

Maiduguri Journal of Arts and Design (MAIDJAD)

**Departments of Fine Arts and Industrial Design
Faculty of Environmental Studies,
University of Maiduguri
P.M.B 1069
Borno State, Nigeria.**

**ISSN: 2636-445X
Volume VIII**

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**August/September, 2023
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**Printed by: KABOD LIMITED, NL 7 LOKOJA ROAD, KADUNA, KADUNA STATE
Tel No: +2348029670000
www.kabodlimited.com
info@kabodlimited.com**

**Cover Design: Sadiq Abdulkarim
Tel No: 08063298071/08022547459**

Maiduguri Journal of Arts and Design (MAIDJAD)

**Department of Fine Arts and Department Industrial Design
Faculty of Environmental Studies,
University of Maiduguri,
P.M.B 1069
Borno State, Nigeria.
Email: maidjad2016@gmail.com**

ISSN: 2636-445X

Volume VIII

August/September, 2023

MAIDJAD

Maiduguri Journal of Arts and Design is a refereed journal published bi-annually. **MAIDJAD** was founded in early 2016 in order to provide a suitable academic platform for the discussion of contemporary theories, research and practice-based activities that are broadly related to arts and design.

Our esteemed referees review each article submitted, to evaluate the quality of research and relevance to the development of academia and for accessibility of such a paper to local and international audience.

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

MANUSCRIPT FORMAT

Submissions should be typed double-spaced, fully justified, in Times New Romans with 12 Font size on A4 paper as a Microsoft document.

ABSTRACT AND KEY WORDS

All submitted papers should include an abstract of not more than 200 words and are to be accompanied with five key words to be placed immediately after the abstract section.

AUTHOR (S) IDENTIFICATION

A separate sheet indicating the title of the paper as well as the following information about the author (s) should accompany each submission: i. Full name; ii. Institutional affiliation; iii. **Active** Email address; iv. **Active** Phone number; v. Current status e.g. Professor, Dr., Senior Lecturer, etc.

SUBMISSION

All contributions are to be submitted as e-mail attachments to maidjad2016@gmail.com maidugurijournalofartsanddesign@gmail.com. The journal secretary will write to all contributors within three days to acknowledge receipt of submissions. Articles will be given to professional assessors in the appropriate areas; thereafter, they will be sent back to contributors for corrections.

REFERENCE STYLE

MIADJAD has since its Maiden Edition adopted the documentation style of the American Psychological Association (APA) 6th Edition and therefore, expects all contributors to rigorously format their references using the APA style.

Foreword

Once again, Maiduguri Journal of Arts and Design is presenting a volume of researched and peer reviewed articles: Volume VII/October/November, 2023. Maidjad wishes to thank Professor M. P. Mamza of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria who is currently on sabbatical in the Department of Fine Arts here in Maiduguri.

Professor Mamza brings his knowledge, experience and expertise far beyond the pages of this journal. He has followed it up with a Lead Paper on the Application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on Art Teaching in Higher Education, a topical issue in academic society and industry. The editorial board is thankful for its contributors. This volume contains more than 20 articles in various areas of the arts, design and human endeavours. They are diverse and address traditional scholarly concerns, cutting edge knowledge in engaging fields, the insight of practicing artists, innovations and novelties, assessments and appraisals of career concerns, gender issues, methodologies, studio practice, as well as professional prospects and constraints.

Most of the papers are joint efforts. They seem to buttress the wisdom in cooperation. Studio practice and field surveys bring new knowledge and insight, and show a vibrant community of seasoned scholars as well as younger colleagues, who have submitted carefully written papers. Maidjad continues to welcome diversity, openness, new learnings, innovation across cultures, nations, races, continents and creeds.

We are optimistic that given the right environment, our achievements can be consolidated, sustained and expanded. Our new readers are warmly welcome as well as our old friends and scholars beyond borders. This two-way process should elicit fraternal response and feedback in order to continue to push the boundaries of learning and knowledge sharing.

I wish to thank the editorial board for giving me the opportunity to write this forward, which is but a forward of welcome, since the articles are right ahead of us.

Ashiedu Peter Ogboli
Professor of Industrial Design
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20th December, 2023

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ABSTRACTS

Lead Paper

THE APPLICATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENT (AI) IN ART TEACHING AT HIGHER EDUCATION

Prof. Musa Palma Mamza

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Abstract

In the current era of technology, artificial intelligence (AI) has grown rapidly in such a way that it has established its presence in all fields. The purpose of artificial intelligence is to reduce human intervention and complete tasks with an enhanced result. Despite its rapid development, the artificial intelligence (AI) has not been deeply applied in art teaching. Hence, this paper attempts to suggest strategies for applying AI in art teaching. For this purpose, the paper reviewed the current application status of AI in art teaching and summed up the problems with these applications. Next, the advantages of AI in art teaching was analyzed in detail, and three suggested strategies were made to promote AI applications in modern art teaching, namely: expand the adaptability of AI based art teaching; improve the intelligent teaching mode of art teaching; and enhance the artistic experience and atmosphere of AI-based art teaching.

The proposed strategies can quantify the application effect of AI in art teaching, and it has a good application potential.

Keywords: Art teaching; artificial intelligence (AI); tertiary institutions; technology

STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING THE TEACHING OF FINE ARTS IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COLLEGES IN ADAMAWA STATE

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Abstract

A survey was carried out on strategies for improving the teaching of Fine Arts in Federal Government Colleges in Adamawa State. The objectives of the paper include: establishing teaching strategies that could improve the teaching of Fine Arts, as well as, identifying the factors influencing the choice of these teaching strategies used. The hypotheses include HO₁: There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of teachers and students on the strategies for improving the teaching of Fine Arts. HO₂: There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of teachers and students on the factors that influence the choice of teaching strategies used. The research instrument was made up of a questionnaire which is divided into two sections with parts I to III. The Colleges studied were Federal Government College-Ganye, Federal Government Technical College- Michika and Federal Government Girls' College- Yola. Eighteen Fine Arts' teachers and ninety students were purposively sampled. Statistical mean was used to answer the research questions, while t- test was employed to test the null hypothesis. The findings revealed that, among the fifteen items on part I; the use of appropriate instructional materials while teaching; the provision of enough equipment and facilities; taking students on regular fieldtrips/ excursions to museums and galleries; relating teaching to real life situations and demonstration method for teaching practical lessons in Fine Arts, regular fieldtrips or excursions to museums and galleries, qualified Fine arts teachers with comprehensive knowledge of Art History/ Appreciation and manipulative crafts' skills required to teach the subject. All these were identified as important and necessary strategies for improving the teaching of Fine Arts in Federal Government Colleges in Adamawa State. Based on the findings, recommendation was made for improvement: a workshop on teaching strategies should be organized for Fine Arts teachers annually to enable them update their knowledge and skills. Qualified and competent Fine arts'

teachers only should be employed to teach the subject in Federal Government Colleges. The Federal Ministry of Education should provide relevant facilities and equipment to aid Art Education in the State.

Keywords: National Policy on Education, Strategies, Fine Arts, Applied Arts, Teachers, Classroom.

ALTERNATIVE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY FOR PRACTICE-BASED RESEARCHERS IN PURSUANCE OF RESEARCH DEGREES IN ART AND DESIGN

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Abstract

Recent studies have revealed that a lot of postgraduate students conducting research in disciplines related to the Nigerian built environment are prone to adopting positivist (quantitative) research tools in the conduct of their researches. Although, some adopt mixed-method research tools together i.e., quantitative and qualitative. However, most of such studies have not been able to make significant contributions to the built environment as they are most frequently just data generation conduits. There is an obvious deficit in the research of actually building, creating and developing things. This paper deliberates on encouraging the transition of postgraduate research conduct in the School of Environmental Technology, of the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria from the perennial use of quantitative surveys tools to the adoption of qualitative, constructive and performative research tools. The author, relying on personal experience, described the problem of an over reliance by postgraduate students and their supervisors on quantitative research methods to audit almost all social science phenomena studied in the built environment. This discourse also advocates for the construction or making of prototypes, products, and models; instead of surveys, as they are supposed to be at the centre and the key means for constructing knowledge in the built environment. Hence, the paper reviews a third methodology, which findings suggest cannot merely be subsumed under the qualitative research framework, but rather has employed its own distinctive research approach with its own strategies and methods. This paper suggests that the third paradigm would be most apt for practice related studies in Art and Design and the built environment.

Keywords: Research, Practice, Built-Environment, Prototype, Reflexivity

A PLASTIC REPRESENTATION OF CHILD ABUSE IN MAIDUGURI AND ENVIRONS IN PAINTING

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Abstract

The researcher aimed at producing a painting to depict emotional and difficult state of children within Maiduguri and its surroundings. Research area, objectives of research and relevance are concentrate on Maiduguri and environment. Rights of a Child is also stated, and emphasizes the conditions of the child within their environment by observation, definition, analysis and classification. This research also presents visual analysis in pencil, water colour sketches and final Painting project work in oil on canvas. The summary and conclusion can be seen and read in the presentation.

Keywords: emotional, difficult, right of a child, analysis, oil on canvas, Maiduguri.

CONTEMPORARY ART AND SOCIO-CULTURAL ISSUES: IMPACT OF NIGERIAN FEMINIST ART EXPRESSIONS ON GENDER SENSITIVITY

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Abstract

Feminist ideas infiltrated Nigeria in the 1970s from the western world. Pre-1970 Nigerian art was male-dominated and renditions of females in artworks were mythical, archetypical, idyllic, generic and metaphorical. The realities of the times, changes in the status of women in society and their effects as well as gender issues were hardly reflected in the popular artworks. The few female artists that practiced, did not express any form of feminism until the 1980s. Since then, they have made inputs that are historical, and represent visual symbols of socio-cultural changes which evaluate the Nigerian state and point to national reformation. Gender issues and female positioning are vital aspects of society that have recently and eloquently been addressed. This paper traces the gradual growth of feminist art from the 1970s; examines comparatively the thematic differences between male and female art on gender, and how female artists distinguish their femininity. The themes, issues addressed and how they impact gender sensitivity in a socio-cultural sense make up the core of the paper. Data collected from interviews, photographs, exhibitions, internet search, and literature sources, supported the research. Twenty-two Nigerian female artists were purposively selected for this study. The results show that several impediments affect the practice of art by females in Nigeria. These include: few females in art training and practice, traditional restrictions, lack of funds, domestic encumbrances, maternity, and other social pressures. The outcome is the sporadic art practice by most Nigerian female artists. Despite these negatives, there is visual expressive trend on issues relating to Nigerian socio-political structures, social lopsidedness, crimes against women and abuses of female vulnerability. The impact of these artworks on gender sensitivity show new male and female perception of female physiology, procreation, family life, rights and privileges, and choice of vocations among others. Presently, repositioning of females in society is a conscious effort globally and Nigerian female artists are participating in articulating the trends. It is anticipated that this paper will stimulate new thoughts, scholarship and future interrogation in feminist art.

Keywords: Contemporary Art, Feminist Art, Gendered Art, Gender Sensitivity, Nigerian Art, Socio-Cultural Issues.

ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF PRACTICE-LED AND PRACTICE-BASED RESEARCHES FOR EFFECTIVE INTEGRATION AMONG CREATIVE DESIGN SCHOLARS

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Abstract

This paper presents an assessment of the impact of practice-led and practice-based research methods among scholars in enhancing knowledge, creativity, research skill and design output. The aim of this study is to evaluate the benefits and challenges of practice-led and practice-based research methods in creative design studios. The study draws on insights and experiences from a range of design practitioners and academics, and seeks to identify benefits, opportunities and key challenges associated with these research approaches. Through critical analysis, the paper discusses ways in which combining practice-led and practice-based research methods can improve innovation, creativity and research skills in design. The paper concludes by recognizing the importance of integrating scholarly inquiry with practical application, blurring the boundaries between theory and practice.

Key Words: Knowledge, Creativity, Research Skill and Design Output.

ASSESSMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY AMONGST CREATIVE DESIGN ADVERTISING PRACTITIONERS IN LAGOS, NIGERIA.

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Abstract

The creative department is the power house of any advertising agency from which effective communication materials are conceived and produced for the benefit of consumers. The aim of this paper is to demographically evaluate gender equality amongst creative design advertising practitioners. This is with the view to ascertaining the degree of gender equality within the advertising agencies' occupational structure and practice in Lagos, Nigeria. This paper examined how female creative design practitioners are under-represented and why they suffer slow career progression in the industry. The study examined how social, structural and institutional factors have influenced the level of inequality found in advertising agencies. Questionnaire and interview tools were deployed to ascertain the existing preconceptions about the creative design practitioners and practices in advertising agencies in Lagos, Nigeria. About forty questionnaires were administered while six interviews were conducted among the practitioners. Gender equality has been a major problem with the creative departments in advertising agencies and this research has revealed that men outnumbered women in the occupational structure and practice within the advertising agencies. The study therefore advocates the need to create a structure that supports gender equality in the creative departments whereby making it more flexible and conducive to accommodate female creative practitioners in advertising agencies.

Keywords- Creative Department, Gender Equality, Advertising, Practitioner

ACCEPTABILITY OF CRAFTED ARTICLES FOR INTERIOR DECORATION IN BADAGRY, LAGOS STATE-NIGERIA

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Abstract

Crafted articles are the result of people's desire to improve upon the world by utilizing nature's benevolence. Such articles could serve as a driving force for sustainable development and industrialization in a given economy; for there seems to be a conscious non-awareness of the value, potentials and significance in normal everyday life. This study assesses the acceptability of crafted articles for interior decoration in Badagry, Lagos State. Specifically, the study identified various types of crafted articles produced in Badagry and determined the acceptability of Badagry crafted home decoration. The study adopted a descriptive study design, from a stratified random sampling technique was used to draw 0.06% from the total population (n=120). A structured questionnaire consisting of five sections was used to collect data using statistical package 20 and was presented in percentages, standard deviation and mean. The study revealed that craft decoration is less expensive; craft decoration improves the people's culture and value. Accordingly, 50% of the respondents identified wood craft as a home decoration. Most of the respondents strongly agree that craft decoration is more natural than artificial ones. Effort should be made by the Ministry of Art and Tourism on the acceptance of crafted home decoration in Badagry and in all parts of Nigeria instead of importing home decoration.

Keywords: Crafts, Interior Decoration, Badagry, Industrial Design, Culture, Economy

SOME ASPECTS OF THE PRACTICE OF KANURI TRADITIONAL CIRCUMCISION IN MAIDUGURI, BORNO STATE, NIGERIA.

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Abstract

Boko Haram insurgency in the Northeast began in Maiduguri in 2009 and has lasted for over a decade. While directing the focus of government towards conflict resolution and peacebuilding over these years, the insurgency had had a massive threat on the sustainability of cultural practices. The conflict which has seen an influx of NGOs troop in to Maiduguri for humanitarian assistance also has an implication in terms of changes in the beliefs and attitudes of people towards ritual practices like traditional circumcision. This study unveils the changes in attitudes and beliefs of Kanuri people in the post-insurgency period. The methodology adopted for the study is qualitative, utilising Focus Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews. Secondary data were also sourced from available literature. The study found that there have been certain changes in the attitudes towards the traditional circumcision due to insurgency that has displaced the people thereby, making sustainability difficult. The study also found that factors like religion and accessible modern healthcare services have impacted on the practice. On the other hand, the study also found that the wisdom behind the circumcision is that it unites and creates avenue for peaceful coexistence among families and children in the community. As a result, the study recommends that there should be synergy between the government, traditional institutions (including traditional circumcisers) and health care organisations in putting heads together in order to uphold the ideals of peaceful coexistence of the circumcision while sanitizing the surgical procedures.

Keywords: Insurgency, Circumcision, Synergy, Traditional Institutions, Sustainability

POTENTIALS OF ART AND CRAFT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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Abstract

Art and craft are skillful activities that affect almost every aspect of life that influences the scientific, cultural and technological development of children. Art and craft are panacea for children's mental growth and development. They serve as foundation and spring-board for children's educational growth. This paper discusses the significance of art and craft in the total mental growth and development of children, especially their education and career. The research method adopted in this study to arrive at the findings is studio experimentation/observation. It was discovered that art and craft basically help children achieve among others: improve coordination or motor skills, communication skills, critical thinking, and socialization. Others are arithmetic/mathematical development, self-esteem, creativity, and creating opportunities. The paper recommends that the teaching of art and craft at the elementary and basic education be prioritized, and possibly be made compulsory. This could help the children to comprehend faster and better, and also excel in other subjects both at the basic and other levels of education, and even in their future careers. Furthermore, parents should encourage their children and wards by acquiring art/craft materials and teaching them how to use these at home. Government should provide adequate art/craft materials in schools for children to engage themselves with, as well as employ enough qualified art and craft teachers among others.

Keywords: Art, Craft, Children, Early childhood, Education.

BEAUTY IN CONTEXT: AN EXPOSITORY STUDY OF BODY AESTHETICS AMONG AFRICANS

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Abstract

This paper investigates beauty in the context of body aesthetics among Africans; this is with a view to understanding different meaning and purposes of body aesthetics in the African culture. It examines aesthetics as an idea of what is beautiful or artistic, the way something looks, especially when considered in terms of how pleasing it is. The paper probed into African hairdressing, tattooing, scarification, body painting, dress, clothing, and jewelries among others as the principal means of body aesthetics among Africans. Data for the study were collected through field investigation which includes participant observation and visual media sources. Data were also collected from relevant literature such as textbooks, journal articles, as well as Internet sources. Data collected were subjected to art historical analysis. The paper argued that Africans cherish the way they look; and, enhancement of beauty, identification purposes, as well as distinction of social status are among the diverse reasons that have aided the practice of body aesthetics among Africans. It concludes that the perception, adoration, appraisal, and all the principles of natural beauty depend largely upon the epoch as well as the individual culture's ability to judge aesthetically.

Keywords: African, Aesthetics, Beauty, Body Adornment, Tattooing, Scarification, Ornamentation

SEMIOTICS AND ABSTRACT REALISM IN THE PAINTINGS OF JIMMY NWANNE, HARRISON IDAHOSA AND IBE ANANABA: A SAUSSURIAN STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

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Abstract

This paper delves into the fascinating realm where abstract and realistic elements converge in painting, with a particular focus on semiotic analysis. Through an exploration of how artists navigate the interplay between representation and abstraction, the study aims to unveil the creation of a distinctive visual language that surpasses traditional boundaries. By investigating symbols, signs, and meanings, this research sheds light on the semiotics and abstract realism and their profound implications in art as an emotive tool for expressing societal concerns. Ferdinand de Saussure's theory of the signifier and the signified provides valuable insights of how meaning is constructed through the relationship between abstraction and realism in the artworks by Jimmy Nwanne, Harrison Idahosa and Ibe Ananaba. Ultimately, this study seeks to unravel the captivating fusion of abstract and realistic expressions, providing a fresh perspective on the multifaceted nature of art and its ability to communicate profound messages through a dynamic amalgamation of styles.

Keywords: Semiotics, Abstract Realism, Signifier, Signified, Symbols.

INCORPORATING SHORT CLAY INTO CLAY BODY COMPOSITIONS AS ALTERNATIVE TO GROG IN ORDER TO MITIGATE DEFECTS FOR CERAMIC BEGINNERS

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Abstract

Ceramic production often faces challenges such as warping, cracking and excessive shrinkage at drying and bisque firing state. Traditionally, grog, a filler material, is added to clay bodies to address these issues. However, beginners encounter difficulties in incorporating grog due to its demanding preparation process. This paper proposes an alternative approach to mitigate these defects among ceramic beginners by introducing short clay into clay body compositions. Shrinkage, plasticity and absorption porosity tests were conducted on various clay body composed with grog and short clay. Results indicated that 20% to 30% short clay could effectively replace the usual 10% grog content. The recommendation is to utilize 20% to 30% short clay in body compositions of ball clay and kaolin as alternative to 10% grog.

Keywords: Ceramic Body Defects, Ceramic Beginners, Grog, Short Clay

TO OWN, BENEFIT AND SUSTAIN: RETHINKING MUSEUM CONCEPT AND PRACTICE IN AFRICA

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Abstract

The development of any people or society is at the heart of the definition of the Museum as an institution. It is no news that Euro-American museums owe a large part of their reputation and successes to the large collection of tangible African cultural pieces that grace their exhibitions. On the contrary, African museums, where these important cultural pieces originate from (and where in recent times contentious issues have been raised about these artefacts), have not recorded such successes, while the societies which they serve barely remember they exist. This is mainly because the concept of the museum as an institution is to a large extent alien to the typical African who does not feel attached to this institution, hence does not benefit from the services they offer. It can be said that this disconnect between the museum institution and the typical African has contributed greatly to the extremely slow pace of growth of the institution in the continent. In this light, the major preoccupation of this paper is to identify the reason(s) behind this stunted growth, using the Museums in Borno State, Northeast Nigeria as case study. It employed qualitative research methodology using focus group discussions, interviews and review of scholarly articles/materials for data collection. Through engagement with museum professionals and some indigenes of the state, the chapter came up with a new African Museology model/concept that hinges on the concepts of community ownership, community participation, cultural vitality and cultural sustainability.

Keywords: Museum, Cultural Sustainability, Development, Community Ownership, Community Participation and Cultural Vitality

EXAMINING LIFE IN MY CITY ART FESTIVAL AS A SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR EMERGING PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

Since its inception in 2007, Life in My City Art Festival (LIMCAF) has continued to evolve as a major support system for emerging professional artists in Nigeria. With over 15 years of sustained yearly event, LIMCAF has become Nigeria's biggest and longest running visual art festival with special focus on young professionals. This paper examines the evolution of Life in My City Art Festival from its humble beginning in 2007, to its current unprecedented status with over N6,400,000 (Six Million, Four Hundred Thousand Naira) in prize money for diverse categories of award. To evaluate the impact of LIMCAF as a support system for emerging professional artists, the study tracks the growth of some of the prize winners and participants over the years in order to ascertain how their involvement in the annual event has transformed their practice. Findings show that, apart from the motivation of the prize money instituted by notable sponsors, mentorship, interactions, healthy competition, shared experiences, and exposure through other well-designed LIMCAF platforms have contributed immensely as support systems to the professional growth of these young contemporary Nigerian artists.

Keywords: Support System, Emerging Professionals, Mentorship, Platforms, Professional Growth

THE SYMBOLISM OF SHOEPRINTS IN PAINTING

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Abstract

Shoeprints are impressions created and left behind by shoe soles as people walk around. These impressions are impressive in their shapes and patterns, which are either organic or geometric by orientation. These aesthetic impressions are equally symbolic because they are either bold and clear prints or faint and weak prints. This article examines the symbolic content of the abundant environmental impressions called shoeprints which mimic the phenomenal existential issues connected to the attributes of human life span, such as growth, good health, strength, ill-health, weakness, and death due to the process of aging. These phenomenal existential issues have been symbolized by the shoeprint paintings in this article. The Studio-based research methodology was adopted for this paper and the study revealed that symbolism in painting remains a potent channel for representing life issues that are difficult to capture in painting since they are intangible. A symbol is something that stands for or represents another entity even if the two are not identical, but in an aspect appear to share a common characteristic. New shoe soles produce bold and clear prints, while old shoe soles generate fading and weak prints. In the same vein, young people are strong and full of energy, while old people are weak and exhibit diminishing energy. The human lifespan is mirrored by these shoeprints, and the study concluded that the human environment is full of visual statements which artists should observe and appreciate as inspiration for their creativity.

Keywords: Shoeprints, Shapes and Patterns, Symbolism

SYNTHESIS OF NANO SODIUM-CALCIUM SILICATE (COMBEITE) BIOACTIVE CERAMICS IN GLASSY MATRIX

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Abstract

This study focuses on the use of rice husk ash (RHA) silica for the production of glass ceramics. Rice husk was pre-treated, and carbonised to drive out volatile matter, and as well as ash at 700°C. The XRF result of rice husk ash shows 79.98% SiO₂, 1.80% P₂O₃, 0.42% Na₂O, 1.54% CaO, 0.05% BaO, 0.11% TiO₂. A solution of this composition prepared with Sodium hydroxide, titrated against a solution of calciumtrioxonitrate(iv) tetrahydrate and trioxonitrate (v) acid. The gel formed was dried to powder. The XRD Pattern of the product showed the presence of sodium calcium silicate phase (Na₄Ca₄SiO₆O₁₈) combeite which belong to the bioactive ceramics family. The SEM showed a circular morphology of glass ceramics in glassy matrix with Energy Dispersive X-ray analysis (EDS) elemental spectra showing Si, Ca, P and Na.

Keywords: Synthesis, Nano, Combeite, Ceramics, Matrix

PLASTIC WASTE WEAVING AS A POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

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Abstract

Waste management in recent time has become burden to our society because of the increase in demand of food and beverages packs in plastic. This has resulted in excessive generation of plastic wastes which majority of it are non-biodegradable ones. These plastics has caused serious damage to the environment which in turn affects both human and non-human beings negatively. This study showed ways of curbing environmental degradation of plastic wastes and ways how plastic waste was collected and used innovatively. The objectives are to exhibit on plastic wastes, and to underscore innovation of plastic in weaving as a means of controlling waste in our environment. Findings revealed that plastic wastes effect has damaged the environment and that humanity also suffers the consequences of such wastes in health challenges. With innovation of plastic weaving, plastic wastes can be made into art creation, as well as other useful objects thereby freeing the environment from such wastes. It is therefore recommended that such novel ideas be incorporated into our educational system in order to boost waste management.

Keywords: Environmental, Management, Plastic, Weaving, Innovation.

ADAPTING DAMBE AS A CREATIVE RESOURCE IN PAINTING

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Abstract

The research “**Adapting Dambe as a creative resource in painting**” was a studio based research and experimentation carried out to make paintings using *Dambe*. As there is no painting documentation of “*Dambe*” a traditional boxing in contemporary Nigerian painting, hence the problem of this research. The study examines, through preliminary sketches the traditional boxing known as *Dambe*. While the objectives are to create paintings of traditional boxing, using expressionist painting techniques and to explore different media compositions that can address contemporary abstract expressions in studio practice. The concept used in the study is an expressionist style. Traditional boxing compositions were explored from representational, developmental and abstractions and produced in painting. The inspiration taken from *Dambe*, an aspect of Hausa culture enabled the researcher to create illusion of forms using malleable methods of painting in order to create geometry within the forms as in concepts of expressionism. Literature and works that were relevant to this study were reviewed and the methodology was the qualitative method applied in studio based practice. Data consisted of photographs and sketches which were used for exploration stages of representational developmental and abstraction. The developmental stage was furthered into abstraction as set in the research objectives. The study revealed that paintings can be created on the picture plane by the arrangement of compositional elements using *Dambe* as subject matter. It revealed that the dissolution of forms also brought about a new expression. It is recommended that more explorations can be produced from indigenous cultures; new techniques and cultural explorations in painting can be used in schools to stimulate creativity in students. The study added to gallery of Nigerian contemporary painting by producing paint explorations of *Dambe*.

Keywords: *Dambe*, Creative Resource, Painting, Traditional Boxing, Abstraction

EXPLORATION OF TIV CULTURAL MOTIFS AND SYMBOLS IN EXPRESSIVE CLAY FORMS

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Abstract

Contemporary ceramics artists are breaking new ground in creativity in their expanding genres. Novel forms of art have resonated as a result, of artists exploring the generally accepted norms and principles of regular, thereby breaking boundaries and resulting in new nuances in art. The exploration of Tiv cultural motifs and symbols in expressive clay forms are works inspired by the Tiv cultural heritage. The works produced are based on the philosophy of conceptual art, which places value on ideas than on the aesthetic qualities of the artworks. The works analyse is seen as a contribution to the development of Contemporary ceramics practice in Nigeria and the promotion of the Tiv cultural heritage.

Keywords: Contemporary, Motifs, Symbols, Mhii, Dynamic, Tradition
