



GLOSSARY

ALABASTER

Alabaster is a soft white or translucent stone, it is a fine-grained marble-like variety of gypsum

ALLEGORY

Allegory in art is when the subject of the artwork, or the various elements that form the composition, is used to symbolize a deeper moral or spiritual meaning such as life, death, love, virtue, justice etc.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Arts and Crafts was a design movement initiated by William Morris in 1861 which aimed to improve the quality of design and make it available to the widest possible audience

BAROQUE

Baroque was the dominant style in art and architecture of the seventeenth century, characterized by self-confidence, dynamism and a realistic approach to depiction

BENEFACTION BOARDS

A board commemorating the names of those who contributed towards the foundation or the restoration of the church, or gifts to support the poor of the parish or similar endowments.

CANVAS

Canvas is a strong, woven cloth traditionally used by artists as a support (surface on which to paint)

COMMANDMENT TABLES

Pictorial representations of the Ten Commandments either mounted or painted on a wall. Normally shown as round-topped rectangles but according to rabbinic tradition, they were rectangles with sharp corners

COMPOSITION

The **composition** is the way in which visual elements are arranged in relationship to one another

DRAWING

Drawing is essentially a technique in which images are depicted on a surface by making lines, though drawings can also contain tonal areas, washes and other non-linear marks

ENGRAVING

Engraving is a printmaking technique that involves making incisions into a metal plate which retain the ink and form the printed image

ETCHING

Etching is a printmaking technique that uses chemical action to produce incised lines in a metal printing plate which then hold the applied ink and form the image

FIGURATIVE

When subject matter is representational

FRESCO

A technique of mural painting technique that involves painting with water-based *pigments* applied to wet plaster so that the paint becomes an integral part of the plaster. The technique is known as *buon fresco*(It). Painting on dry plaster, which is less durable, is known as *secco*(It)

FRIEZE

A continuous flat band of painting or relief sculpture

GENRES

Genres are types of painting. These were codified in the seventeenth century as (in descending order of importance) history, portrait, genre (scenes of everyday life), landscape and still life

GEORGIAN

Georgian is the term applied to the style of architecture, art and design prevalent through the reigns of the four King Georges in Britain from 1714 to 1830

GILDING

Gilding is a decorative technique for applying a very thin coating of gold to solid surfaces - probably in this section to wooden frames.

GOUACHE

Gouache is a type of water-soluble paint that, unlike watercolour, is opaque so the white of the paper surface does not show through

HATCHMENTS

Generally on a black background within a black lozenge-shaped frame a funerary hatchment depicts a deceased's heraldic achievement, showing the arms, with the crest and supporters of his family or person. They are painted on wood or canvas within a wooden frame and were carried in the funnery procession before being hung in the church

HISTORY PAINTING

The term history painting was introduced in the seventeenth century to describe paintings with subject matter drawn from classical history and mythology, and the Bible – in the eighteenth century it was also used to refer to more recent historical subjects

ICONOGRAPHY

How the subject matter, or image is used to communicate a message or convey meaning

LISTS OF INCUMBENTS

Boards listing those individuals holding offices or positions (Rector, Vicar, Priest Minister, Rabbi, Imam etc) in the parish, presbytery, diocese, synagogue, mosque, etc.

MEMENTO MORI

A memento mori is an artwork designed to remind the viewer of their mortality and of the shortness and fragility of human life

MONOCHROME

Monochrome means one colour, so in relation to art, a monochrome artwork is one that includes only one colour

MOSAIC

A mosaic is a picture made up of small parts which are traditionally tiny tiles made out of terracotta, pieces of glass, ceramics or marble and usually inlaid into floors and walls

MOUNT

A thin, flat piece of card within a picture frame, often serves as additional decoration but practically to separate the artwork from the glass

MURAL

A painting executed directly on a wall – normally on a large-scale

NARRATIVE

Narrative art is art that tells a story

NARRATIVE

Visual storytelling where the painter uses visual cues in order to lead viewers through a series of events

OIL PAINT

Oil paint is a form of a slow-drying paint that consists of particles of pigment suspended in a drying oil that forms a tough, coloured film on exposure to air

PANEL

A panel is a rigid support or surface for painting on

PEAL BOARDS

A wooden, metal, stone or canvas support recording peals rung on the bells of the church bells to commemorate a royal occasion, the induction of an incumbent, the funeral of a ringer or some other event of note

PERSPECTIVE

The term perspective refers to the representation of objects in three-dimensional space (i.e. for representing the visible world) on the two-dimensional surface of a picture

PORTRAIT

A portrait is a representation of a particular person. A self-portrait is a portrait of the artist by the artist

RENAISSANCE

French word meaning rebirth, now used in English to describe the great revival of art that took place in Italy from about 1400 under the influence of the rediscovery of classical art and culture

ROMANTICISM

Term in use by the early nineteenth century to describe the movement in art and literature distinguished by a new interest in human psychology, expression of personal feeling and interest in the natural world

ROYAL ARMS

The official coat of arms of the British monarch currently Queen Elizabeth II.

SCALE

The size of one object in relation to another or in large-scale paintings a comparison based on the portrayed object's real-life size

SCULPTURE

Three-dimensional art made by one of four basic processes: carving, modelling, casting, constructing

THE ANCIENTS

The Ancients were a group of artists who formed around the visionary artist and poet William Blake in the last years before his death in 1827

VANITAS

A still life artwork which includes various symbolic objects designed to remind the viewer of their mortality and of the worthlessness of worldly goods and pleasures

WATERCOLOUR

Refers both to the medium and works of art made using the medium of watercolour – a water soluble paint with transparent properties

WOOD ENGRAVING

A printmaking method distinct from woodcut in that the line is incised into the woodblock, rather than the background being cut away to leave a line in relief

WOODCUT

A method of relief printing from a block of wood cut along the grain