What Is Contemporary Art?

Contemporary art is made and produced by artists living today. Contemporary artists work in the globally influenced, culturally diverse, and technologically advanced world. Contemporary art draws from a wide range of materials, sources, and styles to reflect and comment on modern-day society.

Although the concepts below are not entirely unique to contemporary art, many artists today often go beyond the traditional elements of art and principles of design in their work by using new concepts and approaches:

What does it look like in the classroom?

Appropriation	Time	Performance
Learners take pre-existing images and incorporating them with new ones.	Learners control how art is experienced through the passing of time.	Learners engage in the process of presenting artwork through or to an audience
Hybridity	Destruction	Text
Learners incorporate varied mediums and materials to create meaning.	Learners engage in purposeful damage to create meaningful artworks.	Learners incorporate text to create an additional layer of meaning.