

PABLO PICASSO'S MASSIVE, CUBIST WORK *GUERNICA* (349 CM X 776CM), WAS CREATED IN 1937. THIS PAINTING WAS MADE IN RESPONSE TO THE BOMBING OF THE SPANISH CITY OF THE SAME NAME PRIOR TO WWII. CIVIL WAR WITHIN SPAIN ALLOWED FRANCO TO UTILIZE THE DEVASTATING AIRPOWER OF THE GERMAN LUFTWAFFE. GUERNICA WAS DECIMATED, AND FRANCO'S DEMONSTRATION OF STRENGTH ALLOWED FOR HIS FASCIST PARTY TO OVERTHROW THE REPUBLIC OF SPAIN.

PICASSO 1881-1973

A mother with baby at her breast laments the loss of the child. The image is similar to Michelangelo's Pieta

GUERNICA 1937



This image could represent the sun. Or, it could be a light. When translated in to Spanish, light is "bombillo." This may be a metaphor for the bombing which took place

A burning candle and a flower may be signs of hope

The painting was done in black and white. There are no vibrant colors, no signs of life, only death. The colors represent the grave mood



The highly celebrated animals of Spain (bull and horse) are depicted similarly to Spanish citizens. They are afraid and dying

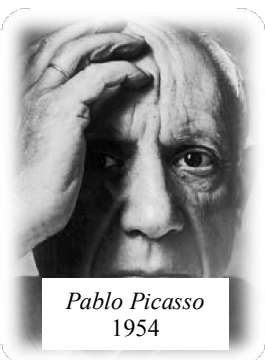
Severed arm still clutches a broken sword. Possibly symbolizing defeat

A woman staggers into the chaotic room and is bathed in light. She looks upwards questioning

A powerful image of an individual engulfed in flames. Reveals the brutality of war and those who bear the consequences

"Art is a lie that makes us realize truth." - Picasso

CUBISM was an avant-garde movement in art that began in the early twentieth century. The chief artists amongst this group were Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque, who were inspired by their contemporary Paul Cezanne. Abstract and geometric renderings in Cezanne's art were highly innovative and influential



Pablo Picasso
1954

KEY WORKS

The Old Guitarist 1903

Les Femmes d'Alger (O. J.) 1907

Three Musicians 1921