



CONTEMPORARY SCULPTURE IN UZBEKISTAN: ITS STATUS, TRADITIONS, INNOVATIONS, AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Khatamov Azamat Kamalovich

Professor of the Sculpture Department, Faculty of Fine Arts, National Institute of Fine Arts and Design named after Kamoliddin Behzod,
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Annotation: This article analyzes the development of contemporary sculpture art in Uzbekistan, examining its historical, cultural, and aesthetic significance. Uzbekistan's rich cultural heritage has played an important role in the formation and development of sculpture art. In recent years, under the influence of new technologies and global trends, sculpture has acquired new forms, incorporating new materials and styles. The article deeply explores the contemporary trends in Uzbek sculpture, the creative styles of artists, and the strategies of state support being implemented. It also discusses how sculpture is being integrated into the changing global culture and the tourism industry.

Keywords: Sculpture, Contemporary sculpture, art in Uzbekistan, cultural heritage, aesthetic innovations, art and politics, sculptors, innovations.

Introduction.

Contemporary sculpture is one of the most important branches of art that has evolved and developed on a global scale. Sculpture, being one of the oldest forms of art, often reflects the historical and cultural development of a people. Uzbekistan, with its rich cultural heritage and unique architectural monuments, has a strong position in the field of sculpture. Although Uzbek sculpture has undergone a long historical journey, it has now entered a new stage and occupies an important place in the global art scene today.

Contemporary sculpture in Uzbekistan is developing through new forms and approaches. New technologies, materials, and aesthetic views are enriching this field of art. Uzbek sculpture is now developing in new forms that harmonize not only with national traditions but also with global artistic trends. Furthermore, major cultural events in Uzbekistan, particularly sculpture symposiums, are crucial for advancing and promoting this art form worldwide.

Sculpture symposiums in Uzbekistan are significant initiatives aimed at developing art and culture. International symposiums and exhibitions, organized annually in Tashkent, Samarkand, and other cities, further enhance the potential of sculpture in the country. These events provide an opportunity for both Uzbek and foreign sculptors to showcase their works. Uzbek sculptors have succeeded in introducing their creations to the world through these symposiums.

The "Tashkent-2023" International Sculpture Symposium and the "Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)" Sculpture Symposium in Samarkand are examples of events that have contributed to the recognition of Uzbek sculpture art. These symposiums play an important role not only in promoting Uzbek sculpture globally but also in introducing new ideas and techniques.

Sculpture art in Uzbekistan began developing nearly two thousand years ago. The Central Asian region, including Uzbekistan, has long been a significant place for creating

artistic works, including sculptures, which were influenced by ancient Greek, Roman, and Persian art. Additionally, during the Muslim period, sculpture developed in its own distinctive style, expressed through wall paintings and arabesques.

In the contemporary era, sculpture in Uzbekistan has entered a new phase. Since independence, new creative opportunities have been created, and this art form has been recognized globally. Specifically, exhibitions, festivals, and symposiums organized in Tashkent and other cities have helped Uzbek sculpture achieve widespread recognition.

Several major trends in contemporary sculpture can also be seen in Uzbekistan. These trends are observed in the following directions:

- **Renewal of materials and technologies:** Uzbek sculptors have started using modern materials in their works. Metals, concrete, plastics, and other artificial materials are widely used in sculpture. These materials help create new possibilities, especially in monumental sculpture.

- **Minimalism and abstraction:** Minimalism and abstraction are widespread styles in contemporary sculpture. These styles reflect the transformation of forms and lines and are used to fulfill social and cultural functions. For example, many new sculptures in Tashkent are created in abstract forms, with their meaning based more on emotions and symbolism.

- **Harmonization of global and national elements:** Uzbek sculptors combine national traditions with global artistic trends in their works. These changes help make Uzbekistan's art scene more diverse and internationally recognized.

Contemporary sculpture in Uzbekistan is developing not only technologically and aesthetically but also through the creative approaches of sculptors. Every sculptor works in their own unique style, yet all of them reflect the national culture and historical heritage of the people. These sculptors address contemporary social and political issues through their works, depicting the relationship between life and death, humans and nature.

Many sculptors also showcase their works at international exhibitions. Such events create new opportunities for sculpture in Uzbekistan and help to promote the country on the world's art map.

The role of the state in the development of sculpture art in Uzbekistan is crucial. The government is currently paying great attention to the development of art. Exhibitions, festivals, and grants organized by the state help sculptors realize their creative ideas. Government grants and support create the necessary conditions for the development of art and for young sculptors to present their work. Moreover, sculpture art also has its place in Uzbekistan's international tourism and cultural policy. Through the tourism industry, art pieces are spread worldwide, contributing to the economic and cultural development of the country.

Contemporary sculpture in Uzbekistan is finding its place on the global art stage, enriched with its rich historical heritage and modern innovations. Uzbek sculpture is being enhanced with new materials, styles, and aesthetic perspectives. With the support of the state and international exhibitions, Uzbek sculpture is joining global cultural processes and promoting national culture worldwide.

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