific designs

Central Woodland

The Central Woodland people produced a variety of birch bark canoes, asymmetrical masks, willow baskets, along with wood, fur and leather goods.



West Coast: Haida
Known for the tall firm totem, which had a balanced symmetrical design. Consisting of organic and geometric shapes together, carved into a wood pole.



North Inuit

Because of the lack of available wood, the North inuit people substituted stone, bone, and fur for materials. Their designs were very similar to the Haida's.



Prairies/Plains

Because of the lack of trees, the Prairie and Plains natives used leather, bone, and stone for materials. They are well-known for their clothing and jewellery.

Name: _____ /42

Grade 10 - Canadian & First Nations Art Questions

1. Look at the Native Art flow chart and complete the following phrases: (6)

Environment:

Materials:

People:

Culture:

Objects:

Art:

2. What type of art and materials are each of the following groups associated with? (4)

West Coast/Haida:

Prairies/Plains:

Central Woodland:

North Inuit:

Early Canadian Artists



William Berczy

Considered the finest Canadian artist of his time, Berczy arrived in Canada from Europe with skills as a portraitist.

W. Berczy, self-portrait, 1798-99.



William Berczy, Portrait of Joseph Brant, 1805.



Ozias Leduc

Ozias Leduc paintings were quiet and reflective, and image of rural family life in Quebec. Rich colour in soft tones were used,

such as browns, golds and oranges. A balanced and controlled style was used to express a sense of purpose and order in the world. He painted everyday objects and simple scenes that had "spirit" searching for inner spiritual meaning in all things.

Ozias Leduc, Boy with Bread, 1892-99.



Cornelius Krieghoff



Cornelius Krieghoff was mainly a Canadian landscape painter, although in many of his paintings

the theme of "les habitants" is woven exquisitely into his works. His paintings are known as genre paintings. "Genre" means everyday life, "Christmas card" scenes, many people, buildings, animals and a distant landscape.



Krieghoff's Habitant Farm, 1856.

5. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from looking at the Boy with Bread painting by Ozias Leduc? (1)



Krieghoff's Sleigh Race Across the Ice, 1861.

3. Do you think Berczy's portrait of Joseph Brant is realistic or idealistic and why? (2)

4. Are Krieghoff's Christmas Card scenes an accurate depiction of Canadian settlers at that time? Why or why not? (1)

Canadian Impressionism



Tom Thomson

He is considered one of the most important and influential early Canadian artists. Together with members of the Group of Seven, he created a distinct approach to portraying rugged Canadian landscapes.



Tom Thomson, Canoe Lake 1913-14.

Tom Thomson died mysteriously at the age of 39 while canoeing. He founded the Group of Seven, but was **not** a member. It started three years after his death, by his friends. He grew up in Leith, Ontario and is buried there now. The Tom Thompson Art Gallery is located beside the Owen Sound Public Library.



A. J. Casson, The White Pine, 1957.

Geometric, smooth and powerful in design. There is a balance of shape, space, line and colour. Harris began by painting almost monochrome, semi-abstract blue studies of the Arctic solitude, leading into his abstraction. He is a very spiritual artist.



Lawren Harris, Maligne Lake, Jasper Park, 1924.



The Group of Seven

(1920-31)

The seven founding artists: Lawren S. Harris, J.E.H. MacDonald, Arthur Lismer, Frederick Varley, Frank Johnston, Franklin Carmichael and A.Y. Jackson.

The **Group of Seven** represented a growing movement in Canadian nationalism, a belief that Canadian art must be truly inspired by Canada itself.

6. What is the distinctive approach portrayed in Tom Thompson and the Group of Seven's artwork? (1)

7. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from Tom Thomson's Canoe Lake and why? (2)

8. List the 7 founding artists of the Group of Seven. (7)

9. Compare A.J. Casson's The White Pine and Tom Thompson's Canoe Lake and then list 2 stylistic similarities between the two works. (2)

10. Describe how Lawren Harris's creates a sense of balance in his Maligne Lake, Jasper Park painting from 1924. (1)



Emily Carr, Forest, British Columbia. 1931-32.

Emily Carr

The work of the Group of Seven played an important role in the career of Emily Carr, who was to become Canada's best-known early modern artist. In her Forest, British Columbia painting one senses something more.



11. Describe Emily Carr's use of line in her British Columbia painting. What mood/feeling is created as a result? (2)

line:

mood/feeling:

12. What kind of mood or feeling is created in Morriseau's, Power from Within as a result of his use of shape and pattern? (1)

13. What elements or principles does Morriseau use to unify the various animals in his No One Stands Alone painting? (1)

Norval Morriseau

Norval Morriseau was born in 1931, on the Sandy Point Reserve, Ontario. His First Nations Affiliation is Ojibwa

A self-taught painter, printmaker, and illustrator, Morriseau created an innovative vocabulary which was initially criticized in the Native community for its disclosure of traditional spiritual knowledge.

His colourful, figurative images, delineated with heavy black formlines and x-ray articulations, were characteristically signed with the syllabic spelling of Copper Thunderbird, the name Morriseau's grandfather gave him.



Norval Morriseau, Power from Within. Hand Embellished. The Shaman embodies the spirit of the great Bear to protect his marital union.



Norval Morriseau, No One Stands Alone. Hand Embellished. An interdependence of all earth's creatures, the life of the sea, the land and the sky are all connected.

Modern Art (1945-1980s)

Regional styles reflect the diversity of Canada. **Abstract art** became the face of modern art.

The Evening Visitor, 1956.

Jean Paul Lemieux

Lemieux painted simplified and abstract figures. His work reflects the quiet, religious yet isolated Quebec of modern Canada.



14. How does Jean Paul Lemieux create a feeling of isolation in his *The Evening Visitor* painting from 1956? (1)



Jean Paul Riopelle, *Sans titre*, 1969.



Jean Paul Riopelle

Riopelle was an important Quebec artist who moved into total abstraction in his work and focused on patterns of light colour movement and his work was non-representational.

15. What artistic style did the Quebec painter Riopelle employ in his work and to what affect? (2)

Painters Eleven (1953-1959)

The members of **Painters Eleven** included Jack Bush, Oscar Cahén, Hortense Gordon, Tom Hodgson, Alexandra Luke, Jock Macdonald, Ray Mead, Kazuo Nakamura, William Ronald, Harold Town and Walter Yarwood.

This was not a group with a common manifesto, but with a less revolutionary agenda. They simply wanted to paint in the new less restrictive abstract expressionist style. Their similarity, or unity, was in the idea of showing their work together; finding a venue to do that, and reinforcing each others diversity and individualism. Town stated that they were "sick of being told where to hang, how to hang, and when to hang".

16. What artistic style did the Painters Eleven employ in their work? (1)



Harold Town, *Conversations between Clowns*, 1953.

17. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from Harold Town's *Conversations between Clowns* painting from 1953 and why? (2)

Post Modern Art

Canadian art in the 1970s, 80s, 90s was and is a collection of many styles. Influences include media, Surrealism, Neo-expressionism, Realism, and new art mediums. Post modernism is a phrase, which means after-modernism. It suggests a wide range of styles and a sense of change.



Claude Breeze

Claude Breeze is a professor at the York University in Toronto. He uses the media, violence, and social issues as a source of images in his work.

Claude Breeze,
The Home Viewer #4, 1979.



Michael Snow, Flight Stop,
Fibre glass, 1979.



Joe Fafard

Joe Fafard produces comical clay sculptures, people, animals and artists. It's ironic, funny work



that asks us to see art in a lighter way. Fafard's sculpture entitled "The Pasture" consists of a herd of seven bronze cows lying peacefully on the lawn at the west side of the TD Centre Courtyard. According to the artist, he intended to provide a reminder to city-dwellers of their dependence on the country, creating tranquility in the heart of Toronto's business district.

Michael Snow

Michael Snow is another important Toronto artist who created this sculpture entitled "Flight Stop" at the Toronto Eaton Center in 1979 using fiber glass flying geese.

17. What artistic styles and influences define Post Modern Canadian art? (1)

18. What imagery does Breeze use in The Home Viewer #4 and what message is being conveyed? (2)

19. What kind of reminder was Joe Fafard trying to create with his "The Pasture" sculpture as a result of its site specific location? (1)

20. How does Michael Snow create a sense of movement in his "Flight Stop" sculpture from 1977. (1)