

Cubism

Pablo Picasso

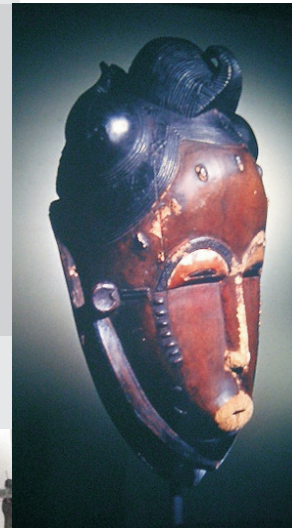
Born in Malaga, Spain, **Picasso's** many styles and prolific work rate have marked him out as one of the most recognized artists of the 20th century. Not limited to one medium he created sculptures, etchings and prints. His artistic career only began to boom once he moved to Paris in the early 1900s. His Blue Period, reflecting the colour and his mood at the time was followed by his Rose Period, work inspired by primitive art and then **Cubism**, which shocked the critics, but ultimately made his name.

His interest in African art can be seen in his **Les Femmes d'Alger**, where the women's faces appear similar to African influenced masks.

Picasso along with **G. Braque**, developed the style of painting - **Cubism**.



Pablo Picasso,
Les Femmes
d'Alger. 1907.



Baule People, Ivory
Coast. Mask of Goli,
20th century. Partially
painted wood.

Cubism began as a revolt against the artistic expression of previous eras. Among the specific elements abandoned by the **cubists** were the sensual appeal of paint texture and color, subject matter with emotional charge or mood, the play of light on form, movement, atmosphere, and the illusionism of scientifically based perspective.

Cubist painters simplified their subject matter into basic geometric shapes: squares, circles, triangles, etc.

Guernica

(image on the flip side)

Guernica was created during **Picasso's Surrealist** period (made for the Pavilion of the Spanish Republic at the Paris International Exposition.) and captures the horror of the bombing of the Basque town of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War. By the end of World War II, **Picasso** had become an internationally known artist and celebrity. In this work, **Picasso** combines **Expressionism** and **Cubism**, like **Expressionists**, he exaggerates and distorts forms.

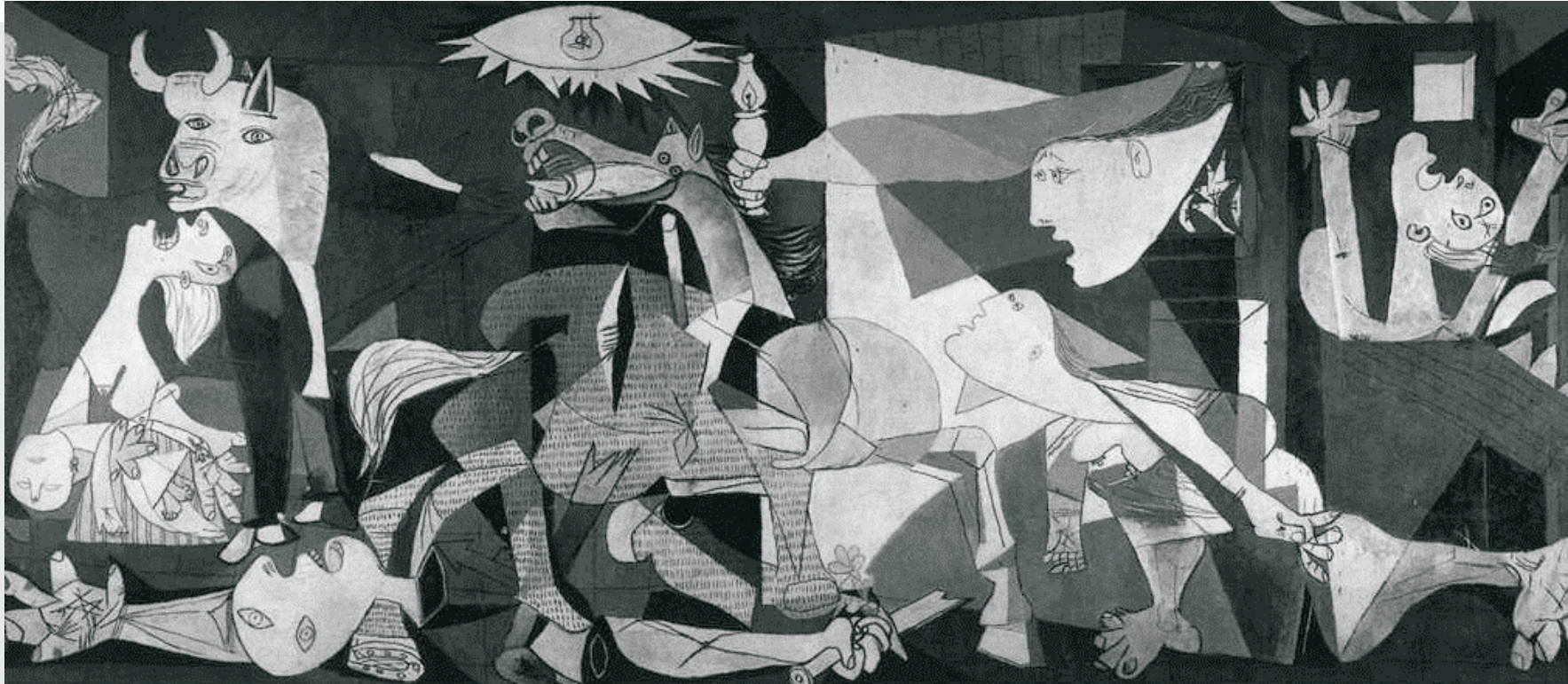
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Simon Schama on Picasso

"Pablo Picasso's Guernica is so familiar, so large, so present. It's physically bigger than a movie screen. But what is the painting about? Is it an account of the Spanish town obliterated by Nazi warplanes - a piece of reportage? Is that why it's in black and white?"

This is the reason why the painting has such an impact. Instead of a laboured literal commentary on German warplanes, Basque civilians and incendiary bombs, **Picasso** connects with our worst nightmares. He's saying here's where the world's horror comes from; the dark pit of our psyche."



Pablo Picasso, Guernica, 1937, Madrid.

Written Critique (Use FULL sentence structure, not one word answers)

Use 6 elements & principles throughout the critique. **(Not all in one sentence)**

Space, Line, Shape, Form, Texture, Colour, Value, Contrast, Balance, Emphasis, Movement, Rhythm, Pattern, Variety, Unity, Proportion

Description:
(what is it?)

Interpretation:
(mood/feeling)

Analysis:
(how does the artist use the e & p specifically)

Judgement:
(artistic merit)

K/U

Connections: /2
(use 6 e&ps & adjectives)

Clarity: /10
(full sentence form)

/12