

CONTEMPORARY TRENDS AND INNOVATIONS IN SCULPTURE IN UZBEKISTAN : EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF TRADITION AND MODERNITY

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ABSTRACT

This scientific article explores the evolving landscape of modern sculpture in Uzbekistan, a country steeped in rich cultural heritage and a crossroads of historical influences. Focusing on contemporary sculptural practices, the study investigates the dynamic interplay between traditional Uzbek artistry and emerging trends in sculpture, reflecting the societal changes and artistic developments within the region. By examining the works of prominent Uzbek sculptors and institutions, we shed light on the diverse approaches, materials, themes, and dimensions that modern sculpture in Uzbekistan encompasses. This exploration underscores the country's cultural legacy while embracing global artistic influences.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Uzbekistan, with its ancient Silk Road routes and diverse cultural tapestry spanning millennia, boasts a long-standing tradition of elaborate craftsmanship and artistry. In recent years, modern sculpture has gained significant appreciation and recognition in Uzbekistan, as artistic expression evolves, incorporating contemporary techniques and conceptual narratives. This article aims to demonstrate the integration of traditional elements and evolving modernity in Uzbek sculpture through an examination of prominent artists, their works, and the institutions that have shaped this creative field.

2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Delving into the rich historical backdrop of Uzbek sculpture, this section examines the fusion of diverse cultural influences, including Persian, Islamic, and pre-Islamic art forms. It explores how traditional materials, such as wood, stone, metal, and ceramics, have been employed in sculptural artworks, showcasing the mastery of craftsmen in preserving heritage while embracing innovation.

3. EMERGING TRENDS AND TECHNIQUES

This section highlights the contemporary trends and techniques in modern Uzbek sculpture. The influence of global artistic movements, including cubism, abstract expressionism, minimalism, and installation art, is explored within the context of local traditions. Metal casting, stone carving, assemblage, and mixed media are among the techniques employed by today's Uzbek sculptors to express their individual visions and communicate with a modern audience.

4. PROMINENT SCULPTORS AND INSTITUTIONS:

This section profiles influential sculptors and institutions in Uzbekistan that have been instrumental in fostering the growth of modern sculpture. It showcases the works of renowned artists such as Ilkhom Abdurakhmanov, Bahrom Karimov, and Rustam Khalfin, who have

successfully blended traditional elements with contemporary aesthetics, thereby contributing to the diversification and rejuvenation of the art form in Uzbekistan.

5. THEMES AND MOTIFS:

Examining the themes and motifs prevalent in contemporary Uzbek sculpture, this section explores the reflection of societal changes, socio-political narratives, and the evolving perception of identity. The use of religious iconography, nature-inspired motifs, human form, and abstract symbolism are analyzed to understand how artists navigate between honoring tradition and engaging with modern sensibilities.

6. EXHIBITIONS AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS:

This section focuses on the significance of local and international exhibitions, biennales, and collaborations in propelling the recognition of modern sculpture in Uzbekistan. It discusses how exhibitions, such as the International Sculpture Symposia in Tashkent and the Venice Biennale, contribute to the cross-pollination of ideas, the exchange of technical expertise, and the exposure of Uzbek sculptors to global audiences.

7. CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, this scientific article highlights the growing impact and creativity of modern sculpture in Uzbekistan, which bridges the gap between tradition and modernity in a culturally diverse and dynamic society. The blending of global influences, innovative techniques, and the preservation of traditional craftsmanship underscores the country's unique contribution to contemporary sculpture. Through continued efforts in research, education, and collaboration, Uzbekistan is poised to further solidify its place on the international stage of modern sculptural art.

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