

# STILL LIFE PAINTING

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*What is the point?*



*Giorgio Morandi, Still Life (1955)*





*Pablo Picasso, Still Life with Skull, Leeks and Pitcher (1945)*





*Paul Klee, Untitled Still Life (1940)*





*Giorgio Morandi, Natura Morta Con Panneggio A Sinistra (1927)*





*Umberto Boccioni, Still Life with Glass and Syphon (1914)*





*Emile Nolde, Still Life with Masks (1911)*





*Paul Cezanne, Curtain Jug and Fruit (1894)*





*Paul Cezanne, The Peppermint Bottle (1893-1895)*





*Vincent van Gogh, Sunflowers (1888)*





*Darius Cobb, Civil War Trompe L'oeil (1888)*





*Vincent van Gogh, Still Life with Quinces (1887-1888)*





*Antoine Vollon, Mound of Butter (1875-1885)*





*Clara Peeters, Still Life with Cheese, Artichoke and Cherries (1615)*





*Juan Sanchez Cotan, Still Life with Game Fowl, Vegetables and Fruits (1602)*





*Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, Basket of Fruit (1599)*





*Giuseppe Arcimboldo, Vertumnus (1590-1591)*





*Roman (2nd Century)*





*Roman Pompeii (70 AD)*



**VANITAS STILL LIFE**





*Maria van Oosterwijck, Vanitas in Still Life (1688)*





The main message of the painting is warn people against folly. Flowers are a main feature of the painting and they represent life because they are transient and they eventually die. Death, decay and mortality are all represented throughout the painting. It illustrates the life process and asks the viewer questions about life. It constantly reminds us that we are mortal and that as humans we will die.

The skull, the grain being eaten by a mouse and the ear of corn in the painting symbolise transience and decay over time. The hourglass represents the passage of time and the astrological globe symbolises the vastness of the universe.

*-Unknown*





*Carstian Luyckx, Allegory of Charles I of England and Henrietta of France (1669)*





*Philippe de Champaigne, Vanite (1660)*





*Harmen van Steenwijck, An Allegory of the Vanities of Human Life (1640)*





In this still-life (An Allegory of the Vanities of Human Life) the sharp beam of light emanating from the upper left draws the viewer's attention to the human skull placed in the centre. Surrounded by an array of objects, it rests on a recorder with an incised letter A. The prominence of the skull, together with an array of vanitas objects such as the watch and extinguished oil lamp, suggest that the painting is what traditionally has been labeled a vanitas still-life. It reminds the viewer of the transience of human life and the ultimate futility of all human endeavours and worldly possessions, which here are represented by the books (knowledge), the musical instruments (pleasure), the sword (power and wealth), and the seashell (wealth). The skull refers directly to death.

*-Web Gallery of Art*





*Pieter Claesz, Still Life with Books and Burning Candle (1627)*

# CONTEMPORARY VANITAS





*Gerard Boersma, McDonalds Vanitas (2014)*





*Audrey Flack, A Wheel of Fortune (1977-1978)*





*Audrey Flack, Marilyn Vanitas (1977)*