

**Contemporary Architecture and Design**  
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**Lecture - 28**  
**Phases of Modern Art- Part II**

Welcome students to the online NPTEL course Contemporary Architecture and Design. In the previous class, we started discussing about the modern art movement. So, we will conclude with the modern art movement which were left and yet to be discussed. So, one of the art movement of modernist era was cubism and among the few of the famous cubist painter Pablo Picasso was one of them; And in the cubist movement, this has quite similar to the previous art movements where, we have seen impressionism, expressionism and pointillism. They started deviating from the figurative approach of depicting a painting.


So, they started going towards the abstraction again and because, the of the invention of the camera which can depict, which can capture a figurative and the realistic environment in the much better way and much because it is just a machine. And which that is why, the artist and painters wanted to deviate from that and they invented a different style of depicting their expression.

So in cubism, what is the style? Is it almost break broken into different geometric form which is mostly cubist or the rectilinear form. And the paintings were broken into broken like that. So, in Picasso's painting we can see that the human figures and the animal figures were broken in different lines. And mostly rectilinear lines and one of the thought is cubist is sometimes it is like has a fourth dimension into the painting. So, it is not just two different dimensions so, it is captures the movement. So, one of the painting by Pablo Picasso is Las Meninas which was painted during the baroque period by Velazquez.

So, this is the same painting of Velazquez was reinterpreted into Pablo Picasso style. And there the princess was shown like the different faces were there and then the human bodies were in different direction.

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**Cubism**




Les Femmes d'Alger; Pablo Picasso      Guernica; Pablo Picasso

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So here, in the one of the Picassos paint we can see the faces were turned and twisted and then series of them are different eyes, they can and they were in a different angle; so, which was there in the futurism movement of Russia as well.

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**Cubism**



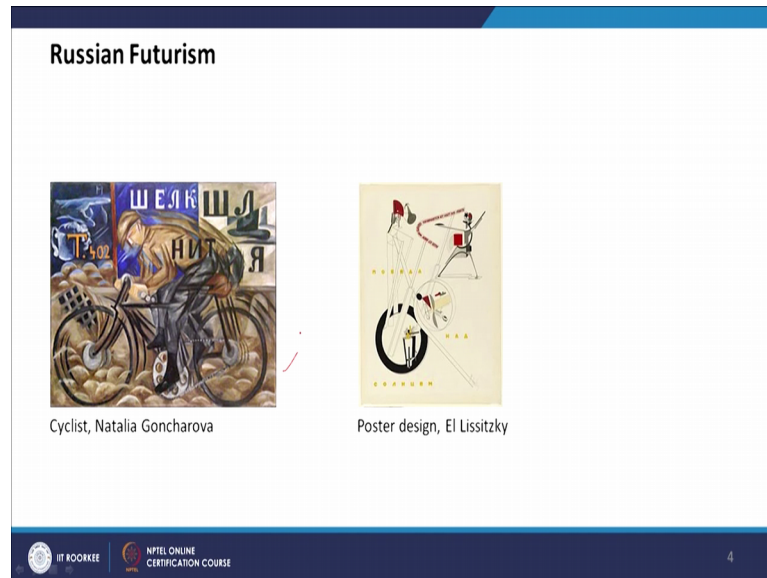
Violin and candlestick, Georges Braque

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So, this is another painting by Braque in which this is the violin and candlestick was painted and all the different surfaces of violins were shown from different angles. So that, it has a experience of a time dimension. It is not just one angle of the painting, it is

different angles were juxtaposed and this becomes like a broken façade of all the surfaces which is like a experience over the time.

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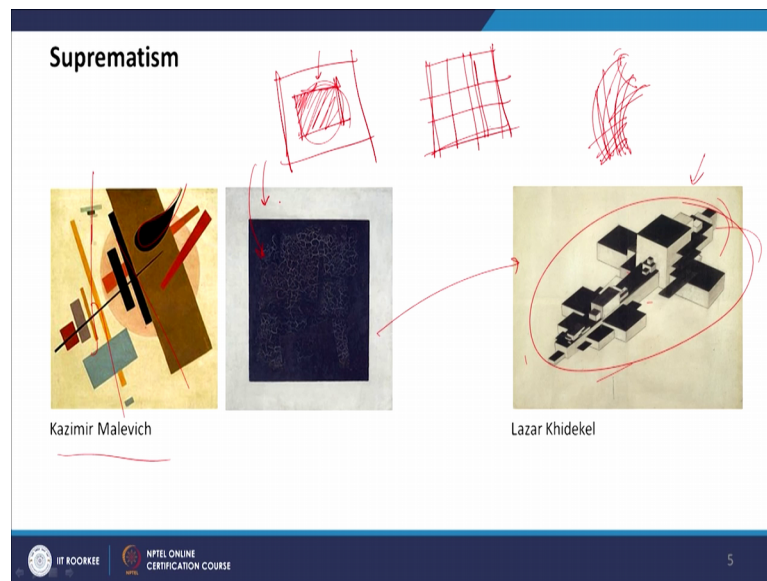
So, this is the Russian futurism so, this is the cyclist painting by Natalia Goncharova, which will also we discuss. Because, later in the postmodern architecture many of the postmodern architects took inspiration from this cubist and Russian futurist as well as the a suprematist movement. So, this here you can see in the cycle there are not just one ring of the cycle, there series of lines of cycles series of legs. So, this is the one human figure, but there is 2, 3 legs we can see. So, this depicts the motion which is the 4th dimension, which is time, which is captured in the 2D painting. So, this is another way of depicting different dimensions in 2D which camera cannot do.

In general way, if you change the shutters play with the shutter speed or change the exposure and you superimposed over 2, 3 click that, in then it might happen, but generally it cannot be done in the camera. But the way also, they will changing the expression which cannot be done in the in the camera, that is why it is not a this is going away from the figurative depiction.

So, we have also seen in architecture, they were going away from the figurative depiction and architecture also become abstract. And this abstraction from figurative to abstraction is a journey in the modernism. So, gradually they started going towards the abstract in architecture as well this happened.

So, another movement is a suprematism. So, this is quite similar to if you just look at it. It might look like a Bauhaus or De style or De Stijl movement, but in De style movement it was the concept was different this is a that was a superimposition of 3 the rectilinear lines and pure shapes. And three different colors were used which colors with black and white was the primary.

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And the overall composition of De style or De Stijl movement and Bauhaus was very functional and very rectilinear in nature. If you look at the Piet Mondrians painting so, this was quite different and suprematism. The pioneer of suprematism was Kazimir Malevich. So, here it is in a different angle sometimes you will see there is no correlation between the angles which was not there in the Bauhaus and De style or De Stijl movement.

So, this was twisted in a different direction and different colors were used and if you look at there, there is no particular angle between these two. And which was there in the few of the Kandinsky work which Kandinsky was an explore with the different style, but the Kazimir Malevich thought process came from a different perspective. So, you can read more about the suprematism.

And the later phases of Kazimir Malevich his work was he was exploring with black and white, which also goes with a visually it might look similar to Bauhaus or De style movement, but it is from the conceptual level, it is quite different and many of the cases

he started painting white on white. So, this we are seeing black on white background sometimes he has many geometric objects on top of the same color. So, this will be a white of a different value level and this will be another white patch of square or circle in different value level. So, he was exploring the different value in different value change, why, how people psychologically perceive the shape.

And here in suprematism, it is more mostly like juxtaposition of different shapes and there are different curvilinear and organic shapes as well in the suprematism. So here, this is a this is mostly a 2D expression in suprematism instead of it is painting it is it did not go into other sculpture, but one of the architect and painter Lazar Khidekel changed the suprematism transfer the suprematism into 3D and architecture. These are all conceptual. So, this was not built, but he explores suprematism in 3D. So, this is the 3D expression of suprematism where different rectilinear cuboids were juxtaposed and created a beautiful composition out of it.

So a later, there are also Russian futurism futurism and Russian constructivism in architecture. So, which will be discussed while we discuss the postmodern, one of the postmodern movement which is deconstructivism and we will see what is the difference between constructivism and deconstructivism.

Constructivism was one of the movement in modern era which was mostly conceptual. And it was not build like Tatlin Tower and other very complicated structures. They have made which was not during modernist movement. Their construction techniques was not known and it was the construction technique was not as advanced as the conceptual design was. And so, this kind of structures which they made was not was just was on a conceptual levels so, this was constructivism.

Later in the deconstructive in the postmodern the later phases of postmodern deconstructivism was one of the movement which took inspiration from constructivism as well as suprematism and Russian futurism as well as the cubism. So, how they have taken inspiration? In details we have we are discuss, when we discuss the deconstructive architecture, but here we can see the what are the what are the different different art movements were there.

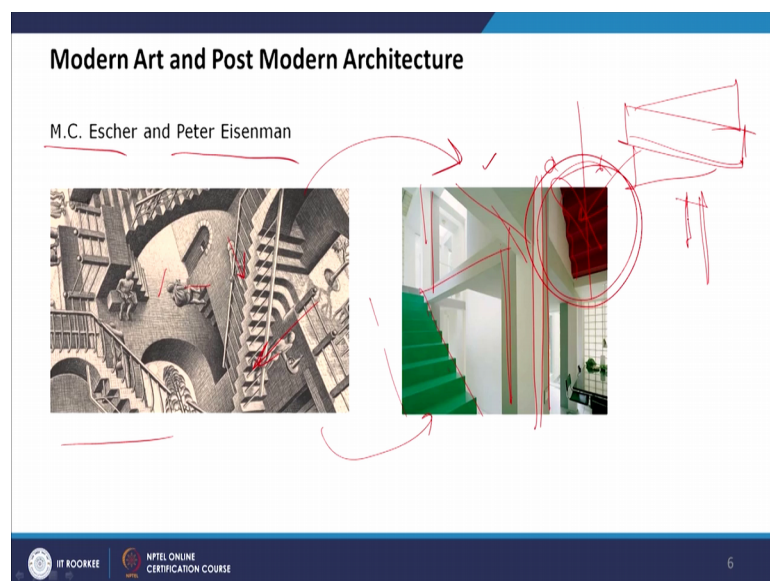
Constructivism was not an art movement it is an architectural movement, which happened in modernist era, but this was not it cannot be called as a complete movement.

It is just was a was in a conceptual level. And it did not flourish much so, we are not discussing that. We just discuss part of Russian constructivism in when we discuss deconstructive era, phase which is part of the post modernism.

So, we can see lot of modernist art and conceptual architectural designs got translated into the postmodern era. So, gradually mostly when we discuss post modernism, few of the modernist movement, architecture movement got translated like metabolism and brutalism, we saw that that got translated into the postmodern era as well. And the later phases like tensile and shell was translated into different postmodern era like metabolist this modularity was extensively used today's era as well.

And then the sculptural quality tensile and shell structures were also used in today's in the postmodern era. And it got translated and there is there is also new modern architecture which was a revival and re interpretation of modern architecture mostly which is industrial internationalism, but there are lot of art movement from there.

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Postmodern artist postmodern architect took inspiration from so, this is one of the painting by M. C. Escher. So, he talked about the duality and this is the painting is called infinity. So here, if you look at the painting carefully so, this plan and elevation and the different facades of different dimensions x y and z dimensions are getting twisted. So, it is getting an so, the name of the painting is unity. So, there is a unity and cohesion and continuum between the x y and z axis.

So, this staircase is can be seen from this side and also can be seen from this side and then there is a lot of dilemma is used and in this etching by Michel Escher So, here we can see. So, this kind of duality and the question of dimensions was created.

And now the one of the postmodern architect Peter Eisenman used this concept in his one of the house this is wall house 6. So, he have designed many houses and he numbered it from one 2. Gradually, he started numbering. So, this is this is the house number 6 which we will discussed in the postmodern style.

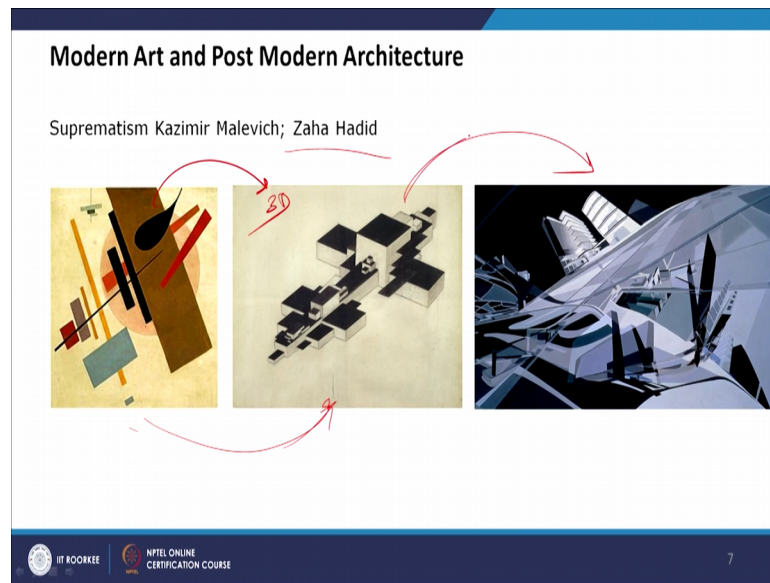
So this is the postmodern building, where this is not a minimalist style and where aesthetics is becoming quite heavy and important. So, here he used his Escher's stair in a real life. So, this is the real stair which is which is green and here also you can see lot of lines are coming, which is like cardboard and. So, this is this is inspired from a cardboard architecture and these all these lines are coming together. So, this is the column line and beam lines are not matching and then this wall line is in some in some other places and there is hanging there is a sleat on between the floors.

So, we will discuss about this house and, but the main thing is he got inspiration from Eschers this painting. So, this is the real staircase and if you look at this staircase this is just a inverted staircase which is just a visual depiction of Escher's which is got inspired from Escher painting. So, this red staircase is not usable, this is just a illusion of staircase which, you if you turn on the other side upside down then you can use it.

So, there is a human being like this. So, he can climb from this staircase which is not possible. So, it is this is this is just a visual depiction which is the criteria of postmodern architecture. So, visual emphasis and sculpture qualities are becoming in few of the postmodern movement become quite important. So, here this is the peter Eisenmen and he is taking inspiration from Escher.

So, Peter Eisenmen many of the architecture styles are coming on the deconstructive architecture style and here he change, he creates floors from outside which looks like it is tilted. And also he have played with the construction techniques under duality. So, few of the columns sometimes hang like that which looks like column, but which is not because it does not touch the floor. So, we will discuss that when we discuss Peter Eisenmens work.

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And another famous deconstructive architect is Zaha Hadid and she gave few talks where, she talked about her architecture style got inspired from Kazimir Malevich. Malevich suprematism and suprematism is also closely linked with cubist movement and other movements which was there. So, there are lot of few cubist painting by Le Corbusier where there is a violin and many other painting different paintings of Le Corbusier. And so, those paintings and the Russian futurism and the constructivism lead to a movement which is deconstructivism in later phases.

So, Zaha Hadid took inspiration from suprematism and she has lot of talks. So, you can go through those online talks in YouTube and other medias. So, this is the Kazimir Malevichs work. This is the interpretation in the architecture which has been done and then this is the sketch the conceptual sketch by Zaha Hadid.

If you look at in this slide of suprematism this is Kazimir Malevichs work, this is Lazar Khidekels work; which is the translation of 2D to 3D which has been done during the suprematism era as well by Khidekel. And then she is translating this in the postmodern style which is which is deconstructivism. And this is Zaha Hadids conceptual sketch of a of a urban design or planning level sketch this is a series of building. So, this is not just a one building thing. So, this is the abstract depiction of lines.

And here we can see this is this was more of a like one kind of visual style was there. Which is cuboid, but there cuboids were positioned in different directions. So, this mix



this mix away the composition very heavy in visual. So, lot of elements are there so, this is not a minimalist composition, but from here she is making it more exaggerated with the curvilinear lines; which is the key characteristics of Zaha Hadids architecture style.

So, she uses lot of curvilinear flow lines, which also comes from the mathematical parametric architecture, but here it is she got inspired from the suprematism; And so, with the curvilinear lines and the rectilinear patches and the juxtaposition of all this elements. She is creating this paintings which later and paintings or 3 digital models which later got translated into the defended can be in urban scale urban design scale. It can be in the planning level scale or it can also be in a very product design scale. And later it she translate let us this kind of a lines into the design.

And in the next class onwards we will start discussing about the postmodern movements. So, the we will talk about the holistically, what is the criteria? What is the features of post modernism? And after that we will start and what is the difference between modernist movement and the postmodern movement and in architecture as well as in the design. And then, we will start discussing about the postmodern architecture and few postmodern design and art movement will also be discussed.

Thank you.