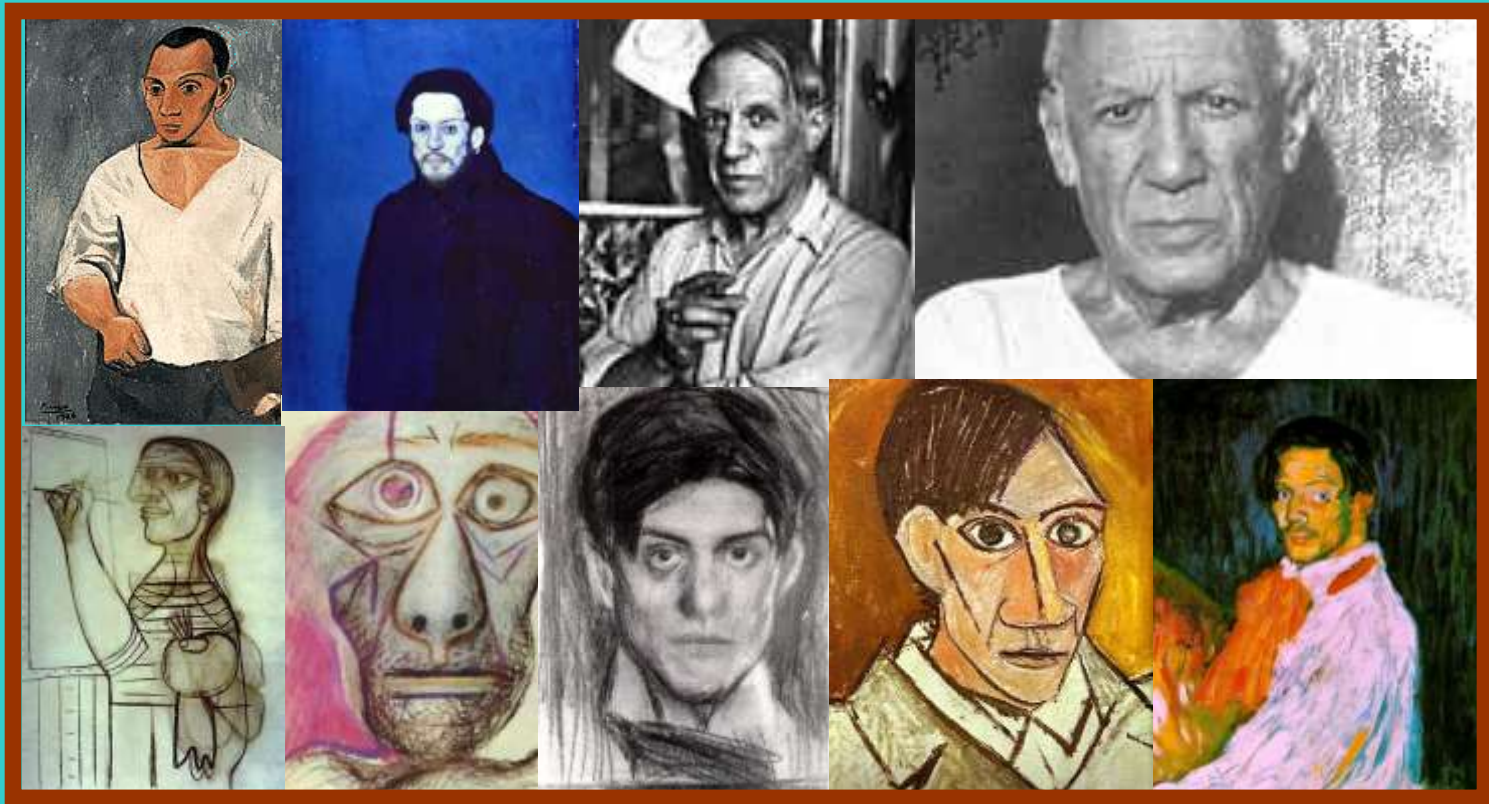


Picasso and Cubism



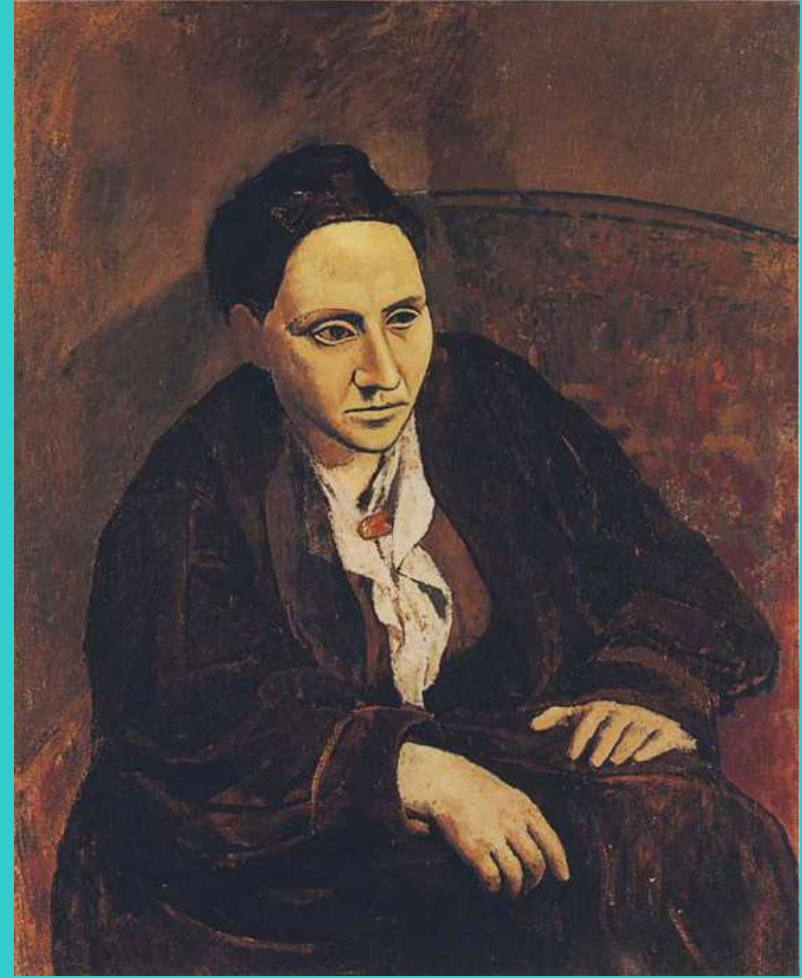
Pablo Picasso: 1881-1973

Pablo Picasso: 1881-1973

Spanish painter, sculptor, graphic artist, and ceramist, who worked in France. He is generally considered in his technical virtuosity, enormous versatility, and incredible originality and prolificity to have been the foremost figure in 20th-century art.



Gertrude Stein was an American writer and art collector who was a catalyst in the development of modern art and literature. She spent most of her life in France, where she met Picasso and other painters.



Pablo Picasso, *Gertrude Stein*, 1906. Oil on canvas, 39 3/8" x 32". The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Cubism: 1907-1914

Movement in the visual arts created by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque. Cubist work emphasized the flat, two-dimensional, fragmented surface of the picture plane, rejecting perspective, foreshortening, modeling, and chiaroscuro in favor of geometric forms.

Abstract Art:

Art that distorts, exaggerates or simplifies the natural world to provide essence or universal generalized form.



PABLO PICASSO,
Les Femmes d'Alger
d'Alger

June–July 1907. Oil
on canvas, 8' x 7' 8".
Museum of Modern
Art, New York



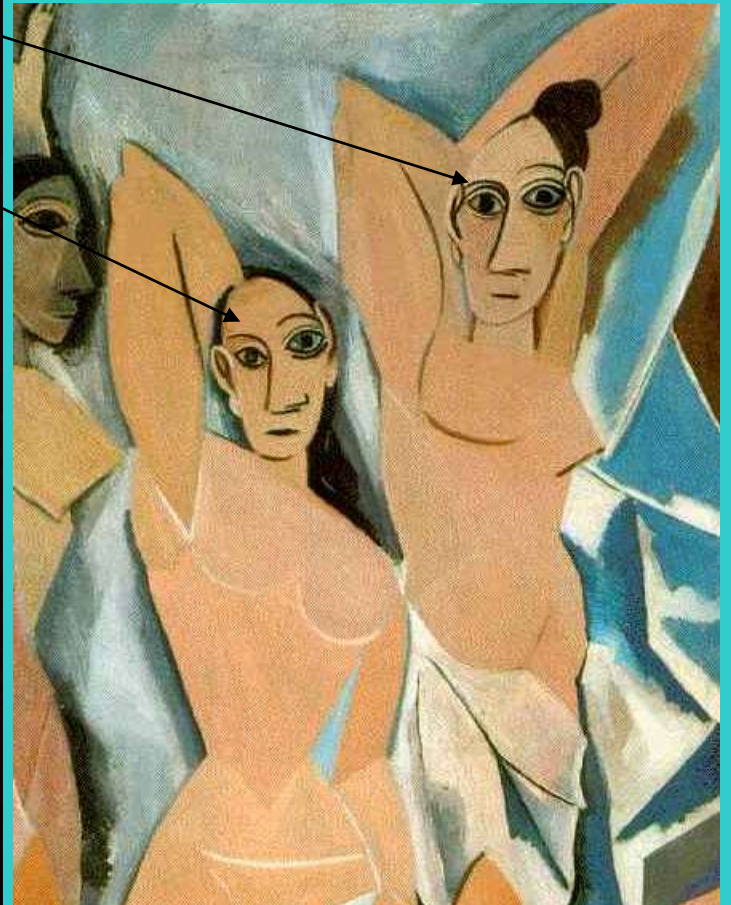
African masks



Paul Cezanne, *The Bathers*, c.1875-77



Iberian and Archaic Greek influence.



Perseus, attended by Athene, slaying the Gorgon Medusa. Selinus, Sicily, ca 560-550 BC



Comparison: Pablo Picasso,
First Communion, 1895-1896.
Oil on canvas, 65 3/8" x 46 1/2".
Museo Picasso, Barcelona.



Pablo Picasso,
Les Femmes d'Alger (O.J.) (the
Young Women of Avignon) 1907.
Oil on Canvas, 8'X7'8"

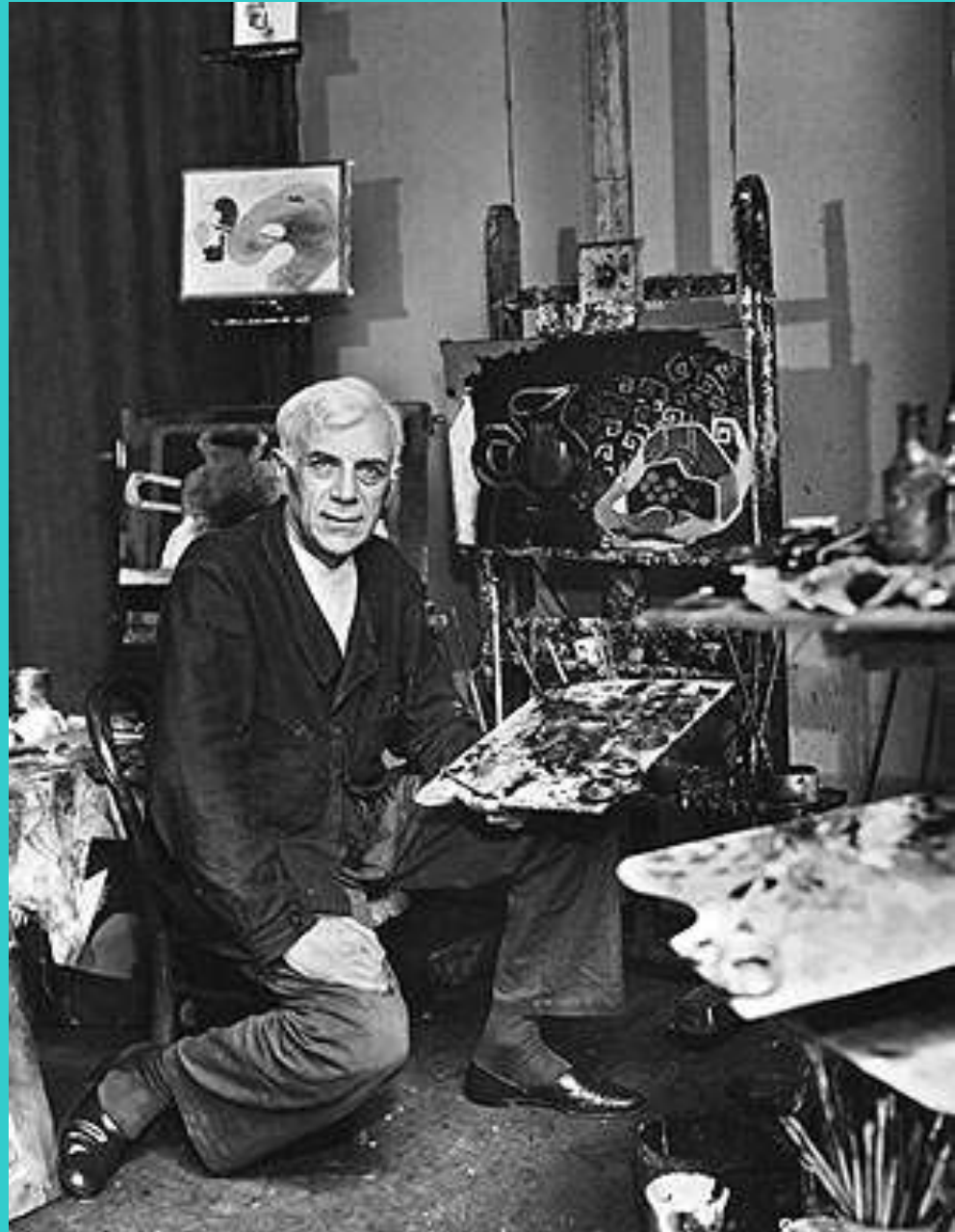
Picasso, *First Communion*,
1895-1896. Oil on canvas, 65 3/8"
x 46 1/2" ..



Compare and contrast these two paintings. Discuss the theme, size, level of naturalism/abstraction, the use of color, the depiction of light and space, the relationship between figures and ground, the texture, point of view, shapes and lines (repetitive shapes, geometric or organic).

Picasso, *Les Femmes d'Alger (O.J.)*
1911-1912. Oil on Canvas,
8'X7'8"

**Georges Braque (1882-1963).
French artist. His most
important contribution to the
history of art was his role in
the development of what
became known as Cubism. In
this Braque's work is
intertwined with that of his
collaborator Pablo Picasso.**



***George Braque working in
his studio outside Paris,
1949***

George Braque,
Houses at L'Estaque,
1908. Oil on Canvas,
28x23"

**The name Cubism came
from this painting.
When the critic
Vauxcelles saw this
painting he said the
houses "look like a
bunch of little cubes."**





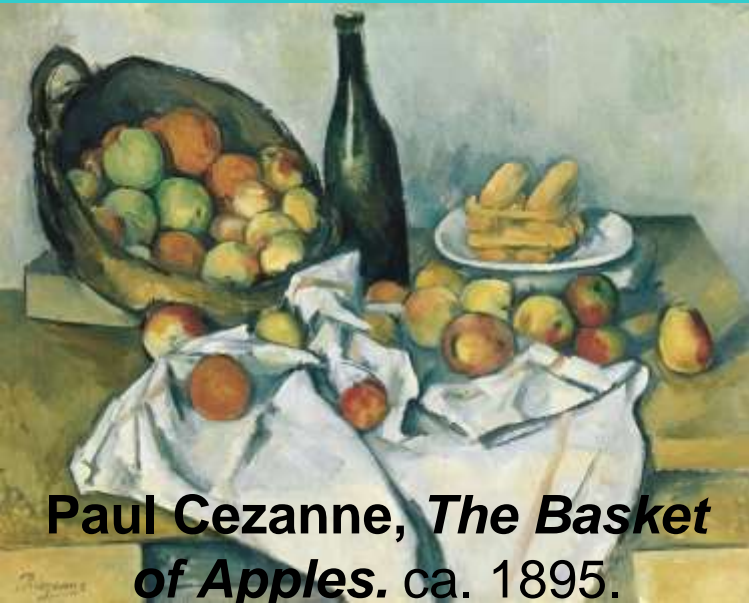
“Treat nature by means of the cylinder, the sphere, the cone... “

Paul Cezanne, 1904

**George Braque,
Houses at L’Estaque,
1908.**



'The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one big thing'



Paul Cezanne, *The Basket of Apples*. ca. 1895.



**Paul Cezanne,
L’Estaque,
1885.**

Analytic Cubism: 1909-11

Paintings executed during this period show the breaking down, or analysis, of form. Artists favored right-angle and straight-line construction and color schemes that were nearly monochromatic.



Braque,
Violin and
Palette, 1909.
Oil on
Canvas.
36x16”.

[https://youtu
.be/QAVi-
sjeVwA](https://youtu.be/QAVi-sjeVwA)
21:00



Picasso. *Girl with a Mandolin*,
1910. Oil on canvas
39 1/2 x 29 in. (100.3 x 73.6 cm.)

The Key Characteristics of Cubism:

- **Geometricity**, a simplification of figures and objects into geometrical components and planes.
- **Distortion** and deformation of known figures and forms in the natural world.
- **Simultaneity** or multiple views, different points of view made visible on one plane. Used in order to capture the Fourth Dimension: Time. (The idea of time as a fourth dimension is attributed to the "Theory of Special Relativity" proposed in 1905 by Albert Einstein.)
- **Conceptual**, instead of perceptual, reality.
- **Passage**, the overlapping and interpenetration of planes.



Braque, Violin and Palette, 1909. Oil on Canvas. 36x16".

The letters D BAL may derive from *Grand Bal* - a common dance hall poster.

It is the first time that stenciled letters were used in a work of art.



GEORGES BRAQUE
The Portuguese (The Emigrant)

1911. Oil on canvas, 3' 10 1/8" x 2' 8". Öffentliche Kunstsammlung Basel, Kunstmuseum, Basel



Pablo Picasso, *Les Femmes d'Alger*
1907. Oil on canvas, 8' x 7' 8\".

Pablo Picasso, *Ma Jolie*,
(my pretty one) 1911-
1912, Oil on Canvas



Synthetic Cubism: 1912-14

Works from this phase emphasize the combination, or synthesis, of forms in the picture. Color assumes a strong role in the work; shapes, while remaining fragmented and flat, are larger and more decorative; and collage is often used.

Collage:

A French word for pasting or gluing. It refers to the practice of pasting shapes cut from such real world sources as magazines, newspapers, wallpaper, and fabric onto a surface. Also, a work of art made in this way.

PABLO PICASSO, *Still Life with Chair-Caning*

1912. Oil and oilcloth on canvas, 10 5/8" x 1' 1 3/4".
Musée Picasso, Paris.



Can you find these objects?

- Glass
- Slice of lemon
- Newspaper
- Pipe
- Scallop shell



PABLO PICASSO, *Still Life with Chair-Caning*

1912. Oil and oilcloth on canvas, 10 5/8" x 1' 1 3/4". Musée Picasso, Paris.



PAUL CÉZANNE, The Basket of Apples
ca. 1895. Oil on canvas, 2' 3/8" x 2' 7". The Art Institute of Chicago.

Still life: A painting or other two-dimensional work in which the subject matter is an arrangement of objects. Also, the arrangement of objects itself.

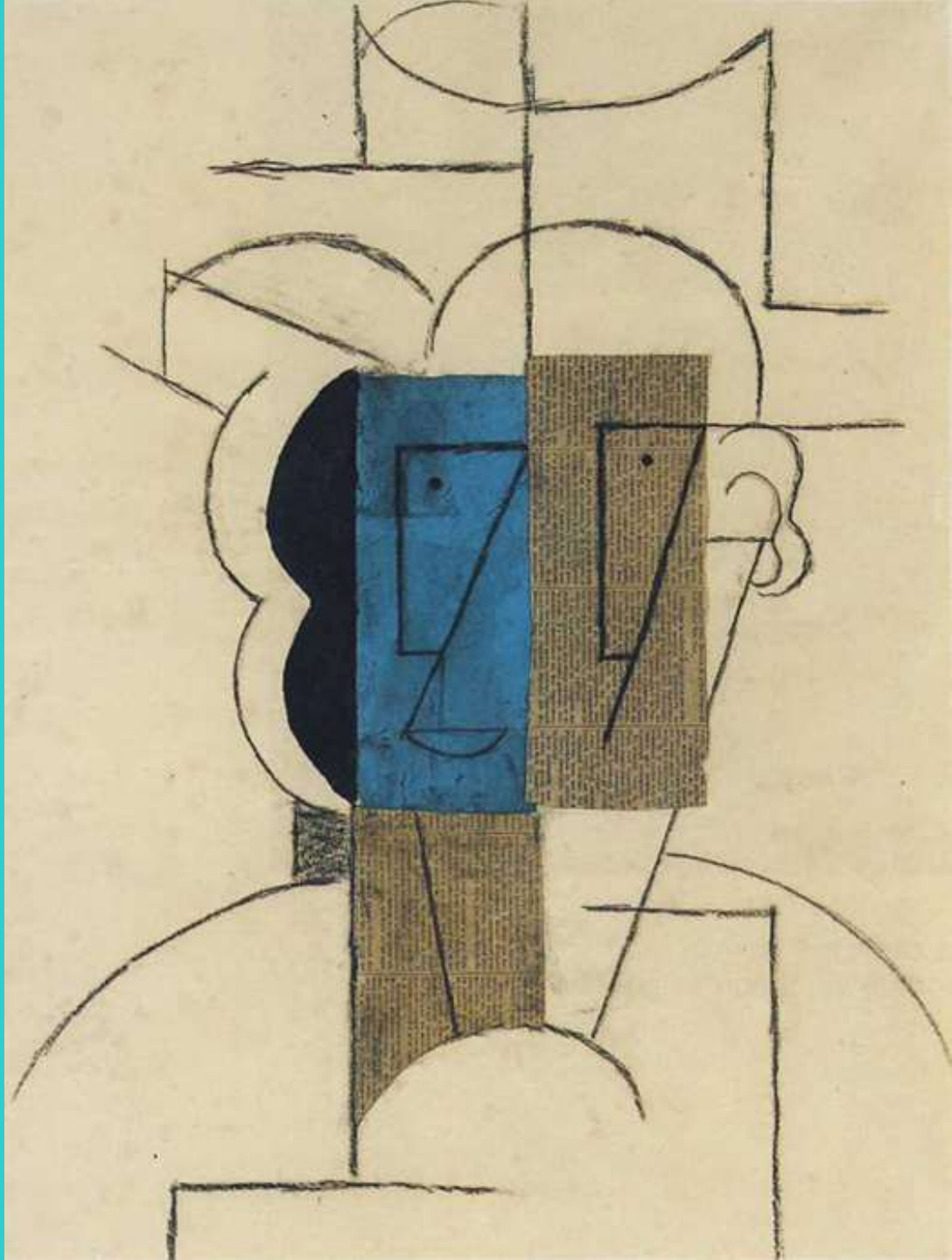
PABLO PICASSO, *Still Life with Chair-Caning*. 1912. Oil and oilcloth on canvas



**Pablo Picasso, *Guitar and Wine Glass*,
1912. Pasted paper,
gouache, and
charcoal, 18 7/8" x
14 3/4"**



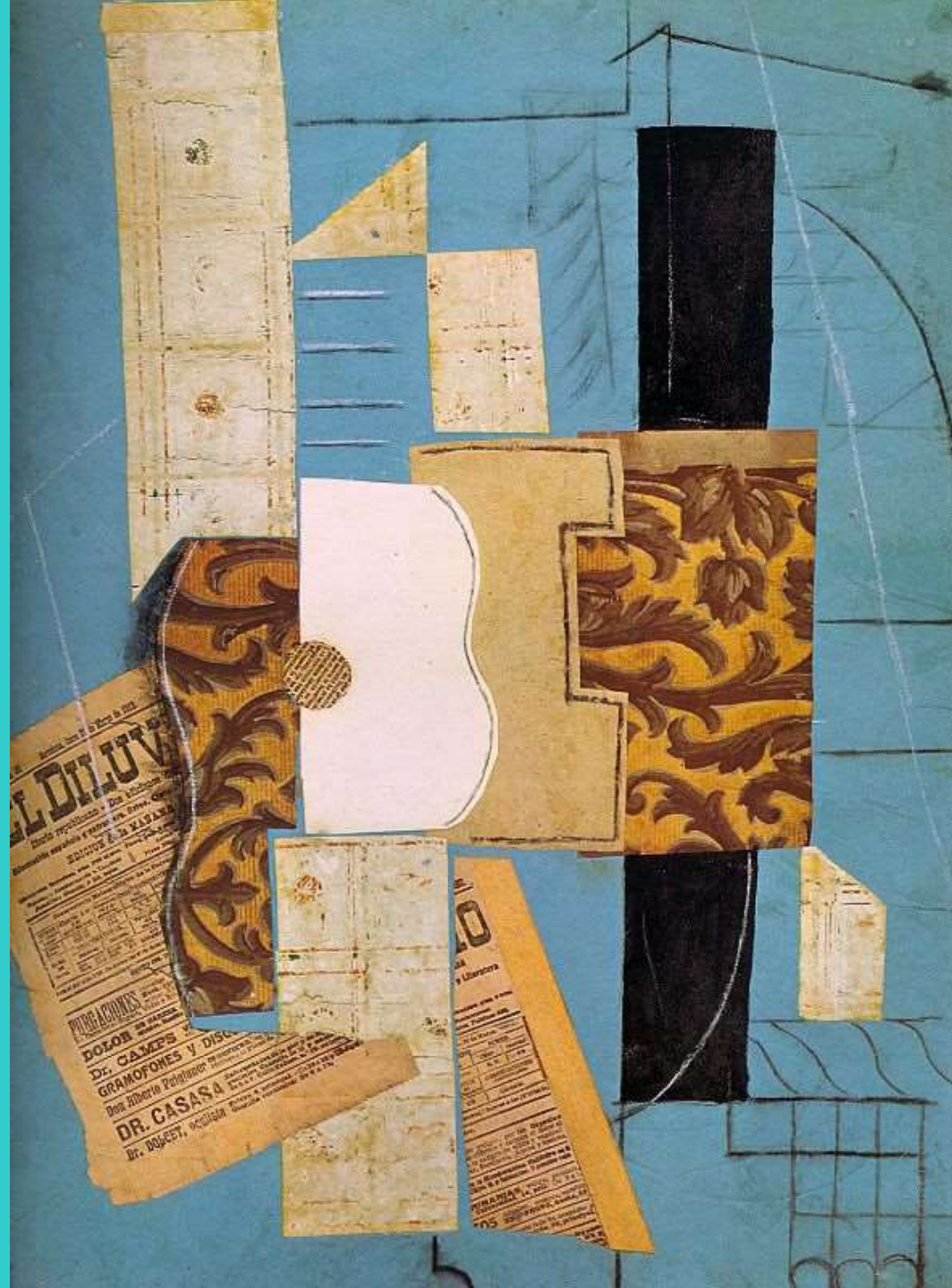
**Pablo Picasso, *Man with a Hat*, 1912. Pasted paper, charcoal, and ink on paper, 24 1/2" x 18 5/8".
The Museum of Modern Art, New York.**





GEORGES BRAQUE, *Bottle, Newspaper, Pipe and Glass*, 1913. Charcoal and various papers pasted on paper, 1' 6 7/8" x 2' 1 1/4". Private collection, New York.

Pablo Picasso.
Guitar Collage. 1913



Constructed Spaces: Cubist Sculpture

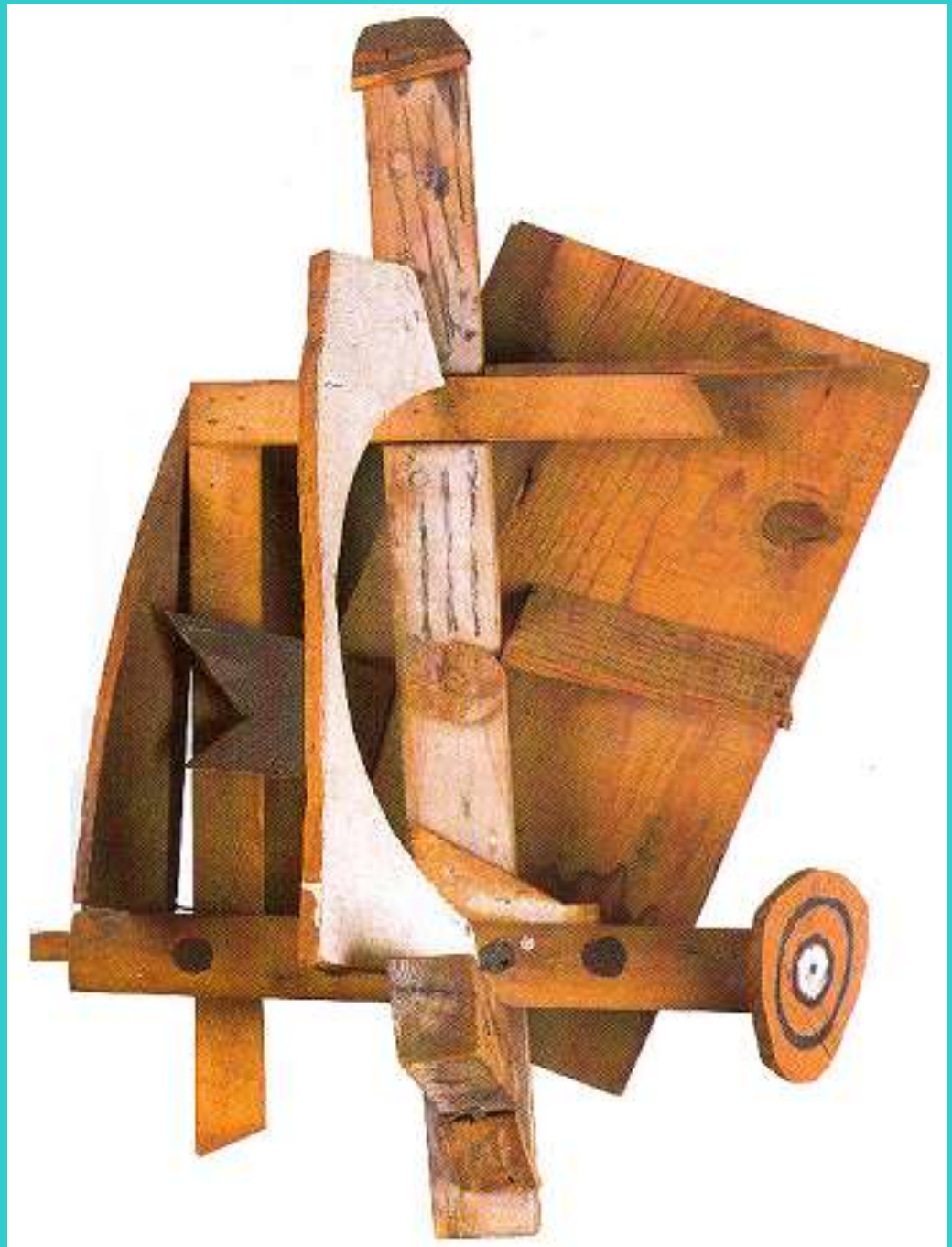
Like collage, constructed sculpture, (invented by Braque and developed by Picasso) is assembled from disparate, often unconventional material. Unlike traditional sculpture, its forms are penetrated by void and create volume not by mass, but by containing space.

PABLO PICASSO,
Maquette for Guitar

1912. Cardboard, string, and wire (restored), 25 1/4" x 13" x 7 1/2". Museum of Modern Art, New York.



Pablo Picasso, *Mandolin and Clarinet*, 1913. Painted wood construction with cardboard, paper, and pencil marks. 58x36x23 cm. Musee Picasso, Paris.

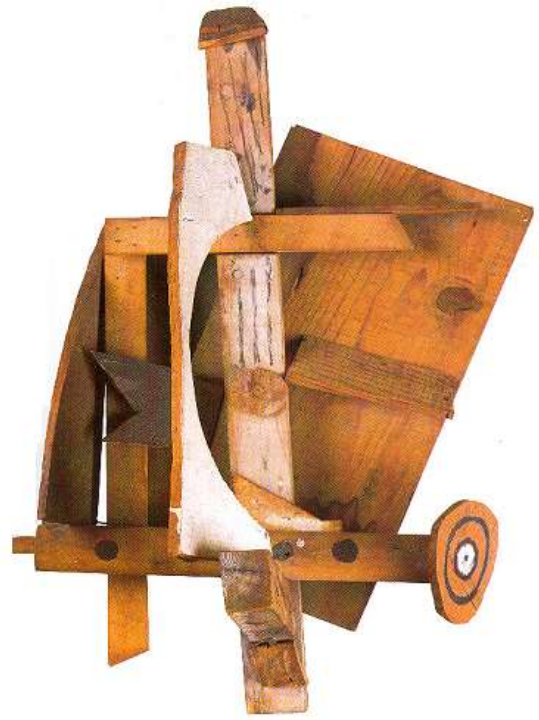


Pablo Picasso, *Glass of Absinthe*, 1914. Painted bronze with silver absinth spoon. 8 ½ “ high, base diameter 2 ½ “.
Museum of Modern Art. NY

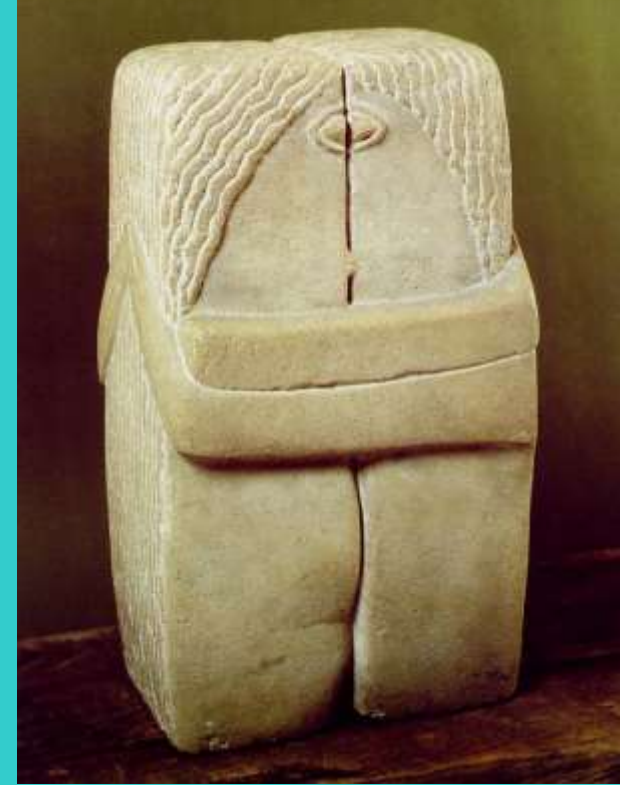




Pablo Picasso, *Glass of Absinthe*, 1914. Painted bronze with silver absinthe spoon. 8 ½ “ high, base diameter 2 ½ “.



Pablo Picasso, *Mandolin and Clarinet*, 1913. Painted wood construction with cardboard, paper, and pencil marks. 58x36x23 cm.



Constantin Brâncuși - *The Kiss*, Stone. 1912

Constantin Brancusi, *Sleeping Muse*, bronze, marble 1909-1910

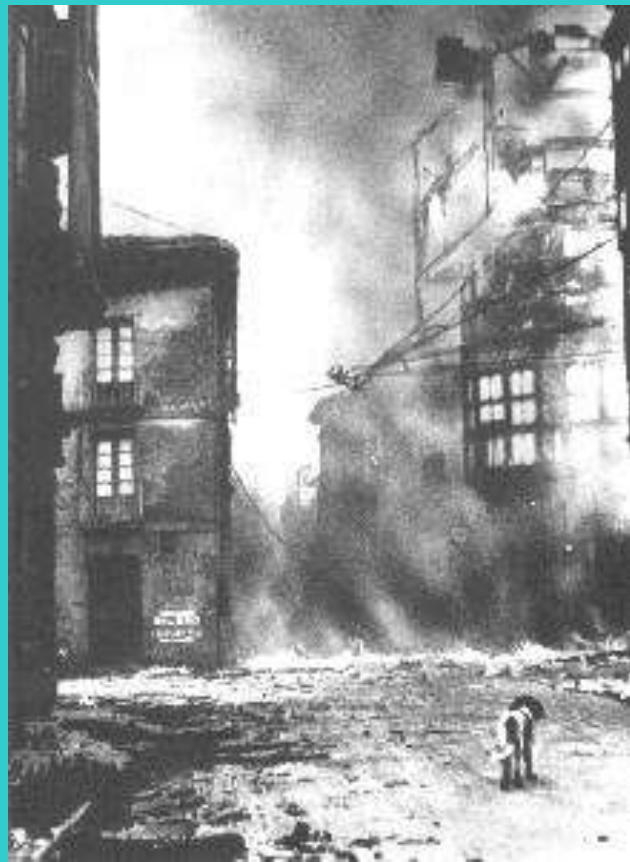




Guernica, Spain, April, 1937

The town was bombed by the Nazis who supported General Franco during the Spanish Civil War. It was the first aerial bombardment in history in which a civilian population was attacked with the apparent intent of producing total destruction.

<https://youtu.be/Q1eDytursrE>





Pablo Picasso, *Guernica*, 1937. Oil on Canvas, 11'5X25'6".

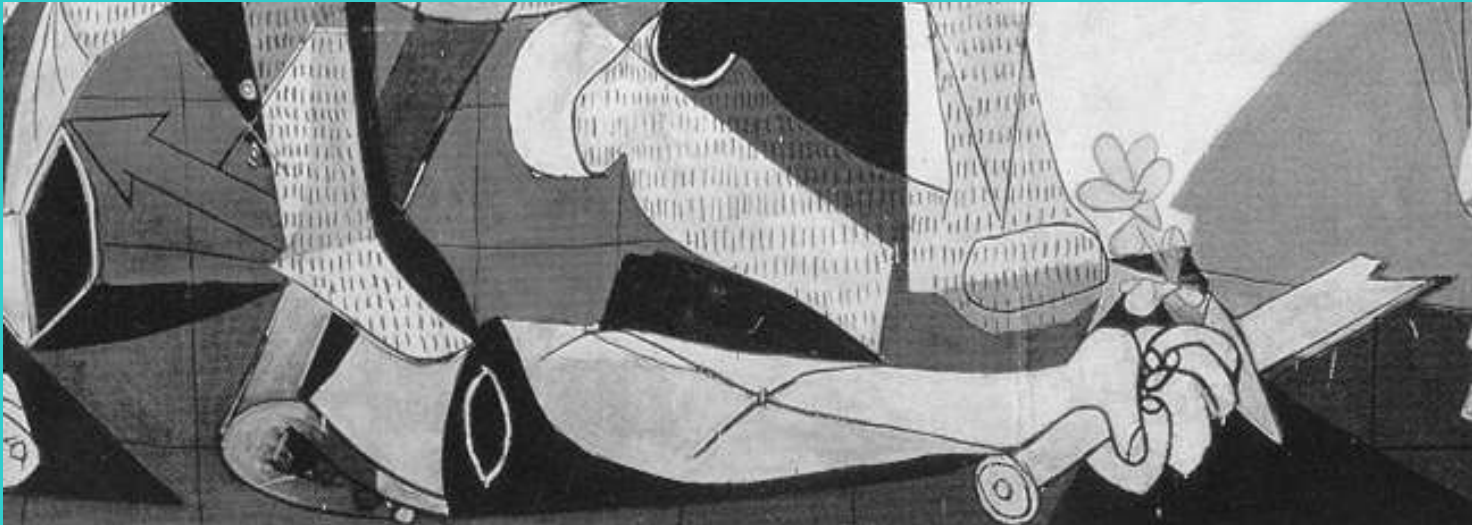
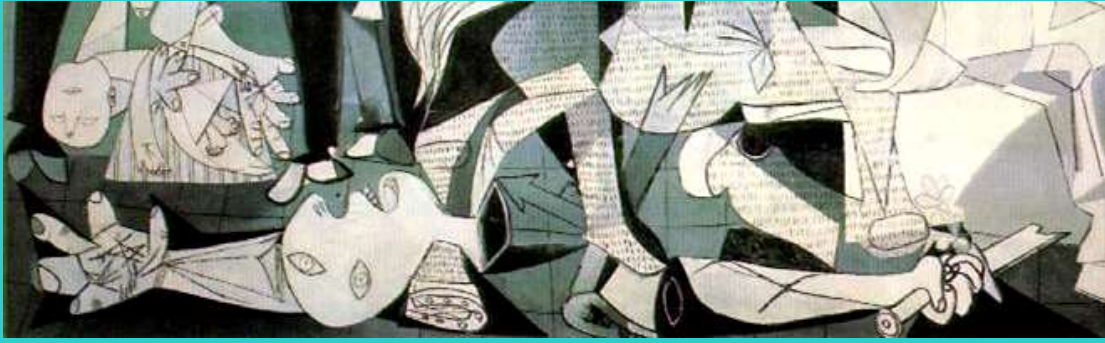
Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid

(commissioned from Picasso by the Spanish Republican government to decorate the Spanish Pavilion at the Paris International Exposition)

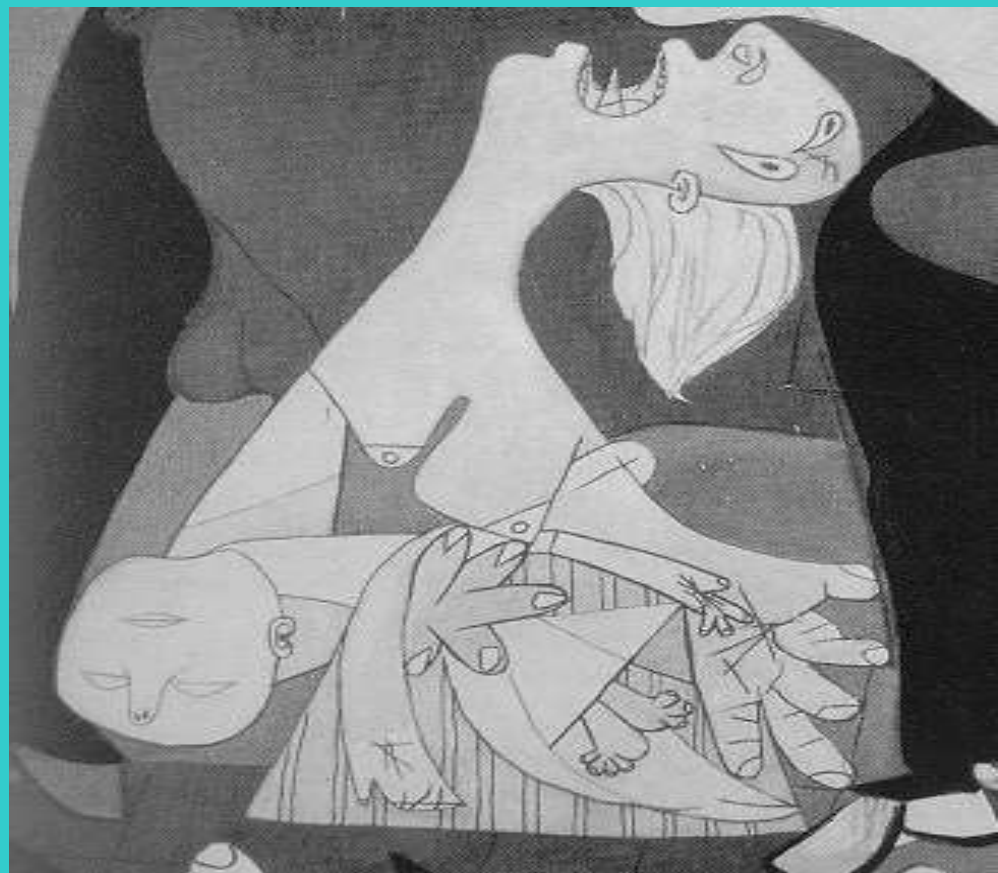


Pablo Picasso, *Guernica*.
Detail 1937. Oil on Canvas,
11'5X25'6".





Comparison:
Michelangelo, Pieta,
1498-99. Marble.
St. Peter's, Vatican, Rome.



Pablo Picasso Quotes

“Are we to paint what's on the face, what's inside the face, or what's behind it?”

“Art is the elimination of the unnecessary.”

“Bad artists copy. Good artists steal.”

“I paint objects as I think them, not as I see them.”

“It took me four years to paint like Raphael, but a lifetime to paint like a child.”

“The world today doesn't make sense, so why should I paint pictures that do?”

“Art is not the application of a canon of beauty but what the instinct and the brain can conceive beyond any canon.”

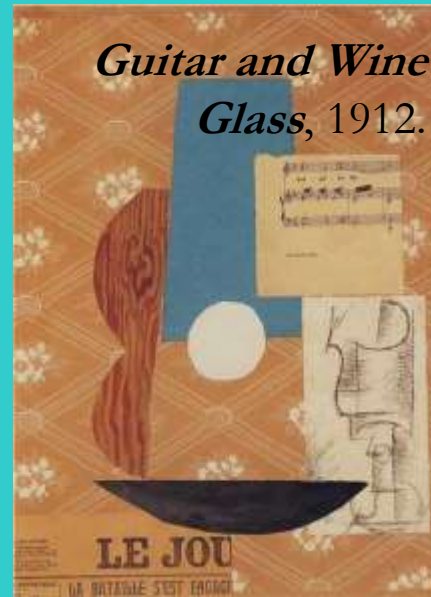


Glass of Absinthe, 1914.

Les Demoiselles d'Avignon, 1907.

Discuss Picasso's works based on his statements above.

Guernica, 1937



Guitar and Wine Glass, 1912.

