

ESSAYS

Art exhibitions should be free of charge. To what extent do you agree with the given statement? Support your answer with relevant arguments and examples.

Art itself has always been a way for people to convey their emotions and inspire others in a unique way. Often, we see different forms of art everywhere around us, music being played in malls, actors on television and even paintings in restaurants. When people hear about an art exhibition, many fail to see the reason why they would have to pay to see it. However, in this essay, I will provide reasons as to why art exhibitions should not be free of charge.

Like most other practices, art takes skill and time. When paying for an exhibition, you are not only compensating artists for the result, but also for the whole process needed in order to make the finished product. People are willing to pay to watch a football game, because they know that the individuals that are playing have worked their entire lives in order to be where they are now. This same viewpoint should be used when paying for an exhibition. Art is not only a product, but the flair and genius of its maker.

If a skill was not appreciated or paid for, rarely would a person practise and learn it. Therefore, without a money incentive, art might cease to exist. For example, if people did not reward various artists throughout history, future generations would deem art irrelevant and unnecessary. Art is used to fascinate and inspire others, but for artist to be able to dedicate themselves to it, they need to be able to make a living on something. By not showing appreciation with money, artists would have no means to continue their craft.

In conclusion, art exhibitions should not be free of charge. These events are special markets for distinctive products, where each participant (artist) presents skills, knowledge, years of hard work and dedication that they invested in order to give the consumer a unique experience. Consequently, it should be treated the same as any other field of work where value of the service or product is expressed with money.

Every country needs a monarch. To what extent do you agree with the given statement? Support your answer with relevant arguments and examples.

In the modern world there are almost 200 countries and almost each and every one of them has a leader. This is important because each of those countries must have a representative so that the decision making both inside and outside the country can be done effectively and efficiently. Even though monarchs are present in most parts of the world, some would argue that they are not needed for a country to function properly.

Today the world is basically circling around politics and its influence is becoming bigger by the day. Everything depends on politics or in other words on the political leaders. A popular statement nowadays is that many of these political leaders are not actually working to improve the life standards of their people, but to gain personal power and influence the country so that they could benefit. Hence, the people think that they would be better off without a leader. In most cases this would mean that they are requiring a democratic leadership style in their country.

Even though these statements are very logical and very likely to be true, it doesn't mean that leaders ought to be revoked. A good leader would never do anything for his own good, but always puts his people first and does everything he/she can to make their lives better. A person who can alone make a decision in difficult situations with courage and stability is what every county needs. History has shown us that even in awful situations such as wars a good king is the one who wins. In addition, a good monarch would not only care for his own people, but his entire species. The ability to care for the whole world is very rare today, but only if we don't know where to look.

To conclude, monarchs can be both bad and good and this is why there are many opinions on this topic. However, there shouldn't, because everyone can agree that a person who is truly pure of heart is the only true leader and the only one we need. People think that these leaders are impossible to find and that they do not exist, but they are in fact all around us.

Every country needs a monarch

It can be seen that all the most orderly countries in Europe and all around the globe are parliamentary monarchies i.e. democratic monarchies. The examples are Scandinavian countries (Sweden, Denmark and Norway), Japan, and the most famous one, the United Kingdom. In this kind of monarchy a king or a queen has limited powers since they rule along with a parliament or a governing body. Nowadays, many people wonder whether we need monarchs in the 21st century. It is my strong opinion that monarchies should be preserved as they play an important role in nourishing traditions, values, culture and overall stability of a country.

First of all, monarchs are born to be the chosen one, they are educated from birth for their future role. In particular, today's heirs are in the public eye from the first day, they live in the glare of the media, and thus, are constrained from bad behavior. They have constant training on how to interact with people, politicians and the media. Monarchs rise above politics and their position cannot be influenced by money, the media or political parties, which in turn makes them ideal role models.

In addition to this, the main role of these monarchs is to give stability, to make the country recognizable in the world, and to give a sense of national pride. There are multiple examples of monarchs giving hope, help and support to their nations in order to overcome hard times, natural disasters or other misfortunes. At the same time, they strive to help the culture and heritage of their country, acting through sponsorships or organizing sporting events. Furthermore, monarchs are most often the greatest philanthropists, giving their help for the ones in need. For example, Queen Elizabeth recently made a generous donation with her private fund to the charitable organization Disasters Emergency Committee upon their "Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal". Besides that, the Queen is patron to 510 charities in Britain alone, including Cancer Research UK, the British Red Cross and children's charity Barnado's. The wider Royal Family supports a total of 2.415 charities in Britain, and almost 3.000 worldwide. Apart from that, they actively participate in raising awareness of the people regarding environmental and climate issues, and are involved in finding appropriate solutions. Encouraging the equality of people, regardless of gender, color or sexual orientation, is one of their main prerogatives.

There are many more reasons why we need monarchy in the 21st century, but I will only mention one more - monarchies are holders of tradition and give a sense of continuity in these ever changing times. They remind a country of what it represents

and where it came from, which can be easily forgotten in the rapids of today's politics.

To conclude, monarchs can be compared to grandparents of a nation, they patiently help and guide us by giving us their love and wise advice on how to better ourselves and ease both ours, and the lives of our fellowmen. Grandparents are appreciated and loved, and every family needs them, and in this case, every country needs monarchs.

Iskra Stanić III5

REPORTS

Compare religious art in Christianity and Islam

Introduction

The objective of this report is to compare the Christian and the Islamic religious art. For that purpose, an online survey has been conducted. A number of credible academic online sources have been examined, with papers published regarding the subject matter. The results obtained can be compared through similarities and differences and are as follows.

Engaged type of art

Both religions have been using art as a form of expression of religious beliefs, being able to influence their believers deeply with their concepts. Art in the service of faith becomes very engaged and symbolic – not with the aim to solely „be beautiful“ (l'art-pour-l'art), but with a moralistic role – to tell a story, to set an example, to guide and to teach. So, both of these arts are subjugated to a canon – a predefined set of rules. Although, in these two religions, it has been done in different ways.

Art as a reflection of religious dogma

In Christianity:

Christianity claims that Jesus is the God, revealed in human form. That is why Christian art focuses so much on images of Jesus. All art revolves around different scenes from Jesus' life, as described in the Bible. During the Middle Ages, the walls of churches and cathedrals have all been covered with frescoes, icons and statues presenting such scenes, to be understood by the illiterate people („Biblia pauperum“ in Latin – that is, „the Bible for the poor“).

In Islam:

Muslims believe that God is revealed by His Word, given to their Prophet Mohammad. A man is much too sinful, imperfect and temporal to be depicted. That is why Islamic art totally lacks figural composition of people and even animals – it is sinful and prohibited. It focuses solely on geometric and vegetal decorative patterns, completely abstract. They become very elaborate,

intricate and astonishingly beautiful art forms, and so too is their calligraphy – decorative form of writing, used for making artistic inscriptions in mosques with the verses from the Koran.

Conclusion:

Although very different in style and form, it is highly indicative that both religious arts have served their purpose very well. Over the course of many centuries, they have both helped their religions to grow and keep their faith within their communities. It is hard to estimate if the same results would be achieved without the help of the art. Artistic forms are so deeply intertwined with the religious ideology that they often seem inseparable, so much so that we may wonder if the art of this sort would even exist and have a meaning outside of its religious context.

Uroš Tirnanić III4

ARTICLES

What is the link between Prince Aleksandar and the British royal family?

Strengthening national unity and stability, as well as carrying out national duties are a few, of many, responsibilities royal family members are entitled to. Did you know that the Serbian royal family and British royal family are related by blood?

Who is the link between these families?

The link between these two leading families is Marija Karađorđević, the Queen of Serbia and wife of Aleksandar I Karađorđević, the King of Serbia. Moreover, Marija was the granddaughter of Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, who is a son of Queen Victoria of the United Kingdom and Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, also known as Prince Consort. Princess Marija Karađorđević was the daughter of King Ferdinand of Romania and by this marriage political relations between the Kingdom of Serbia, the Kingdom of Romania and the United Kingdom were strengthened. You should know that marriages between people in power were often arranged so that two countries could benefit from each other.

Serbian heir to the throne

Petar II Karađorđević, the first son of Aleksandar and Marija, was the great-grandson of Queen Victoria of the United Kingdom. Petar was baptized by King George VI of the

United Kingdom and Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. After emigrating to London, Petar joined the British Royal Air Force and married Princess Alexandra of Greece and Denmark. Have you ever wondered if the Serbian heir to the throne can inherit the British throne? The Karađorđević dynasty, as descendants of Queen Victoria, are contenders for the British throne, and take the 91st place on the list of heirs to the crown.

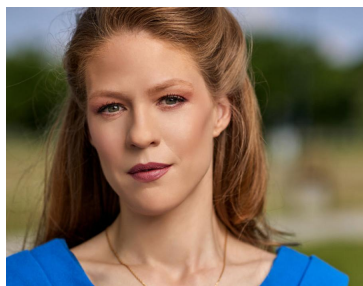


For the end, an interesting fact is that Aleksandar II Karadjordjevic: Crown Prince of Yugoslavia, was present at the wedding of Prince William of the United Kingdom and Catherine Middleton in 2011, following Prince Charles's and Camilla Parker's visit to Belgrade, where Aleksandar was assigned to be their host. The improvement of family ties has led to various political opportunities, strong relations and mutual benefits for both countries.

Nevena Vasin III4

WHO ARE SERBIAN PRINCESSES DANICA AND LJUBICA?

Once upon a time, there were two princesses. No, no, wrong beginning. Let me try again. These days, in Serbia, there are two princesses. Danica and Ljubica. Who are they? Let's find out.



Princess Danica Karađorđević is married to Hereditary Prince Filip Karađorđević, heir to Crown Prince Alexander. She is a member of the House of Karađorđević. Mother of Prince Stefan.

Danica Karađorđević (maiden name Marinković) was born in Belgrade in 1986. She is a daughter of famous Serbian painter Cile Marinković. She completed her education in France where she graduated in graphic design and visual communications as well as comparative literature and slavistics studies. She had her master's degree in graphic design in London.

Princess Danica's main occupation is in graphic design, but she is also the artist as her father was. Her artistic expression is through collages. She had her work exhibited in Belgrade and Paris.

With her husband Prince Filip she is involved in humanitarian work, supports art and participates in the social life of Serbia. The family has been living in Belgrade since 2020, but refused to enjoy the help of the state and live in the royal complex on Dedinje, deciding to support themselves exclusively from their work.



Princess Danica likes to be among people, her son goes to a public kindergarten, and together with her husband, she spreads love and positivity!

Princess Ljubica Karađorđević is married to Prince Mihailo Karađorđević, the son of Tomislav Karađorđević, grandson of king Aleksandar I.

Ljubica Karađorđević (maiden name Ljubisavljević) was born in Belgrade in 1989. She got her degree in Pharmacy in Belgrade, and works as a pharmaceutical consultant. She is also involved in writing health articles.

Ljubica married Prince Mihailo in 2016. The wedding was held in St. George Church at Oplenac and was attended by the eminent members of the House of Karađorđević. She has two daughters, Natalija and Isidora. The family lives in Topola.



Princess Ljubica is a passionate horse lover, and riding enthusiast. She is planning to organize an adventure path from Kragujevac to Arandjelovac where people can ride horses and rest at local hosts.

She and her husband are participating in many charitable actions, especially those for nature conservation. They are founders of the Foundation "Roots" which is dedicated to the development of children and youth. Princess is also the organizer of Children's festival Oplenac. She is very involved in humanitarian work. She always points out that every girl is a princess!

Two Princesses, two modern women. They are young, beautiful and they do not depend on their husbands being Princes. They are working moms. Both these women are independent, hardworking, and socially involved. They live amongst us, and that is a great privilege.

Iskra Stanić III-5

Topola for wine lovers

At a distance of only 80 km from Belgrade, lies the magnificent Topola in all its glorious surrounding nature. It is close to three important cities in Serbia: Gornji Milanovac, Arandjelovac and Kragujevac. Topola is a perfect place for a trip because of its beautiful climate and because of the vast forests that are an ideal place to relax with friends or family. One of the most recognizable symbols of Topola are the beautiful vineyards that can be seen passing through it.

Why should you visit vineyards?

Topola has been known for its wine throughout history. Due to the very favorable climate and spacious areas, the wine produced is of exceptional quality. Historically, the wineries in Topola have gained in importance due to king Aleksandar Karadjordjevic, who opened the first winery in this area, and thus began viticulture, which is still developing today. Aleksandar Karadjordjevic is considered the first founder of viticulture in our country, and he chose this place precisely because of the very sweet and delicious grapes from which the perfect vine was made.

Which wineries to visit in Topola?

Aleksandrović winery

One of the most famous wineries in this area is the prestigious winery Aleksandrović, which many claim is one of the best in the whole country. This winery has its roots in the royal vineyards, where the best winegrower handed over the secret recipe of the royal family to one of the founders of the Aleksandrović winery. To this day, this recipe has been used to make the best wine that is the symbol of this winery, the Triumph wine. I must not forget that this winery is a family business that has been going on for a long time, and each member is very dedicated to his work. Their commitment to the preservation of the winery is proven by years of development and work that have led them to great appreciation and quality.

King's winery

King's winery is one of the oldest wineries in Serbia. It was built by King Aleksandar Karađorđević in 1931, when it was considered an example to other wineries due to its exceptional quality. Bottles of wine from the time of King Alexander are still kept in this winery. These wines are not for sale because the king left them to serve as historical exhibits. These 280 bottles from the time of the king, could reach millions of dollars at auctions today. The bottles are made in three sizes and each has an engraved royal coat of arms on the glass.

In addition to visiting the historical exhibits of the old royal wine, this winery also offers tasting of new wine. The price is charged according to the amount of wine you have consumed. So far, four wines are included (Sauvignon blanc, Pinot blanc, Chardonnay, Cabernet sauvignon-Sovereign).

Topola is a place that all wine lovers must visit, since, besides its excellent wine, it also offers an amazing historical background behind the entire development of viticulture in Serbia. If you are a true wine lover, you will understand that not only the final product is important, but also the enjoyment in the entire experience.



Mihailo Vidaković III5

Why visit Arandjelovac?

Have you ever been to Tuscany? Let me take you on a road trip through Sumadija and see how you like this amazing Serbian region.

As I drive through green meadows and vineyard I can't help but wonder if nature is more beautiful during the beginning of the summer or at its end. The warm sun, blue skies and curved road makes me calm and relaxed as I slowly approach the city trying to soak it all up.

Arandjelovac, the city of great history, wonderful parks, healing waters and excellent wine. It's no wonder Karadjordje chose this area to start the uprising for liberation from Turkish oppression. The dynasty was born here and Orasac is a place to go. The Church of the Ascension of the Lord, architecturally modest building with distinct iconostasis by Stevan Todorovic, Memorial School in granite blocks, the fountain and Karadjordje's Monument give the taste of intensive Serbian history.

When overwhelmed by history, wishing to rest and refresh yourself, strolling in the park of Bukovicka banja or hiking trails might be just the right cup of tea. Of course if it's entertainment you are after I recommend Aqua Park Izvor with many swimming pools and water slides.



If you long for peace, quiet, fresh air and retreat, the amazing nature of Arandjelovac offers vast opportunities. You can choose from Risovacka cave, Bukulja Mountain, Garasi Lake. As a matter of fact, there is no need to choose just check it all and enjoy!

Last but not least Serbia is famous for its gastronomic pleasures and Sumadija is a wine and food region. Bon appetit!

Aleksandar Ugrinic III5