O’Keeffe Georgia

By: Selena Yang

“I feel there is something unexplored about woman that only a woman can explore.”- Georgia O’Keeffe

Artwork 1 Jimson Weed Artwork 2 Poppy

 

Artist biographical information:

Georgia O’Keeffe is a significant internationally known female artist in the twenty century. Her distinct artwork of flowers, landscapes, cityscape, cityscape, and animal bones are original and icon contribution to American art.

O’Keeffe was born on November 15, 1887. In 1905-1906, she studied at the Art Institute of Chicago, and in 1907-1908, she studied at the Art Students League in New York. She learned to paint realist painting under the direction of William Merritt Chase, F. Luis Mora, and Kenyon Cox, but she shifted her style dramatically after in 1912 she studied the revolutionary ideas of Arthur Wesley Dow.

Dow’s emphasis on design and composition in realism influenced O’Keeffe. She experimented while she taught art in South Carolina and west Texas. She began to draw abstract art with charcoal in 1915, which breaks the tradition radically, and made her one of the first artist practicing pure abstraction.

O’Keeffe mailed some of her abstract artworks to a friend in New York City, who showed them to an art dealer internationally known photographer, Alfred Stieglitz, who was the first to exhibit her artwork in 1916, and he eventually became her husband.

By the mid-1920s, O’Keeffe becomes one of America’s most important and successful artists. Her painting of New York skyscraper and flowers becomes an essentially modern American image.

In the summer of 1929, O’Keeffe made trip to Northern New Mexico. The landscape and architectures inspired a new direction of O’Keeffe’s artwork. She lived in Mexico for two decades. Two years after her husband, Stieglitz’s death, she permanently moved to there in 1949.

In 1950, she started to travel internationally. In the age of 73, she painted a new series on sky and river.

In 1972, in suffering from her eyesight, she painted the last oil painting.

On March 6, 1986, Georgia O’Keeffe died in Santa Fe, at the age of 98.

Art movement Information:

Georgia O’Keeffe’s urban works are associated with Precisionism, which is known as Cubist Realism; an American art movement began in 1920’s and ends at the end of World War II. It is a combination of cubism and realism.

Precisionism is a style of painting the object is realistically depicted, and it is emphasis on the geometrical form of the object. Some other artist who also involved with this movement or style are Charles DeMuth, Preston Dickinson, Louis Lozowich, and Charle Sheeler. The subject and style of these artists accomplished are with careful precision.

Modernism:

O’Keeffe’s later paintings are categorized as Modernism. This style is referred to a period of art from 1860’s through 1970’s, when the artists decide to create new style of art other than traditional art. Modern art is special by the characteristics of changing attitudes about art an interest in contemporary events as subjects, personal artistic expression, and freedom from realism.

Questions

1. What is O’Keeffe’s painting style?

2. Why is O’Keeffe famous?

Links

<http://www.okeeffemuseum.org/about-georgia-okeeffe/#tab_her-art>

<http://www.georgiaokeeffe.net/>

<http://www.georgiaokeeffe.net/jimson-weed.jsp>

<http://www.georgiaokeeffe.net/poppy.jsp>

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