

## The Birth of Art

BCE – Before the Common Era  
CE – Common Era

### Prehistoric 35,000 BCE – 950 BCE

Paleolithic Period – 35,000 BCE – 8000 BCE

Mesolithic Period – 8000 BCE – 4000 BCE

Neolithic Period – 4000 BCE – 1500 BCE

Ancient Near East – Babylonia, Assyria, Persia

Aegean Period – 3000 BCE – 950 BCE

Crete, Mycenaean, Minoan

**Egypt** – 6000 BCE – through various kingdoms and dynasties to independence in 1922

**Africa** – 16,000 BCE - current

### Asia

Japan – 14,000 BCE – Jōmon period through various periods ending with the Edo Period 1868 CE – modern Japan  
Buddhism

India – 3300 BCE – through various empires to independence in 1947

Hindu & Buddhism Religions

China – 2100 BCE beginning of the dynasties – 1912 CE (the dynasties ended) became a Republic, 1949 People's Republic  
Buddhism/ Atheism

### Oceania / South Pacific Art – Polynesia, Australia

**The Native Arts of the Americas** – North, Central & South America – 4000 BCE - current

Meso-America – central & southern Mexico – northern Central America

Olmecs, Mayan, Aztec (Classic Periods /Pre-Columbian)

North American Indian & Eskimo

**Greek Art** – 1200 BCE – 30 CE

**Etruscan & Roman Art** – 700 BCE – 500 CE (8<sup>th</sup> C BCE – 5<sup>th</sup> C CE)

**Byzantine Art & Islamic Art / Early Christian Art** – 100 CE – 1500 CE

**Byzantine Art** – comes from the name of the town – Byzantium, the site of Constantine's capital – Constantinople (modern day Istanbul, Turkey) Constantine – Roman emperor; legally sanctioned the Christian religion – 312 CE

**Islamic Art** – 612 CE- Mohammed fled from Mecca to Medinet-en-Nabi (City of the Prophet), now Medina  
Islam spread from Arabia through the Middle East into the Indus Valley & westward across North Africa

**Middle Ages / Dark Ages / Medieval Period** – 375 CE – 1500 CE – Christianity ruled in Europe

Early Medieval – 375 – 1015 CE

Romanesque – 900 – 1150 CE

Gothic Art – 1140 – 1500 CE

**Renaissance Art** – (rebirth) 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16th Centuries (1500-1700 CE) in Europe

**Baroque Art** – 17<sup>th</sup> Century to mid-18<sup>th</sup> Century (1600-1740)

**Rococo Art** – Early to mid-18<sup>th</sup> Century (1700-1760)

**Modern Art & Architecture** – 19<sup>th</sup> Century (1800-1899) - Neoclassicism, Romantic, Realism, Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, Art Nouveau Style, Revivalism Architecture, Arts & Crafts Movement, Frank Lloyd Wright, The Bauhaus School

**20<sup>th</sup> Century Art & Architecture (1900 -1999)** - Expressionism, Les Fauves, German Expressionism, Cubism, Futurism, Early Abstraction, Modern Architecture, Dada, Surrealism, Art Deco Style, The International Style, American Regional Art, African American Modernist, Latin American Modernists, Abstract Expressionism, Minimal Art, Conceptual Art & Performance Art, Op Art, Pop Art, Neo-Realism / Photorealism, Gender-based Art, Controversial Art, Postmodern Art & Architecture, Deconstructivist Architecture

**21<sup>st</sup> Century (2000 - current)** - Global Art – Asia, Africa, Australia, Europe, India, Russia, The Americas