

# Cubism

## When?

1910 - 1914

## Where?

Paris, France than Europe and U.S.S.R

Cubism has been one of the most important art movement of the twentieth century, that had been having a great influence on following abstract and figurative painting and on modern architecture. Cubism was born in Paris from some collaborative researches of Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1882-1973) and Georges Braque (French, 1882-1963). Because of its revolutionary idea of art, Cubism can be considered an avant-garde movement.

Cubism proposes a very intellectual approach to visual language and in the beginning does not have any expressive function. By moving around the subject, cubist **analyze**, dissect and broken up what they see to obtain different visions of the object, related to the experience of modern life. All that information is eventually organized in abstract compositions based on shapes, negative spaces and textures accurately arranged on the canvas. Following such a process to create his works, **a cubist artist displays a system of information documenting artist's knowledge of a specific subject, not his vision of it, nor his feelings.**

In a cubist painting there is no distinction between object and background because the space is reduced to the intersection and overlapping of shapes layered on a surface. A similar kind of space was invented by P. Picasso in *Les Femmes d'Alger (O.J.)* (1907), earlier than Cubism.

From a formal point of view, cubist artworks should be considered independent objects, featuring a big variety of shapes and textures and a very reduced palette, based mostly on shades of gray and ochre. Those works go beyond painting by including different materials and even actual objects. The mixed media used by cubist artists are based on **papier-collé** (French, literally "stuck paper."), a type of collage in which paper shapes are combined into one work of art, and **assemblage** a three-dimensional composition made of various materials such as found objects, paper, wood, and textiles.

**Avant-garde** French for vanguard. Artists and their work stand in the forefront of a movement or of new ideas, often in opposition to established ideas and traditions; art that's ahead of its time, innovative and experimental.



[http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/cube/hd\\_cube.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/cube/hd_cube.htm)

<http://smarthistory.khanacademy.org/cubism>