

Faux Painting

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Introduction

Faux Painting defines the techniques and the methods that are used to define the decorative painting. It is a French word that means “false”. As the name suggest that the term is used to define the false images and texture through different techniques of painting. As they depict the false texture or feel of materials like marble, wood etc, so they are used for making the finishes on the wall, furniture and other decorative and home appliances.

Discussion

There are many historic sign for using the faux printing in the past, that is, it is being used on the caves, Egyptian tombs but the historical faux printing is usually based on the decorative arts that is usually consist of plaster and stucco finishes.

This has been popular since many years in many regions IN art and the decorative patterns to the fauxmarble, faux wood, and trompe l'oeil murals (Barnes, 2004). It holds an important place in the art and the construction work as it requires tricks and high level of efficiency to make it more real to the images they are depicting. This is the form of the visual illusion created by the images for the viewers. It has been a part of decorative art since neoclassical ages and this decorative art is accompanied by the faux paintings. This was also popular during the Art Deco movement by the middle of 1920s. In the beginning, when the faux painting was introduced, it was mainly used in the public spaces and for commercial use. The revival of the faux painting was seen in the late 1980s and early 1990s when there was a decline in the trend of the wallpapers as the decorative pattern for the walls. Therefore the faux printing again become popular and become a popular trend in the home environments (Ross, 2004).

In the modern faux printing there are two methods and the techniques used; Glaze work and Plaster work. Glaze work can be done using the mixture of paint that is basically translucent in nature and the different techniques is required for it application. Application is done by using different mediums apart from traditional brushes that is, roller, sponges, rags and often mimics textures. Though these textures appear to be harsh and rough but they are very smooth when touched. Similarly, the techniques used to make the plaster work is also different but the mediums used for the faux painting is tinted plasters or washed over with earth pigments and the application of the plaster work is done with the trowel or spatula. The plaster work does not only give a flat and smooth touch but the texture can be felt when touched.

There are many faux finishes depending up the texture that has to be incorporated in the wall or the furniture like Graining, Trompe l'oeil, Marbleizing, Venetian plaster, Color wash, Rag painting and Strié (Johnsen, 2001). All these techniques differ from each other making a different image and the texture of the plane. It is also used to give the 3D imagery on the wall that lead to the formation of the illusionary objects.

Conclusion

Faux painting has become an important part of the decorative art and is being taught in the art schools and institutions as proper form and technique of the painting. Now it has become one of the important contemporary painting techniques and is used in the murals and other decorative art forms.

References

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