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An artistic way to the preservation of the environment by the use of trash art

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Abstract

The increasing amount of waste generated worldwide is a serious problem and a significant threat to the environment. Waste and garbage pollutions are a massive problem in our world, and if we don't act soon, then there may be no tomorrow for our future generations. For environmental conservation, several artists all over the world have already been working and creating a master art piece from waste & unutilized materials. We know as art has no restriction. Therefore, artists are free to create an art form from any objects available to them. In this research paper we have tried to explore and analysis, the significance of trash art into some significant points; paper is also related to the dangers of the existence of the environment and suggests some possible remedial measures for environmental conservation. This study is based on secondary data and descriptive research methodology. It is also aware of people to recycle waste things through waste management and trash/recycled art.

Keywords: Recycled art, environmental conservation, ecological, reused, go green, save earth

Introduction



Fig 1: Plastic destroys nature

Art is everywhere, influencing us every day, whether we realise it or not. Art that is surrounded us, whether it's painting, or architectures, heritages, music, or even videos are a massive impact on our mood and emotions. Art is such a powerful medium that can increase knowledge and awareness of the people. Human beings feelings get more understandable through art. Its supremacy is well renowned. Creating art through discarded objects has become a world-famous master art piece, and many examples are found in India and abroad like, Rock Garden Chandigarh, Seven wonder-parks in South Delhi etc.

Plastic destroys nature

Plastic bottles are easy-to-use, inexpensive, but they are responsible for creating an imbalance in our ecosystem. Plastic bottles have harmful chemicals and heavy metals that leach into the soil, especially under the hot and humid condition, which further leads to soil pollution. There are so many disadvantages to using plastics products. So, we should 'say no to plastic' bottle and items.

Plastic bottles and wastage are a grave threat to our environment. Due to its non-bio degradable nature, it creates soil pollution that further leads to an imbalance in our ecosystem and happy life. Art has an important influence on a happy and healthy life.

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Things which we see useless in our day to day life like broken glass, a ceramic mug, cup-plate, bangles etc.; artist through these things can create those things which we couldn't conceptualise. Many Artists in India are using waste materials to develop master art piece through Recycled art like artist Mr. Neck Chand Saini, Vivan Sundaram, Arun Kumar HG, Satish Gujral, Illyas Ahmed, Shabnam Gupta, Brind Miller, Kausik Mukhopadhyay, Subodh Gupta, Radhika & Madhvi Khaitan, Robin Passi and many more. Vivan Sundaram is the Delhi-based an artist, who uses dump yard junks to create many artworks and large installations. Recently, Vivan Sundaram has presented 45 garments made of everyday stuff like surgical gloves, ties, cycle tubes, Chinese bras, paper cups, collars & wire mesh in an international art exhibition. K Sasikumar named artist, to deliver a social welfare message, use a metal rod from scrap shops that people should reduce wastes and maximise the utility of things. Contemporarily, different corners from the nation are many young artists do not throw away any trash; they manage to use scraps and household waste into beautiful work of art. Grishma Verma is an artist who individualises in making trash art using the old parts of machines and industrial waste. It was her passion for the junk, which challenged her to turn waste into artistic, beautiful objects, which could contribute to the creation of spicy artwork in the field of art. Another Vadodara-based art promoter Sachin Kaluskar had prepared an art show during the road safety week. Artists made impressive art sculptures, installations and artwork using old helmets and scraps automobile parts. This was very much appreciated by the viewers.

Many Indian artists are thinking and creating trash artworks. Such type thinking and artefacts can bring the change in our throwaway society. The talented artist can manipulate in a unique way social welfare narrative to get a new message across the society. In the Western world, many artists have been making strong statements via their recycled artworks. These eminent artists are Thomas Deininger, Andrew Chase, Vik Muniz, Jane Perkins, Guerra de la Paz, PASCAL BEJEANIN, Bernard Pras, El Anatsui, Roberto Vaccara etc. The king of trash art, El Anatsui, the Ghanaian artist uses flattened liquor bottle caps to communicate his thoughts to the world. He is hailed as a global star, and his works are creating a bustling in the global art world. With the thinking of environmental conservation, Eastern & Western artists are using garbage as an art medium in his artworks, which can contribute to the development of civilised society by changing of our society's mentality of the use and throw culture.

Methodology

Descriptive, Narrative, Historical, Analytical.

For this paper, the author has studied those books written by scholar and great writer which are related to trash art and environment provided the rear and hidden information about the trash art. The current study is based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data based on the researcher has visited several Art Fair, Exhibition and conferences/seminars in different parts of India, e.g. Art Fair at Delhi, Mumbai, Lucknow, Varanasi, and Allahabad etc. Secondary data has been collected from local, national and international newspapers, magazines, published articles, e-books, websites and all e-resources etc.

Research questions

My study has designed to investigate three research questions:

- Why artist are doing and turning towards trash art?
- How artists are protecting our planet by creating art from waste materials?
- What do findings suggest for improving and deals with environmental issue to demonstrating an artistic path through the trash/recycled art?

Whether it's the demo of e-waste and its hazards, waste management, or creating innovative art out of waste, the Kala Ghoda Arts Festival has succeeded in highlighting environmental issues and the importance of recycling.

Discussions

Environment problem has become a matter of universal concern, not just the problem of community or any particular country. In such unfavourable circumstances, it is necessary to all the citizens of the world recognise their environmental issues and make their contribution to resolve them. If this is not taken into consideration, then climate change, burning heat and melting glacier will endanger the existence of all organisms, including humans. Environmental protection we should celebrate as a celebration. Encourage the people to take a pledge to plant a tree at every happy occasion at home. By which our future generations should be safe. It is also our responsibility to explain the importance of creating sensitivity to the environment in children. If we teach children planting trees and farming in school activities, then it will also be good for the environment. By these activities, children will easily understand the importance of environment and grains. As a result, they will not be going to throw grains as waste food. All of us should bring about a new change in understanding your responsibilities towards environmental protection. Green Land, pollution free air and pure water have the right to our future generations, which we can all make available to them together.



Fig 2

Preservation of the environment through trash art

Art knows that there is no limitation to it. Artists are free to create art from any object or material that is available to them. Using recyclable materials to make art is beneficial for the environment. Garbage is readily available everywhere and there is no cost to it while reducing the amount of waste in the form of art and helping to make it something useful. In the recycled arts, artists are trying to create new meanings out of it for future generations by arranging the objects in an entirely new idea and ways. And it is closely related to Save Earth or Go for Green movement. Trash art also contributes to environmental conservation. Trash art is becoming more and more popular

to create awareness to the public about reusing and recycling their unwanted or no longer needed items. Artists are commonly used discarded objects such as broken saw blades, old sinks, and so on to create art. Found art was initially described by Marcel Duchamp in 1915 when he used the word 'readymade' to describe his art creation called the 'Bicycle Wheel' that was made in 1913. Duchamp created a fountain that was made from an old urinal on it he then signed R. Mutt. It is only one example of an artist using old objects to create found/Junk/recycled art.



Fig 3

(Figure: waste item in uses an artistic approach-Preserve the colours of many cities which are being damage due to junk and garbage. We should stop plastic pollution. Plastic bottles and containers release toxins into the soil, water, atmosphere and even the very food we eat. Plastic bottles do not biodegrade and can't be recycled.)



Fig 4

Trash art is also known as eco-friendly art, as it incorporates items that would otherwise throw in a landfill. Artists such as Leo Sewell creates unique pieces of art made from everyday things that most people would generally throw

away and not think use twice about it. Trash art styles have been around for almost one hundred years, but still, many artists are doing fantastic artwork through the waste materials. One of the earliest attempts to create art from wastes was by a self-taught artist, Nek Chand Saini, who has built a prestigious rock garden in Chandigarh. And they have started a mission to transform garbage into beauty, and he used broken crockery, electric fittings, fluorescent tubes, cycle frames, bottles, glass bangles, spheres, utensils to make a well-prepared wonderland. Like the Chand, Trash artist Khambata has always enjoyed making art from junk.



Pic. credit: flickr.com

Fig 5: Banana tree by Debangnan Roy in Delhi Art Fair 2014

Shylaja Chetlur, co-promoter and creative director of Gallery Art & Soul says that the art show is an attempt to encourage people to reuse waste. "Trash art is a part of our culture and women have used everything from beads to zari from old sarees to create decorative pieces," says Chetlur [1]. Trash/garbage art is one of the cultural initiatives that have come up in the last two decades. Though the market for trash artworks is limited, awareness about them is increasing. "Acclaimed artists such as Delhi based Vivan Sundaram has been using dump yard waste for a while [2]," Chetlur says. An exhibition of Sundaram inspired by Lady Gaga is the fabric made using truck's tire-tube, loofah and surgical masks. Artist told that this idea is about creating awareness about environmental threats. Scrap artist Sasikumar says "We can live in balance with nature only if we maximise the utility of resources and reduce the amount of waste [3]."

Another famous artist Debangnan Roy, who uses plastic, abandoned parts and other such junk to make "pop and shock art", is Roy based in Kolkata and his most famous work at Delhi Art Fair is "Banana tree", Which was made of waste tubes-tires and steel. He said that "In this project, I have taken used and discarded automobile tires and tubes, and recycled them to create a banana tree (a symbol of growth and fertility). This is a tongue in cheek artwork highlighting the problem of disposal of packaged consumer

goods and industrial waste materials existing all over the world today ^[4].” The pair of Radhika and Madhavi Khetan from Jaipur who have established the workshop Q, which produces “*next generation lifestyle icons from trash*” from the trash. Chennai’s Suren Vikas, whose ideas in India is a start-up that “innovates with waste materials every day”. And Anita and Shalabh Ahuja, one of India’s conservation couple from Delhi, are among one of the few notable names ^[5].

“For one sip of water, we create permanent plastic junk,” artist Arunkumar H.G. remarked about 100-ml bottles that are part of our high-consumption lifestyle ^[6]. It sourced from households and schools, hundreds of them are crafted into his large installation made entirely out of everyday plastic garbage that reminds citizens of the harmful and lasting carbon footprint small actions generate. His installation “The Toxic Chamber”, a large cave-like structure with a giant mouth, is created out of waste like automobile parts, discarded plastic chairs, containers, PET bottles, and e-waste. A satire on how easily today’s consumers shirk the responsibility of the vast waste generated, the “chamber” allows visitors to stand inside and reflect ^[7].



Fig 6

However, trash art does not produce only artefacts, but it also generates revenue of around 5 million rupees per year from the sale of everyday products made from waste items by recycling. Nowadays, In many art exhibitions, art fairs and art events, several artworks made from vegetable waste, newspapers, bottles and e-waste have been exhibited and appreciated. We have seen many artworks in the Delhi Art Fair-2017, which had made of waste materials. One Step

Ahead has been taken by Vogue magazine had invited young designers such as Shweta Sharma, Manoshi Nath and Maxima Basu to make fashion from recycled goods. All these artists have redefined the view of people's on garbage in a way. And people have been forced to think that the waste can be converted into a beautiful composition by artistic eyes and magical skills.

This time the World Environment Day 2019 is giving high warnings. The human beings have not done the exploitation of natural resources as much as in 1500 years, more than it did in the last 50 years. If the world continues to exploit natural resources, then the earth will not be able to provide the needs of the people. On the World Environment Day, the United Nations has warned all the nations of the world about the exploitation of natural resources and environmental threats. If the soaking of natural resources and the increasing environmental problems are not banned, then in the coming decades, people will neither get drinking water nor pure air to breathe. According to experts, a fully developed tree (about 12 meters long) gives about 100kg of oxygen in a year and a person needs 740 kg of oxygen in a year to live a healthy life. Now you calculate yourself how many trees-plant to need a man. And how many trees we are planting and cutting, let us calculate ourselves. Now you may have been able to understand why the heat and pollution is constantly growing. The issues of the environment are beyond the walls of the country, religion and caste. It is an issue on which people from all over the world has to be one. Environmental protection cannot be done only by speeches, films, books and articles, but every human being has to understand its responsibility towards the earth, and it must be implemented strictly, only then it will be able to see some solid effects. Conservation of the environment has given great importance to the Indian culture. Here human life has always been seen in the company of tangible or abstract form in the company of the earth, water, air, sky, sun, moon, river, tree and animal-bird etc. It is clear that Indian consciousness has always recognised the power and supremacy of nature. While things have changed over time and contemporary society has become far from the environment, but in contrast, ancient India was fantastic and nature lover. Today's society, unfortunately, neither loves nature nor fears of God. We worship only material wealth and do not think that nature is our real wealth. Today's time demands that we should stop exploiting our natural surroundings to increase material wealth. Otherwise, after a few years, we will not get the existence of human beings and also life be vanished from the earth.

Conclusion

Nature no need human,
But Human needs nature,
Nature is everyone's real home,
Without nature every side come cyclone,

In brief, nowadays many people are generating pollution due to lack of civic sense, negligence and mismanagement of garbage. Every year in many countries, there are many big conferences on the Earth's rising temperature and environmental conservation, but the results are still getting not satisfactory available. But many nations have taken firm and strict action to protect the environment. Waste materials like, plastic bottle, wrapper, cold drink cans, vehicle tire,

silver foil and so many others waste materials things artist are creating beautiful art piece as well as making people's nature sense to save earth from the present pollutions. Consequently, Trash art or installation is seen in many spheres of Indian contemporary art nowadays. It is our social and moral responsibility that as far as possible, try to make people aware of the environment. Today is the time of social media, so this work becomes even more comfortable. It is only the lack of people that environmental protection and cleanliness work is of the government and administration. But all forget that the government can make rules/laws, but it has to be obeyed by us only. That is why we should not ignore our social and moral obligations. They must be strictly followed.



Fig 7

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