Philippine Art History
A Quick Look at the Different Art Form and Styles
REARRANGE THE PICTURES IN ACCORDANCE TO PHILIPPINE ART PERIOD TIMELINE

Pre-Colonial Art Period
Post War Colonial Art Period
American Colonial Art Period
Spanish Colonial Art Period
Contemporary Art Period
The Objective of the Timeline Study

• Identify the development of Philippine art aesthetics from its most primal to its contemporary form.
• Understand the process and iconography of Philippine art as it progresses overtime.
• Co-relate the Philippine contemporary art to its origin and the world.
• Define what makes an art work distinctly Filipino.
AESTHETICS

• a set of principles concerned with the nature and appreciation of beauty, especially in art.
• the branch of philosophy that deals with the principles of beauty and artistic taste.
• æsthetics and esthetics, the word is derived from the Ancient Greek aisthetikos meaning "esthetic, sensitive, sentient, pertaining to sense perception which in turn was derived from aisthanomai, meaning "I perceive, feel, sense"

Aesthetics is a branch of philosophy that examines the nature of art and our experience of it. It emerged during the 18th century in Europe and developed in England as philosophers grouped together such fields as poetry, sculpture, music, and dance.
Local communities are being established and art starts to go beyond mere craft, i.e. stone weapons or jewelry but starts to have decorative elements, meaning and context.

Old Stone Age (Paleolithic)
Espinosa Ranch Site, Cagayan
16000-8000 BC
The proof of earliest man’s presence was recovered from a ranch site in Cagayan Province-two flake tools dated about .9 million years, the oldest man-made object associated with the fossils of a proboscidean, a prehistoric elephant. Other flake tools are recovered in Tabon Caves, Palawan and some stone tools in Bolobok Cave, Sanga-Sanga in Tawi-Tawi.
Shell Bracelets and Pendants (Neolithic)
Cagayan, Palawan, and Sorsogon
4854 BC
Shells were fashioned into tools, as well as ornaments. The oldest known ornaments made from cone shells were found in the early 1960’s in the grave of an adult male in Duyong Cave in Palawan. A shell disk with a hole in the center was found next to his right ear and a disk with a hole by the edge was found on his chest. The shell ornaments were dated 4854 B.C.

Agono Petroglyphs are oldest known work of art in the Philippines located in the province of Rizal. There are 127 human and animal figures engraved on the rockwall probably carved during the late Neolithic (3000 BC).
Lingling-o (2000 BC – 1000 AD)
Duyong Cave, Palawan

A kind of ear pendant fashioned from green nephrite (jade) is the characteristic trait of the Early Metal Age. One of the finest jade ornaments found to date is the double-headed pendant recovered from Duyong Cave, Palawan. It is an example of the superb craftsmanship of ancient carving in jade.

Manunggul Jar

Burial jar excavated from a Neolithic burial site in Manunggul cave of Tabon Caves at Lipuun Point at Palawan dating from 890–710 B.C.
Important Works

• Maitum Jar
  (Metal Age: 190 BC to 500 AD)

In 1991, the National Museum archaeological team discovered anthropomorphic secondary burial jars in Ayub Cave, Barangay Pinol, Maitum, Sarangani Province, Mindanao, Philippines.

The center graphic is a watercolor image from the Boxer Codex, published c. 1590. The rare publication helped date and ID many pieces that were discovered in Surigao.

Surigao gold objects’ date-stamp could be placed in the span of the 10th to the 13th centuries, A.D., pre-Hispanic era.
Pre-Colonial Art Forms

- Pre-colonial traditional art have religious symbols, everyday activity such as fishing, farming, etc., or a specific decorative art pattern to the community.
- It has either the influence of local religion (animistic) or Islamic based.
- There is also an exchange of art aesthetics and art processes with the Chinese and other Asian countries who frequents as traders with our indigenous groups.

Baybayin

A Tagalog ancient script also known in Visayan as badlit, derived from Brahmic scripts of India and first recorded in the 16th century. It continued to be used during the Spanish colonization of the Philippines up until the late 19th century.
Other Pre-Colonial Art

Pottery
Weaving
Tattoo
Jewelry
Carving
Metal Crafts
The Okir (motif) is an artistic cultural heritage of the Maranaos of Lanao, Philippines.

It is as an artistic design of the Maranao native inhabitants of southern Philippines beginning from the early 6th Century C.E. before the Islamization of the area.

Okir is a design or pattern often rendered or curved in hardwood, brass, silver and wall painting in curvilinear lines and Arabic geometric figures.
Patterns of the Okir

In the book of Dr. Nagasura Madale, it explains that the Okir has patterns which are used by the Maranao artists.

1. Matilak (circle)
2. Poyok (bud)
3. Dapal (leaf)
4. Pako (fern or spiral form)
5. Todi (fern leaf with spiral at upper edge)
6. Pako lungat (fern leaf with a cut at one edge)

Another elements found Dr. Madale are: Naga, obid-obid binotoon, kianoko, pakonai and tialitali.

Maranao Okir Motif: Pako Rabong
Common Theme of the Oku

- **Torogan** known as the flower symbol of the ancestral home of the highest titleholder in a Maranao village. The prominent part is *panolong*, carved beam that protrudes in the front of the house, it symbolizes power and prestige.
- **Nāga** or serpent
- **Sarimanok**, a chicken-like figure that carries a fish in its beak
MODERN INTERPRETATION OF THE OKIR RENDERED IN AN ART WORK

Sarimanok and Fish
Abdulmari Asia Imao
National Artist for Painting
Acrylic on Canvas 24" x 24"
2011
SPANISH COLONIAL ART PERIOD (1521-1898)

• Introduced formal Painting, Sculpture and Architecture which was inspired by the Byzantine, Gothic, Baroque and Rococo art styles.
• Most art works are Religious (Catholic) based
• Art works bear the Philippine themed décor even with Spanish influence.
Spanish Art Aesthetics as Adopted by Filipino Artist

Byzantine Painting Style:
Attributed to Maître à la Ratière, Battle of Marignano, 1515

Filipino Interpretation:
Esteban Villanueva, Basi Revolt, 1821 (1 of 14 paintings)

Note of Haley’s Comet moving across the sky
Byzantine art are artistic products of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire, as well as the nations and states that inherited culturally from the empire. These are more Christian based art.
The Baroque is often thought of as a period of artistic style that used exaggerated motion and clear, easily interpreted detail to produce drama, tension, exuberance, and grandeur in sculpture, painting, architecture, literature, dance, theater, and music.
Rococo Aesthetics

Rococo Art originated in early 18th century Paris, is characterized by whimsical, curvy lines and elaborately decorative style of art, whose name derives from the French word 'rocaille' meaning, rock-work after the forms of sea shells.

Gothic Aesthetics

Gothic Art is the style of art produced in Northern Europe from the middle ages up until the beginning of the Renaissance. Typically rooted in religious devotion, it is especially known for the distinctive arched design of its churches, its stained glass, and its illuminated manuscripts.
Spanish Colonialism Lives On with the Filipino “Antique” Furniture and Carving Designs

Baroque inspired wood carvings of table and relief statue made by Juan Flores, Father of Pampanga Sculpture and Woodcarving

Photo credit: leahdeleon.com
In the formation of the elite Filipino class, the Ilustrado, paved way for the rich locals to study abroad, a more “academic” and “western” approach has been learned.

The Filipino **Classicism** is formed that borrows the Neo-Classicism, Romanticism and even a hint of Impressionism.
The Father of Filipino Painting: Damian Domingo

• First Filipino to paint his face, the first Self-Portrait in the Philippines

• Founder of the Academia de Dibujo y Pintura, the first school of drawing in the Philippines (1821)

• One of the known artist of the decorative art illustrations *tipos del pais* watercolor paintings that depict local costumes. It also became an album of different native costumes.
Juan Luna y Novicio was a Filipino painter, sculptor and a political activist of the Philippine Revolution during the late 19th century.

His Spoliarium won the gold medal in the 1884 Madrid Exposition of Fine Arts.
Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo

- One of the greatest Filipino painters along with fellow painter Juan Luna in the 19th century

- His work has a touch of Romanticism and aesthetics of the Neoclassicism
Two Filipino Art Styles developed during the Spanish Period

• **Miniaturismo** art style that pays attention to the embroidery and texture of the costume.

• **Letras y Figuras** art style that fuses letters with figures in every day activity amidst a common background. Usually used in painting a patron’s full name.
American Colonial Art Period (1898-1946)

The Filipino artist starts looking for His Identity
The American brought in Education and Value Formation, with both following the “American way of life” (Alice Guillermo, *Sining Biswal*, 1994, p. 4)

Art Illustration, Advertising and Commercial Design gained popularity and incorporated in Fine Arts.

Painting themes still largely favored Genre Paintings, Landscapes and Still Life; Portraits are reserved for high ranking officials with a more academic approach to make the subject more formal.
Popular Art Styles during the Philippine Colonial American Period

Neoclassicism in Architecture
The White House

Neoclassicism in Philippine Architecture
Popular Art Styles during the Philippine Colonial American Period

Art Deco in Architecture
Chrysler Building

Art Deco in Philippine Architecture
Metropolitan Theater
METAmorphosis the Rebirth of the Metropolitan Theater
Popular Art Styles during the Philippine Colonial American Period

Art Nouveau in Architecture
Old England building built in Art Nouveau style.
Musée des instruments de musique - Bruxelles

Art Nouveau in Philippine Architecture
Uy-Chaco Building
ART NOUVEAU
a style of decorative art, architecture, and design prominent in western Europe and the US from about 1890 until World War I and characterized by intricate linear designs and flowing curves based on natural forms.

ART DECO
e also called style moderne, movement in the decorative arts and architecture that originated in the 1920s and developed into a major style in western Europe and the United States during the 1930s. It characterized by simple, clean shapes, often with a “streamlined” look; ornament that is geometric or stylized from representational forms; and unusually varied, often expensive materials,
Commercial Art (Graphic Art)
Notable Artist: Fabian dela Rosa

• the brightest name in Philippine painting after Luna and certainly the leading Master of Genre in the first quarter of the century.

• His nephews are artist, Pablo and Fernando.
Notable Artist: Fernando Amorsolo

• a portraitist and painter of rural landscapes. He is best known for his craftsmanship and mastery in the use of light.

• His art styles: Impressionism, Luminism, Realism with subjects inspired by Philippine genre and historical, nudes and society portraits

• First awardee of the National Artist Award in 1972
Guillermo Tolentino

- He is considered as the "Father of Philippine Arts" because of his great works like the famous "Bonifacio Monument" symbolizing Filipinos cry for freedom and "The Oblation" in UP signifying academic freedom.
Emergence of Philippine Pre-Modern Art: Triumvirate of Philippine Modern Art

- Victorio Edades
- Carlos “Botong” Francisco
- Galo B. Ocampo

Introduced the Modern Art styles such as pop art, maximalism, minimalism, abstraction, expressionism, constructivism, magic realism, and environmental art before the World War II.
The Legend of the Thirteen Modern

Victorio Edades
Hernando R. Ocampo
Vicente Manansala
Ricarte Purugunan
Jose Prado

Carlos Francisco
Cesar Legaspi
Anita Magsaysay-Ho
Bonifacio Cristobal

Galo B.
Diosdado Lorenzo
Demetrio Diego
Arsenio Capili
POST-COLONIAL ART
(1946-1986)
Art After the War: The Growing and Expanding Philippine Art
Philippine Modern Art (1946 – 1970)

The study of determining what is Philippine Contemporary Art Period is still being determined since the word has been used loosely used even during the American Colonial Period. However, some Philippine art historians/critics has always been a follower of the Western Art Style and its trends at that point and thus, suggested that this was actually the point where Philippine Modern Art Period started but went only full swing only after the war. This is set by the creation of the Art Association of the Philippines (AAP) that in a way has a strong leaning with the Modernist than the Conservatives (the traditional art also termed as the Amorsolo School)
The support of the Philippine Government for the arts via the creation of the Cultural Center of the Philippines during 1969, gave a venue for all artists to experiment and explore different art mediums tying closely to the Post Modern Art Period of the West with Pop Art, Installation Art, Performance Art, dominating the scene. In contrast, social realism became a heavy theme by most Filipino Artists as a social commentary of the problem brewing in the Philippine political and social landscape.
It was on the on-set of the sudden rise of personal computers and new technology created a new art medium for the arts and human expression. But there were also countless revivals of old styles being done. This started a new direction for the arts thus, setting the name, *momentarily*, the Philippine Contemporary Period
MODERN ART AESTHETICS

Modern art is characterized by the artist's intent to portray a subject as it exists in the world, according to his or her unique perspective and is typified by a rejection of accepted or traditional styles and values.
Postmodern art is a body of art movements that sought to contradict some aspects of modernism or some aspects that emerged or developed in its aftermath.

In general, movements such as intermedia, installation art, conceptual art and multimedia, particularly involving video are described as postmodern.
Contemporary Art Characteristics

- Contemporary art as the work of artists who are living in the 21st century.
- Contemporary art mirrors contemporary culture and society, offering the general audiences a rich resource through which to consider current ideas and rethink the familiar.
- The work of contemporary artists is a dynamic combination of materials, methods, concepts, and subjects that challenges traditional boundaries and defies easy definition.
- Diverse and eclectic, contemporary art is distinguished by the very lack of a uniform organizing principle, ideology, or -ism.

"Our Terms"
2003, installation dimensions variable.
Picture credit: Imelda Cajipe Endaya
Contemporary Art Characteristics

• In a globally influenced, culturally diverse, and technologically advancing world, contemporary artists give voice to the varied and changing cultural landscape of identity, values, and beliefs.

• Contemporary audiences play an active role in the process of constructing meaning about works of art. Some artists often say that the viewer contributes to or even completes the artwork by contributing his or her personal reflections, experiences, opinions, and

Lord of the Flies #3
3D Printing, Plastic Toys, and Paint
20.5 cm x 23 cm x 14 cm
Felix Bacolor
NEW TERM...ALTERMODERNISM

• An attempt at contextualizing art made in today's global context as a reaction against standardization and commercialism.

• Artists are looking for a new modernity that would be based on translation: What matters today is to translate the cultural values of cultural groups and to connect them to the world network. This “reloading process” of modernism according to the twenty-first-century issues could be called altermodernism, a movement connected to the creolisation of cultures and the fight for autonomy, but also the possibility of producing singularities in a more and more standardized world.

• Altermodern can essentially be read as an artist working in a hypermodern world or with supermodern ideas or themes.
**Altermodernism**

The title of the Tate Britain's fourth Triennial exhibition last 2009 curated by Nicolas Bourriaud

The Tate exhibition includes a series of four one-day events (called "Prologues"), aiming to "introduce and provoke debate" around the Triennial’s themes.

Each Prologue includes lectures, performances, film and a manifesto text and attempts to define what the curator sees as the four main facets of Altermodern

1. The end of postmodernism
2. Cultural hybridisation
3. Travelling as a new way to produce forms[clarification needed]
4. The expanding formats of art