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# Analyzing Socio-Cultural and Cognitive Components in Sobha Brahma's Contemporary Paintings

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Abstract: "Contemporary" suggests that a person is roughly the same age as another person from the same historical period, as well as contemporary and Contemporary. The late 1900s global improvements in socioeconomics, culture, spirituality, politics, and education had a profound effect on art, among many other productive sectors. This led to a considerable loss of flexibility in the classification of various art genres throughout time, and this is what was eventually referred to as contemporary art. Contemporary art is flexible and addresses issues that are mostly pertinent to its time.

Keywords: Sobha Brahma, Contemporary, Paintings, Socio-Cultural, Cognitive, Components.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Contemporary artists have chosen to emphasize the idea or impulse in their work rather than the medium or method used. In contrast to past artists, they were not put off by the concept of combining many media and methods. These people introduced the idea that an artwork's primary goal should be to elicit a response from the viewer. Contemporary artists' works tackle a wide range of themes, such as global warming, racism, cloning, biotechnology, international politics, civil rights, mysticism, and economic principles.

The evaluation of contemporary art is the main objective of this study, which focuses on the socio-cultural and cognitive aspects of current Assamese artist Sobha Brahma.

#### 2. RELATED WORKS

1. Misra, B. (2016) emphasizes the uniqueness and great importance of popular, sentimental writings in his book "Gorky Apaharan Kanda Aru Ananya." Written in Assamese, the book is an autobiographical essay. The book's illustrations speak for itself.

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- 2. Sobha Brahma, Benu Misra, and Neelpawan Baruah's artistic brilliance is highlighted by Das, S.B., and Bayan, M. (eds. 2006).
- 3. Das, S.B. & Bayan, M. (eds. 2006) praised Sobha Brahma, Benu Misra, and Neelpawan Baruah for their artistic beauty.
- 4. Phokhan, N. (2013) underlines the creative sensibility of the three artists in his book "Silpakalar Upalabdhi and Ananda" through their essays on Benu Misra: Kisu Smriti Kotha, Kisu Chabir Kotha, and Sobha Brahmar Chabi.

#### **Statement of the Research Problem:**

The emergence of 'Contemporary art' in Assam during the early 1900s signified a significant departure from the conventional art forms that had thrived for generations before experiencing a downturn owing to erratic beliefs and additional reasons. These comprised crafts, traditional sculptures, murals, miniature paintings, and manuscript paintings. It is incumbent upon us to keep an eye on the development of the Assamese contemporary art movement, as well as the visual arts scenes throughout the northeastern states, which have shown signs of promise and vibrancy. Sobha Brahma has made significant contributions to the growth of contemporary Assamese art and artists, as well as to innovative endeavors and comprehensive initiatives, since the 1960s.

#### 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The current work is descriptive and analytical, based on secondary data. Secondary data is gathered through the use of visual presentations, visual interviews, reference books, edited books, journals, and other sources. The purpose of this dissertation is to examine the contemporary artistic practices in Assam, specifically concentrating on Sobha Brahma.

#### **Objective of the Study:**

- 1. To investigate the assessment of Contemporary art.
- 2. To look into the creative methods, stylistic devices, and visual elements of Contemporary art by Sobha Brahma from a sociocultural and cognitive perspective.

#### **An Assessment of Contemporary Art:**

- 1. The goal of the analysis is to ascertain the methods the artist used to produce their results.
- 2. Comprehension makes assertions about comprehension, whereas assessment makes comments about the meaning and optimistic or pessimistic value of an artwork, respectively.
- 3. The study's evaluation results are important because they will support painting students in cultivating a consciousness that is not limited by space or time.
- 4. The phrase "art education" refers to a convoluted, confusing process with several steps, involving critical thinking and reevaluation.

#### **Concept of Cognitive and Socio-Cultural Aspects:**

The impact of an individual's upbringing on their development is examined by the sociocultural theory of cognitive development. It argues that learning is essentially a social

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activity, made possible by interactions with those who are more knowledgeable or skilled than the learner.

Generally speaking, cognitive theories concentrate on the individual learner's mental processes, whereas socio-cultural theories concentrate on how pupils engage with social behaviors in a certain situation.

#### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Sobha Brahma and His Path through Art:

Indian painter and sculptor Sobha Brahma, who lived in Guwahati and was born on October 14, 1929, and passed away on December 12, 2012, attended Kalabhavana Visva-Bharati University in Shantiniketan, West Bengal. Sobha Brahma combined traditional folk art with Contemporary Indian art to create a very unique personal style.

Sobha Bhrama was principal of the Government College of Arts and Crafts Assam and general council member of Lalit Kala Akademi, in addition to being vice-chairman of the esteemed cultural center Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra, which was founded by the Assam Accord. Born in Santiniketan, Sobha Brahma received training as an artist. She had actively participated in her artistic endeavors and painted and sculpted.

Through his figuration, Sobha Bhrama showed that he was capable of developing a distinctive manner of expression that transforms an expressionistic genre painting into a powerful, strong presentation with a brilliant color scheme that is accessible to a wide audience.



Artis Sobha Brahma

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Painting Title: Kherai Medium: Oil on Canvas

#### **Analyzing and Examining the Artwork:**

- 1. The essence of humanity and its methods of survival are captured in the Kherai Painting. The foundations of all other human attributes are sincerity, truthfulness, courage, self-awareness, and enthusiasm. These fundamental identities make up who we are as individuals.
- 2. The Kherai Painting also highlights the idea that contentment, happiness, and simplicity are hallmarks of a good existence. Being honest means appreciating the small things in life. Effortlessness is the ability to simply be, without any consideration for needs or desires.



Title: The Body as Cultural and Political Anatomy Medium: Oil in Canvas

#### **Analyzing and Examining the Artwork:**

1. The desire for artistic engagement centers on the political anatomy.

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- 2. The painting's central element is the headless, androgynous figure painted in ashen black (either the male organ or the breast is twisted).
- 3. The painting illustrates the existential conundrum that humanity encounters in the face of cataclysmic events.



Title: Man Drinking Medium: Oil in Canvas

#### **Analyzing and Examining the Artwork:**

- 1. "Man drinking" is an artwork that expresses a sense of recreation.
- 2. The image highlights the warm, pleased glow.
- 3. The portrayal elevates drinking as a way to live in harmony and peace with others.

#### Importance for the Socio-Cultural and Cognitive Aspects of Contemporary Society:

- 1. It is important to realize that contemporary art gives artists the freedom to express their thoughts literally or figuratively, commenting on the customs around them.
- 2. The ways that contemporary art helps people and groups express their wants and desires in distinctive and noteworthy ways demonstrate the importance of this art form to Contemporary society.
- 3. Contemporary art is essential to society because it allows us to creatively express our ideas, sentiments, beliefs, and emotions.
- 4. Contemporary art can evoke sentiments of fulfillment and beauty while expressing ideas and facts.
- 5. By drawing people's attention to social challenges, contemporary art can encourage societal evolution and reform.
- 6. Contemporary artists work in and respond to a global environment that is complex, technologically sophisticated, and full of artistic and cultural diversity.

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#### 5. CONCLUSION

Art developed in the Contemporary era is defined as having been created during our lifetime and continuing to change while we are still alive. This is an art form that began in the 1960s or 1970s and has continued till the present day. The contemporary art is starting to draw greater attention. Both established and up-and-coming artists are growing new viewpoints.

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