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## The Relationship of Futurism Dynamism and Today's Technology

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**Abstract**: Art is a living creature taking the shape of societies. Its development and change is proof that it is alive. Environmental factors that develop art can affect the artist's style and even his perspective. Futurism is a trend of forthcoming. It aims to see the future without being ahead. It reveals itself as a guide for the audience and listeners. This movement, which challenges past trends, is the heart of dynamism. It aims to feel the movement, to be able to hear its voice and even smell it. The development of humanity by gaining speed since its birth could only be possible with technology. For a world that changes every second, an art that changes every second is inevitable. For this reason, some branches of art die, while others are born. Although the futurism movement, whose life is not very long, has ended itself, it can still make a name for itself as a movement that supports the developing technology.

**Keywords:** Futurism, Technology, Pace, Dynamism

## Introduction

Art is a universal concept. It has become inevitable to encounter it as an inspiration, copying and even a realized version in every aspect of our lives. Thinking that the art of painting is only copying nature leads us to a great mistake. Along with the changing and developing societies, art is presented to us in many forms. The art that started in the ateliers not only sought itself outside, but also aimed to use everything on new surfaces, with new materials and techniques.

Man's way of expressing himself is the unity of the society in which he lives. If art is a form of expression, it would not be wrong to see art as an endless communication network. If we define the artist as a guide or even a spokesperson, the resulting work is the artist's words. Based on this context, we can also add the interpretation

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that the works affect our lives on a large scale.

The biggest industry today is technology. Technology that makes our lives easier, shortens long distances, makes developments fit in seconds, and sweeps us off our feet, has also fit into art. The futurism movement, which we know as futurism, manifests itself as a movement based on technology in art and in which speed plays a role. According to the artists of the movement, ideas without dynamism have exhausted themselves. The works freeze the moving moment by taking on the work of the camera. This movement, which deals with war, machinery, industry and technology, is defined as a new excitement for artists.

In the future, futurist artists tried to analyze the snapshot that the photographic camera could record by repetition of motion in moving objects and figures, or with lines of power. In the Boccioni statement; "We want to get involved in life again. Today's science will negate the past in order to relate to the materials of our time. Art, too, will deny its own past and will have to relate to the intellectual needs of our time..." (Virtual 1, 2020). It is inevitable that art will have to keep up with the present. While this can sometimes be beneficial effects of technology, sometimes it can be the destruction left by technology. In any case, the science of technology is a phenomenon that is not new, but continues to be renewed, affecting the development of art, and art will continue to live with its future, not with its past.

#### **Futurism Concept Futuristic Concept Technology Concepts**

Futurism is the current of modern art and social movements that emerged in Italy at the beginning of the 20th century. Those who follow the futurism movement in all kinds of art; they have produced works especially in the fields of painting, sculpture, ceramics, graphic design, interior architecture, industrial product design, literature, music, theater, film, textile, fashion, architecture and gastronomy (Virtual 2, 2020). It is a perspective that aims to change the common and passive perception about the future that "there is a made future and we go to it or we predict it". It accepts that various futures can be created by using the knowledge and technology we have accessed as humanity, and adopts that positive future design can be made with alternative scenarios for all dimensions of life. Develops visionary (remote, expert, conciliatory), innovative, strategic and sustainable proposals with a multidisciplinary approach. Knowing that they are responsible, aware of the need to be the designer of the future, not the audience, showing that the word modernity is not limited to living in the present and reflecting this in their behaviors, foreseeing the future, feeling the world as belonging to the world, wanting to take part in the organization of the world, large masses around this consciousness with the futurism approach. is the individual who is one of the leaders of the collection (Virtual 3, 2020).

Concept of Technology: Application knowledge, application science, covering the construction methods, tools, equipment and tools used in an industry, and their usage patterns. All the information about the tools and equipment developed by man in order to control and change his material environment (Virtual 4, 2020). The word technology comes from the Greek. The word technology emerged as a result of the combination of the Greek words art and knowing. Technology is called as the whole of knowledge, techniques and abilities that





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enable the production of tools to meet the needs of people. Science, as transferred to daily life, can be described as technology (Virtual 5, 2020).

## **Findings and Interpretation**

The Futurism modern art movement, founded by Filippo T. Marinetti, started with the publication of the first Futurist manifesto by Marinetti in 1909 and continued its dominance in the field of art until the end of the First World War. The futurism movement, as a movement emphasizing dynamic energy and mechanical processes in art, music and literature, destroyed the trend of "Passeism" or "Pacifism", which had dominated Italian art until that time, helping Italy to gain momentum in both political and art platforms and mechanization, big industry.

It has adopted the principle of keeping up with the benefits of the modern world such as facilities, factories, growing urbanization and even violence, and not lagging behind, but leading the way. Interestingly, the Futurism movement essentially considers the "Machine Age" as a celebration and the "war", in which human dynamism and activity reaches its peak with machines (Başaran, 2007:7).

#### Umberto Boccioni

While he was studying art, he defined himself as an Impressionist and examined the works of this movement. Baccioni, a student of Giacomo Balla, focused on divisionism, a technique where colors are applied on canvas without mixing them. He changed his life and art by meeting the poet Marinetti, who published the Futurist Manifesto in 1910.

Besides being one of the pioneers and theorists of Futurism, Boccioni, who is the only sculptor and an important representative of this movement, advocated breaking all ties with the past, emphasizing all the dynamism and vitality of the machine age in his works, and succeeded in transferring the concepts of speed and movement to the canvas (Kaplanoğlu, 2008:69). They traveled to Paris with several artists who defined themselves as futurist painters and saw the works of Braque and Picasso, known for their cubism movement. These works inspired and guided the futurists.



Image 1. Umberto Boccioni, Elasticita, 100x100cm, Oil on Canvas, 1912





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#### Giacomo Balla

Giacomo, who transitioned from the art of music to the art of painting, is an important artist who develops in fields such as book illustrations and caricature. Futurism, one of the first modernist avant-garde movements that started to develop in Italy, was the founder and follower of the art movement from the very beginning.

Around 1902, Umberto Boccioni and Gino Severini, one of the chief painters of Futurism, taught the techniques of "chromoluminaism" or "divisionism", the first painting technique that the painters who founded this movement agreed to use for the pictorial expression of the futurism principles of light, movement and speed.

Giacomo Balla was the art educator who gave and taught. It is known that Filippo Tommaso, who prepared the Futurism statement in 1909, contributed to the development of Marinetti's thoughts and it is accepted that he was greatly influenced by Marinetti. Balla was one of the painters who signed the "Futurist Declaration of 1910". After that, he prepared the drawings of futuristic furniture patterns as a pioneer.



Image 2. Giacomo Balla, La Pazza, 175x115, Oil on Canvas, 1905

#### Gino Severini

Severini, a student of Giacomo Balla, aimed to create dynamism and awaken our emotions with the punctuation technique. He is one of the artists who signed Marinetti's futuristic manifesto. He continued his art life as a futurist artist for a short time, combining the geometric forms of cubism and the dynamic brushstrokes of divisionism.





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Image 3. Gino Severini, Cannoni in Azione, 61.5x50, Oil Painting on Canvas, 1915

#### Carlo Carra

Carlo, who joined the futurism art movement inspired by cubism, was involved in this movement for a short time. Marinetti and Boccioni changed Carlo's style. It has made power and speed aesthetic by embodying the actions in a state of dynamism. It is based on patriotism and developing technology. Later, he changed his orientations by immersing himself in the depth of metaphysics.

Since the artist destroyed his pre-Futurist works, there is no information about the style of this period. After 1910, Carra produced works in line with the principles adopted by the Futurism movement, and especially conveyed the mass emotions and movements of the people in a powerful way. In the paintings prepared for the Futurist Painting Exhibition in 1912 by Carra, who met artists such as Picasso and Braque in Paris and saw examples of the Cubism movement, the effect of the structural formalism of Cubism is seen, the movement element peculiar to Futurism predominates, and both the movement and the stagnant movement dominate.

Simultanism, a technique of simultaneous reflection of different points of view, which he uses to convey an emotional state in a single painting, shows a distinctive geometry. In his own declaration published in 1913, Carra defended the principles of another feature of the Futurism movement and claimed that sensory impressions such as sound and smell could be transferred to the canvas through visual elements such as color, line and form (Kaplanoğlu, 2008:78).



Image 4. Carlo Carrà, Funerale Del Anarchico Galli, 198.7x259.1, Oil on Canvas, 1911





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#### **Speed Images of Futurism**

Technology has affected the fields of art as well as the whole world. Combining technology with art instead of denying its existence has become a necessity, even if it seems like the free choice of artists because the artists reacted to the ordinary techniques and started new searches.

When we look at the futurist understanding that adapts its aesthetic understanding to movement and speed, moments that the camera can stop, such as athletes in motion, airplanes in flight, fast-moving vehicles, spinning wheels, vehicles in war, towering buildings, functioning engines, running men have begun to show themselves in the branches of art.

The dynamic accents in the painting made it necessary to animate the movement in the viewer and to define the painting as an ongoing phenomenon within the human being. A running man's two feet are twenty feet for futuristic artists. Technology, on the other hand, is not destruction but new frontiers that liberate art.



Image 5. Alessandro Bruschetti, Sintesi Fascista, 80x60, Mixed Media on Canvas, 1935

Italian futurist painter Bruschetti brought together technological tools used for different purposes by making use of war forms in his work. In the work, it is seen that a group of soldiers in motion are walking with weapons in their hands.

We see the gliders used in the war conditions of the period in which they were built, while flying and even with the feeling of the wind they leave behind. In the work, which depicts a war scene, there are also details of vehicles firing artillery and a ship approaching us in the sea. Although everything moves in the work, which is made by using the geometrical forms of cubism, the gliders give the greatest effect of speed.





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Image 6. Alessandro Bruschetti, Velocità 55.5x78, Oil on Canvas, 1932

This work, which deals with spinning wheels and speed, depicts that the person is in motion with the body image depicted one after the other and the spiral wheel shape.

Speed is not a relative concept. The viewer or listener can feel the movement in the work. This work, which meets the criteria of futurism, gives effect with a simple theme.



Image 7. Christopher Nevinson, Bursting Shell, 76x56, Oil on Canvas, 1915

In this work, which resembles the depths of space, an explosion and a moment of opening are depicted. Geometric objects extending upwards push us towards the spiral space. We witness the freezing moment of a momentary movement from the perspective of the artist.



Image 8. Giacomo Balla, The Dynamism of a Dog on a Leash, 90x110, Oil Painting on Canvas, 1912





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The work, which describes the movement of progress with rhythmic steps, gives the impression of trying to catch up with the audience. The dog's body movements are displayed in sync with its owner. Even the distance they move continues inside us, keeping its reality, leaving the canvas as if running. The artist shows us even the state of the collar a second ago by freezing it.



Image 9. Giacomo Balla, Forme Rumore di Motocicletta, 73x101, Oil Painting on Canvas, 1913

Futurist artists believe that technology has a voice. They thought that they could convey the noise just as they portrayed speed and violence.

In this work, a gear wheel system and chain can be seen. This system, which belongs to the motorcycle, is a communication tool for us to hear the sound with sharp geometric forms approaching us. Spiral forms, depicted in a way that resembles cutting wires, may indicate a loud sound that may disturb the ears.

## The Relationship between Today's Technology and Futurism

Technology is a form of development that cannot hide itself. Factors accelerating technology often occur in difficult situations. Technology has to progress rapidly for us who have to keep up with the accelerating world. We witness this development at a speed that we do not realize. Everything that develops condemns the old one to annihilation and even to oblivion; Just as swords used in wars disappeared after weapons were invented. We are the ones who accelerate this development. Since we want to gain superiority in wartime, war technologies also gain speed. Since we want communication and transportation to save us time, the technology and features of vehicles develop. Human consciousness is accustomed to the concept of speed. We can hide what we see in seconds in the deepest parts of our minds. But it cannot be said that we do this consciously.

Technology brings us both construction and destruction. Speed can cause physical harm or benefit, as well as hasten the decline or rise of art. Art has become an integral part of dynamism. Although this thought may seem like a challenge to the old trends, it is the inevitable end of the future. Of course, after a point, art would consume ideas and search for new ones. Like the development of the camera for the art of photography, art also inserts itself into new free patterns.

The art movement that uses the perception of the audience at the highest level is futurism. The viewer must feel





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what he sees in order to perform the analysis. Rather than portraits in which we look deep into our eyes and feel it watching us, it is aimed that our minds gain speed, our ears hear that movement, and even the wind of a fast-moving car, which is important for this movement.

If art is an action that reflects societies, we can say that art lives for speed and technology today. Futurism undertakes exactly this purpose. Future-thinking artists have shown us a few seconds before and a few seconds after a dog. It reveals rapidly rising buildings, racing cars rushing along the track, motorcycles that defy the wind, airplanes that create an air current behind them, ships advancing on the rippling sea as if they were out of the picture. They have undertaken the task of the camera, which is a kind of technological product. Today, when we look at an engine part, it is not difficult to predict the sound that can be produced, but the artists have succeeded in transferring this noise to the surfaces. Common features we can see in futuristic paintings are to offer a perspective that places the viewer inside the vehicle in motion. Rotating objects manifest themselves in a spiral.

The main goal of futurists is to paint what they perceive of the magnificent new technologies of the modern world. Futurists have been fascinated by the concept of the new future conceptualized within the framework of the motto of dynamism. For this reason, they took great interest in automobiles as well as airplanes. It should also be noted that the Futurists' interest and focus on the automobile is directly related to the mass production that emerged as a result of Taylorism and the Ford revolution, which started to attack again with Fiat and Citroen, rather than being a means of transportation (Başaran, 2007: 19).

It is obvious that mechanization arouses great admiration. For some people it symbolizes great love. For this reason, it can be thought that they make machines an emotional object by associating them with sexuality. According to some artists, technological speed has caused the destruction of art. It was thought that some branches of art had to die in order for the new arts to survive. Every leg of art does not have the potential to keep up with the speed and has been forced to disappear. But futurism manifests itself as a movement that ignores the destruction of speed and has never touched on this issue.

## **Conclusions**

The futurism movement, which is the new quest of the 20th century, emerged under the leadership of the Italian poet Marinetti. Although its development has not taken long since its debut, it has managed to make its name known today. During the war period, with a new search, many painters were included in the published statement. It shows itself in every work where the effects of cubism are inevitable.

The idea of painting technology, incorporating speed into art offers a new perspective. Although speed is an ordinary concept for us living in the age of technology, the admiration that artists have for dynamism is an action that needs to be examined.





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The realization of mass production can also constitute the majority of the actions that affect futurism artists and lead them to this thought. The increase in industrial areas has become a new subject for art. The operation of production is the source of inspiration for works of art. New productions and their acceleration appear as supporters of art.

Technology is a self-developing movement. Just like art, it is always in motion. If art does not develop, it may disappear by repeating itself. For this reason, the combination of speed with art, the relationship of art with technology, is a necessity for its survival. Futurists tried to meet this need and challenged the past arts and guided the future arts. For many artists today, dynamism is the aesthetic element of painting. We use this element of art as constructive, not destructive. The machine-growing world, which we unconsciously witness before our eyes, may be an inevitable beginning and even an end for art, which is the voice of societies.

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