

Design Resource

Bottle Painting with Warli Art - Orissa

The Art of Warli Painting

by

Prof. Bibhudutta Baral, Divyadarshan C. S. and

Aakash Sharma

NID Campus, Bengaluru

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/bottle-painting-warli-art-orissa>



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Introduction

Painting art (the god appearance) are traditionally considered two different types of art, distinctions among an image, a concept, and a words are rather predictable. Artists do not make a copy of their own observations, but they set themselves the task of realizing the presence of human objective reality and its position in the universe. Concepts that are, images of fantasy or memory – appear in a person's mind by means of imagination and have no physical inducement. The transitional position from image to concept is ill-studied in the psychology of perception.

The concept, a virtual and invisible material, makes an artist create on a canvas an artist paints a picture without using brushes, but in his or her own mind. Even if artists create their paintings in the open air, they do not copy reality but seek harmony between their thoughts and their emotional state. Scenery is a reflection of the artist's mind. Both consciousness and imagination run through the works of both writers and artists. "Art is creative thinking, in other words, it is thinking through images".

One of the outstanding art which is known by its own tradition is bottle art which is their love for music, dance and rituals. They dance on the tune of music (a wind musical instrument) for centuries. The Tarpa is a long protruding, phallic shape instrument prepare by Warlis themselves and its size varies from one to six feet. According to sources, it's said that the Painted World of Warlis the Tarpa dance is performed by the youngsters and the elderly people enact as an audience. The dancers never turn their back to the Tarpa and another interesting aspect of the Tarps dance is its movement pattern which is anti-clock in nature.

Warli is the name of the largest tribe found on the northern outskirts Orissa, in eastern India. The word "Warli" comes from "warla" which means a piece of land or a field despite being in such close proximity of the largest metropolis in India, Warli tribesmen are still not urban. Warli Art was first discovered in the early seventies. While there are no records of the exact origins of this art, its roots may be traced to as early as the 10th century AD. Warli is the vivid expression of daily and social events of the Warli tribe of Orissa, used by them to decorate the walls of village houses. This was the only means of transmitting folklore to others who are not acquainted with the written word.

Artesian typically use all dark colours as a background, by applying the following colors from the nature: Henna, Indigo, Ocher, Black, Earthy mud and Brick red etc. But one would always Experiment with background colour. Can even combine two colours to make the background. Just like half red and half black in the bottle art as seen in the paintings.

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It is made with an outline of a square drawn on the inside of the house wall. They start filling up the squarish frame towards inside from these four lines with geometrical strips. In the corners, figures of moon, sun, comb and ladder is drawn with Tarpa (a wind musical instrument) and Ghangli (a string instrument).

Bottle Paintings are characterized by the simple style employed to say the profoundest things. Bottle Painting The use of color is restricted to a stark white against earthen backgrounds. Geometric designs dominate most paintings; dots and crooked lines are the units of these compositions. The monochromatic tribal paintings express various folk imaginations, beliefs and customs. The whims and moods of tribal life make for interesting themes, which is why Warli Paintings are much more than designs on walls, they are authentic depictions of a way of life. However, the philosophy of a way of life, especially those of tribal societies, is best depicted through colorful images.

Miniature Art Painting Techniques combine most of the objects in geometrical shapes, added with a border to make it look more attractive. Washing miniature art painting technique wherein extremely diluted paint is put in the folds and low points of the painting. Combine figures with beautiful patterns like peacock, well, trees etc. are few of the familiar pattern for the bottle painting.



A group photo of the artisan with his family members.

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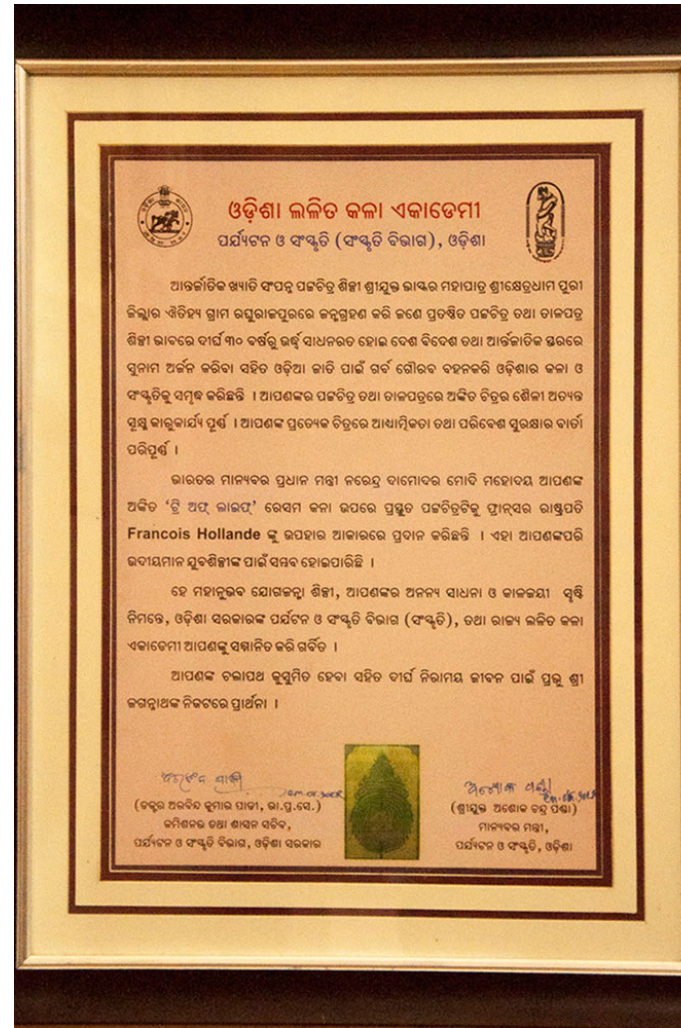
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Artisan has received certificate from Orissa lalithkala academy.



The banner used to inform about the workshop held at foreign countries.

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Painting done on the glass bottle of different sizes.

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Tools and Raw Materials

There are various patterns of bottle Art in Orissa that's been followed from ages which basically consists of geometrical patterns like circle that representing the sun and the moon, triangle which is derived from mountains and pointed trees, Square that indicates a sacred enclosure or a piece of land. These geometric figures are joined together to form beautiful patterns. Like two apex of triangles are joined together to form a human figure.

Following are the tools and raw materials used for the process of Bottle Painting:

- **Empty Bottle:** It is used as a canvas base for the painting.
- **Cloth:** It is used to place on the bottle with the help of a glue for better quality painting.
- **Trace Paper:** It is used to trace the drawing for placing on the bottle.
- **Emery Paper:** It is used to clear the smooth surface of the bottle before painting.
- **Metallic Colours:** Its used to paint on the bottle as they are water proof.
- **Poster Colors:** Its used to mix with white paint for final details.
- **White Poster:** Its applied the first layer on the bottle.
- **Carbon Sheet:** Its helps in tracing the image.
- **Pencil:** Its helps in drawing the required image on bottle.
- **Tamarind Seed Powder:** Its used as a sticking agent.
- **Water:** Its used to add in the glue and for mixing paints.
- **Thinner:** Its used to mix with enamel paint for liquidizing the paint.
- **Coconut Shell:** It is used to mix paints and store within.
- **Varnish:** It is applied for protecting the paint from dust and to gain gloss finish.

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Cloth is used to wrap the bottle.



Acrylic paint is used to paint designs on bottle.



Stone is used to rub the bottle.

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Different sizes of brushes used for painting.



Glass bottle on which traditional designs are drawn.

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Making Process

These paintings do not depict mythological characters or images of deities, but depict social life. Images of human beings and animals, along with scenes from daily life are created in a loose rhythmic pattern. Painted white on red mud color, they are pretty close to pre-historic cave paintings in execution and usually depict scenes of human figures engaged in activities like hunting, dancing, sowing, harvesting, going out, drawing water from well, drying clothes or even dancing.

Warli Earthen Pot Painting/ Flower Vase Painting or bottle painting are one of the very simple art performed and are followed by the artisans of Raghurajpur. A plain Flower Vase or an empty bottle is bought in use (bottles are been washed cleanly and check if any dust particles exist) for this art to be performed upon, smooth surface turns to rough surface with the help of sandpaper. Cloth is applied on the bottle with the help of homemade glue which in turn, creates canvas base. Bottle is painted with the help of white base cote, it's left for drying under the sun for about an hour. Brown or white paint is applied as background over its surface with a thick paint brush. Choosing a design from either mind or from the customer's order, artisan starts creating a rough line drawing with the help of pencil. Drawing is made on the tracing paper where all the elements are added, artisan traces the design on bottle using carbon sheet.

Outlines are drawn using the white color for a clear visibility. After the object is dried, artisans paint the object over reference drawings. The paints that's used are mainly enamel based and are applied with the help of either flat or round brushes. Shading and highlighting give a brilliant light effect. While shading is used to detail shadows, highlighting emphasizes the brighter areas. Blending is also an advanced miniature Art painting technique that is used to merge colors in one area with surrounding areas, to give the impression of a smooth and natural movement. Outlining technique is used to separate various parts of the painting. Dry-brushing is a miniature Art painting technique that involves emphasizing certain parts of the painting with a brush that has barely any color on it. The color used for dry-brushing is lighter than the base color. Once painting is completed, the bottle is kept for drying for about 6 hours after applying clear varnish for better shine. Varnish also helps in protecting the paint from damage and peel.

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Flow Chart

A plain glass bottle is rubbed with the help of sand paper

Cloth is pasted on bottle with the help of glue which creates a canvas base

White base cote is applied with a brush and kept for drying

Artesian draws the composition on a tracing paper which is then moved on the bottle

Outlines are drawn using white color for a clear visibility

Enamel paint is used to paint the object over reference drawings

The color used for dry-brushing is darker than the base color

Bottle is kept for drying for about 6 hours after applying clear varnish for better shine



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Cloth is wrapped over the glass bottle using glue.

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Chalk powder mixed with glue is being applied over the bottle.



Bottle is leveled by a stone using a repeated back and forth motion.



White acrylic paint is applied on bottle.

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Round brush is used to paint on the bottle.



Artisan painting patterns on bottle using turquoise acrylic paint.



Artisan is drawing black outlines to make the bottle more interesting.



Warli designs are painted on bottle to fill up the white space.

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Products

These extremely rudimentary bottle paintings use a very basic graphic vocabulary: a circle, a triangle and a square. So the central motive in each ritual painting is the square, known as the “chauk” or “chaukat”, mostly of two types: Devchauk and Lagnachauk. Inside a Devchauk, we find Palaghata, the mother goddess, symbolizing fertility. Significantly, male gods are unusual among the Warli and are frequently related to spirits which have taken human shape. These paintings are performed on the bottles with the great effort by every artisan, their fore Warli paintings on bottle have become very popular and are now sold all over India. Today, small paintings are done on cloth and paper but they look best on the bottle or in the form of huge murals that bring out the vast and magical world of the bottle art. For the Warli's, tradition is still adhered to but at the same time new ideas have been allowed to seep in which helps them face new challenges from the market. These painted bottles are available with the starting range of INR.300 to INR.600.



A set of glass bottles painted with warli art.

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Traditionally painted glass bottle.

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