

THE CAP LECTURE

I. Introduction:

1. Salutation
2. Opening Remarks – The term "modern" art is an abused term so the least we use the term the better for us.

II. Body: (Briefly explain) We have to demolish the unsettling problem of art appreciation if we have to have peace of mind and spiritual satisfaction in our assessment with art works.

1. Polar extremes of tensions – to explain the existence of "isms" =
2. Going straight is going round and round(spatial continuum)
3. The two levels of art
 - a. The level that obeys the cosmic order. (relativity)
 - b. The level that behaves randomly (quantum dynamic) (the artist or atom).
In this level, art becomes a perpetual rubatto.
4. The responsibility of the artist is to produce works of quality with integrity and honesty This can only be achieved through study: formal or informal: but study he must. It is wishful thinking to believe that one can become a good artist without study. I remember seeing art students in the Louvre in Paris and the Museo del Prado in Madrid religiously copying the paintings of the great masters not to become copyists but to study the nuances of technique and to be infected by that high sense of taste and feeling common among masters. Among the Spanish students, Goya seems to be the more popular artist for emulation. I wish we had the same museums where students can study and where the general public can satisfy artistic cravings. Needless to say, the great masters were also master craftsmen.

As I said a while ago that representational art is the polar extreme of non-objective or pure abstraction that each one of them is just as important and as valid as the other. Appreciating them should be natural. I remember an American lady who told me that when a friend of hers went rapturous over a piece of pure abstraction, she was so scandalized that she would not talk to her anymore. That was pure ignorance on the lady's part.

Going to an art opening is like going to a concert. One has to be alert, responsive and ready to accept something artistically new and vital. It does one no good to attend an art opening or a concert with a pre-set mind bent on criticizing pieces one cannot understand.

We, who will look at a painting or who will listen to a concert will not only be judging an artistic work but will also be judged by how we assess the art pieces on display. We also have the responsibility to give justice to the emerging artists.

The exhibition in this art opening humbly invite us to honestly study their work, hoping that in so doing, we will be able to appreciate a part of their artistic dream.

I thank you.

MARTINO A.ABELLANA
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