

LANDSCAPE OF THE SOUL

Q 1. What did the painter Daozi tell the emperor about the cave?

Answer. Daozi told the emperor that there was a spirit lived inside a cave situated at the foot of the mountain and a soul lived in it. As he clapped, the entrance of the cave opened. The inside of the cave was splendid he wanted the emperor to see the beauty inside.

Q 2. How did stories of Wu Daozi have an important role in China's classical artwork?

Answer. The Chinese classical art work is more spiritual and conceptual rather than material. The stories of Wu Daozi and travelers like Confucius and Zhuangzi play a major role in Chinese classical artwork. They help the disciple to get the true essence of art. The stories are source of moral enlightenment for the readers.

Q 3. Why did the painter not draw the eyes of the dragon he had made?

Answer. The painter did not draw the eyes of the dragon which he had drawn because he feared that the dragon might come alive and throw fire from his mouth.

Q 4. What happened to the painter as he entered the cave?

Answer. As the painter entered the cave the door closed behind him before he could utter a word. The painting had disappeared behind from the wall and there was not a trace of it. He could not see even a brush mark on the wall. The artist was not seen again in the world.

Q 5. Who was Quinten Metsys? How did he succeed to marry his beloved the daughter of a great painter?

Answer. Quinten Metsys was a master blacksmith that was considered to be petty job in contemporary Antwerp, in Belgium. He fell in love with a painter's daughter. The father could not allow his daughter to marry a man with such a petty job. The blacksmith, one day slipped into his studio and painted a fly on the panel. With vivid colours and dazzling colour, fly looked so real that the painter tried to swat it away before realizing the truth. He was influenced by the talent of the young man, the he immediately enrolled him into as an apprentice in his studio and allowed him to marry his daughter.

Q 6. Find out the co-relation between 'yang' and 'Yin'?

Or

Explain the concept of 'Sansui'?

Or

Find out the co-relation between 'Yang' and 'Yin'.

Answer. The 'Sansui' represents the two poles of the universe the 'Yang' and 'Yin'. The Chinese culture put/lays stress on the Nature and the God. The word 'Yin' stands for the water. It denotes female, earth, cool and peace. The word 'Yang' stands for mountain. It denotes the male, Sun, height, heaven and power. These two elements interact on the middle void create a Chinese painting.

Q 7. Which element is often overlooked and why?

Or

What is lacking in Shanshui?

Answer. The middle void is the third essential element that is often overlooked. It has a vital significance because it forms an interaction between 'Yang' and 'yin'. We can compare it with 'Pranayama' which is essential for the human body.

Q 8. How is the pranayama compared to the middle void?

Answer. The pranayama is associated with Middle void that is the third essential element in the Chinese work. It is the white blank space where the interaction of 'yang' and 'yin' take place. In the same manner in Pranayama, we breathe in, retain it and then breathe out. The suspension of the breath is the empty space or the void where meditation occurs.

Q 9. Contrast the Chinese views of art with the European view of art?

Answer. The Chinese paintings are based on imagination and spirituality. A viewer can enter and travel them with ease. He does not need the painter's eye. On the other hand, a European painting presents an external and actual view. The viewer has to borrow the eyes of the painter to see his work exactly as he sees it.

Q 10. “The emperor may rule over the territory he has conquered, but only the artist knows the way within.” Explain.

Answer. The king is supposed to be the ruler of the territory and the people of his kingdom. He is greatly responsible for the welfare of his people. But the world of art is different from this material world. An artist is free within his right to form his own imaginative world. He knows both the path and the functioning of the mysterious universe. The ruler may conquer and control the physical world, but the imaginative world of artist is ruled by him only.

Q 11. “the landscape is an inner one, a spiritual and conceptual space.” Elaborate.

Answer. The landscape in a Chinese painting is different from a European piece of work. It is more intellectual and conceptual rather than spiritual one. A Chinese painter wants the viewer to apply his mind and heart to travel a piece of work. In other words, the mental participation of the viewer help him know the true essence of the painting.

Q 12. What do you understand by the terms outside art and brute art/ raw art?

Answer. The outside art brut art (raw art) refers to those untrained artists who don't take any formal training. But still they can prove their skill and artistic insight. On the other hand, 'brut art' or 'raw art' remains in their raw form. But they denote the culture and influence.

Q 13. Who was the untutored genius who created a paradise and what is the nature of his contribution?

Answer. 'Nek Chand' is called the untutored genius who created a paradise in the fields of art. He created a world-famous rock garden in Chandigarh. He made sculptures with stones and recycled material. He even used other waste material like tin, bins and broken-down cars to create the marvel. 'Women by the waterfall' is the most celebrated masterpiece of Nek Chand.

Q 14. How has the work of Nek Chand been recognized abroad?

Answer. Nek Chand's work is considered as the biggest contribution to the outside art. 'Raw Vision' a Pioneer U.K. based magazine published Nek Chand's Rock Garden on the front cover of its 50th anniversary issue. The UNESCO organized a five-month exhibition of his work in many countries of the world.

Q 15. How has the Chinese view of art differed from the European view? Illustrate your answer with example?

Answer. The Chinese view of art has a big difference from the European art. The Chinese art is more intellectual and spiritual. It is based on two major elements- 'yang' and 'ying' that interact on the 'middle void' that is the third elements. A Chinese piece of art is more imaginary that is aimed at achieving the essence of a painting. On the other hand, European art is more materialistic that/which represents an external view. It reproduces an actual view or scenery.

The European painter wants the viewer to borrow his eyes to see a particular landscape exactly as he sees. But the Chinese painter does not stress on it. The viewer has to apply his mind to find out the true essence of the painting. The viewer of Chinese art can enter the painting from any point and can travel it in any direction. It needs an active participation of the viewer. The painting of Woo Daozi and the work of Flander Show this difference.

Unseen passage

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

A wonderful old tale is told about the painter Wu Daozi, who lived in the eighth century. His last painting was a landscape commissioned by the Tang Emperor Xuanzong, to decorate a palace wall. The master had hidden his work behind a screen, so only the Emperor would see it. For a long while, the Emperor admired the wonderful scene, discovering forests, high mountains, waterfalls, clouds floating in an immense sky, men on hilly paths, birds in flight. "Look, Sire", said the painter, "in this cave, at the foot of the mountain, dwells a spirit." The painter clapped his hands, and the entrance to the cave opened. "The inside is splendid, beyond anything words can convey. Please let me show Your Majesty the way." The painter entered the cave; but the entrance closed behind him, and before the astonished Emperor could move or utter a word, the painting had vanished from the wall. Not a trace of Wu Daozi's brush was left — and the artist was never seen again in this world.

i. What is the name of the author?

a. A.R. Williams

b. Nathalie Ourveroy

c. Led Hughes

d. W. Whitman

ii. Which country Wu Daozi belong to?

a. Russia

b. South Korea

- c. Japan d. China
- iii. The painting made by Daozi shows that the Chinese view of art is more:
- a. Figurative b. Imaginative
- c. Both Figurative and Imaginative d. None of these

- iv. What does the word 'Vanish' denote here?
- a. to appear b. To disappear
- c. to get blurry d. To become fade

2. Its 80-year-old creator—director, Nek Chand, is now hailed as India's biggest contributor to outsider art. The fiftieth issue (Spring 2005) of *Raw Vision*, a UK-based magazine pioneer in outsider art publications, features Nek Chand, and his Rock Garden sculpture 'Women by the Waterfall' on its anniversary issue's cover.

- i. The 80 years of Nek Chand was a genius because he had made:
- a. written a book. b. Made Rock Garden with waste material
- c. Made Rock Garden with Rocks only d. Made a new innovation
- ii. 'Women by the waterfall' is located in:
- a. Delhi b. Mumbai
- c. London d. Chandigarh
- iii. Rock garden is a living example of:
- a. Brut and outside art b. Fine art
- c. Broth Brute and fine art d. None of these.
- iv. The magazine 'Raw Vision' featured 'Woman by the waterfall' in its:
- a. First publication b. 50th publication
- c. 100th publication d. None of these.