FIRST CITY, New Delhi
June 2007

objective art and subjective art

Art can be divided into two parts. 99 per cent of art is subjective art. Only one per cent is objective art. The 99 per cent subjective art has no relationship with meditation. Only one per cent objective art is based on meditation. The subjective art means you are pouring down your subjectivity on the canvas - your dreams, your imaginations, your fantasies, your dreams. It is a projection of your psychology in the same way it will be in poetry, in music, in all dimensions of creativity. You are not concerned with the person who is going to see your painting.

OSHO

Look at the paintings of Picasso. He is a great painter, but just a subjective artist. Looking at his paintings, you will start feeling sick, dizzy, something going berserk in your mind. You cannot go on looking at Picasso's painting long enough. You would like to get away, because the painting has not come from a silent being. It has come from chaos. It is a byproduct of a nightmare. But 99 per cent art belongs to that category.

Objective art is just the opposite. The man has nothing to throw, he is utterly empty, absolutely clean. Out of this silence, out of this emptiness, arises love, compassion, and out of this silence, a possibility for creativity. This silence, this love, this compassion, these are the qualities of meditation.

Meditation brings you to your very centre, and your centre is not only your centre, it is the centre of the whole existence. Only on the periphery, we are different. As we start moving towards the centre, we are one. We are part of eternity, a tremendously luminous experience of ecstasy, which is beyond words, something that you can be, but very difficult to express it. But a great desire arises in you to share it, because all other people around you are groping for exactly such experiences.

And these people are searching everywhere except within themselves - where it is. You would like to shout in their ears.

This desire to share becomes creativity.

Somebody can dance. There have been mystics - for example, Jalaluddin Rumi whose teaching was not in words, whose teaching was in dance. He will dance. His disciples will be sitting by his side, and he will tell them, "Anybody who feels like joining me can join". But when you see a man like Jalaluddin Rumi dancing, something dormant in you becomes active.

Even this experience is of tremendous value, that you have been pulled like a magnetic force. It has not been your mind decision, you have not weighed for pro and for against, to join or not to join, no. Just the beauty of Rumi's dance, his spreading energy, has taken possession of you. You are being touched. This dance is objective art.

There are, in India, statues which you have just to sit silently and meditate upon. Just look at those statues. They have been made by meditators in such a way, in such a proportion, that just looking at the statue, the figure, the proportion, the beauty...

Everything is very calculated to create a similar kind of state within you.

Before a poet starts writing poetry, he learns meditation. Meditation is absolute necessity for any art, then the art will be objective.

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Basho's small haiku I have on the pond near my house. "An ancient pond. A frog jumps in..." You almost see the ancient pond! You almost hear the frog, the sound of its jump: "Plop". And then everything is silent.

Just read it and sit silently. Visualise it. Close your eyes. See the ancient pond. See the frog. See it jumping in. See the ripples on the water. See the sound, hear the sound. And hear the silence that follows.

This is objective art.

Basho must have written it in a very meditative mood. By 'objective', it means the person is not simply trying to get rid of his sickness, garbage, which he is so full of, wants somehow to throw it out.

People are ready to throw their garbage, their advice, their wisdom, their knowledge, everybody is ready to catch hold of you and put something in your mind. You are already too much burdened. Subjective art burdens you more. Objective art unburdens you. Subjective art should be part of psychiatric hospitals only. People suffering from mental sicknesses should be allowed painting, poetry, sculpture, anything they want. And it is going to help, it is therapeutic. It will make them healthy.

And objective art is only one per cent, for the simple reason: because very few people have been meditating. And out of those very few people, only few expressed their silence into artistic forms.

Objective art is meditative art, subjective art is mind art.

(Excerpted from The Last Testament Vol 3, Osho International Foundation/ www.osho.com) ■