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The Phenomenon of Zoology via Art

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Abstract

Zoology is the branch of biology that deals with animals and their life, including the study of the structure, physiology, development, and classification of animals. The term is derived from the Ancient Greek word "animal". It can be broken down into numerous sub-disciplines such as: ornithology (the study of birds), primatology (the study of primates), ichthyology (the study of fish), and entomology (the study of insects). As a whole, zoology encompasses a fascinating and important body of knowledge that enables us to better understand animals, wildlife, our environment and ourselves. It was Aristotle (384-322 B.C.E) who is considered as the "father of zoology". His contribution to zoology includes vast quantities of information about the variety, structure and behavior of animals, the analysis of the part of living organisms and the beginning of the science of taxonomy. In the 'History of Animals' he looked at the physiology of animals, comparing and contrasting the organs and their specific functions. He noted how the same organs varied in different animals and documented how the same organs possessed completely different functions. He related this to the lifestyle and the habitat of the species, pointing out how organs differ according to whether the animal lives on land, flies or is aquatic, and whether the animal breathes air or not. The 1859 publication of Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection was a major turning point. Since that time, the study of genetics has become essential in zoological studies.

A demonstration of the subject was made in the following by applying different artwork. Figures 1, 5 and 6 are paintings of the Russian surrealist painter and sculptor Vladimir Kush (born 1965) where the figures are entitled respectively as follows: "Sonate Africaine", "Livre des Livre" and "Papilon Pomme". Figure 2 is a sculpture of an elephant located in the Green Zoo in Portsmouth, Rodd Island. Figure 3 is a Light Camel on walls located in the airport of Madrid that the first author photographed on 18.4.05. Figure 4 is a painting of a face of an animal on a sitting woman body. Figures 7 and 8 are surreally brilliant portraits of wild animals painted on human hands by the Italian artist Guido Danielle (b.1950). Figures 9 and 10 are paintings of the Italian artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo (1527-1593). He is best known for creating imaginative portrait heads made entirely of such objects as fruits, vegetables, flowers, fish and books painted on the canvas. He arranged them in such a way that the whole collection of objects formed a recognizable likeness of the portrait subject. Figure 9 is entitled "Earth" where Figure 10 is entitled "Water". Figure 11 demonstrates a metal art sculpture of a cow on which different shapes were painted. The sculpture is located in a street in Ra'anana-a city in Israel. It was designed and constructed by the Israeli artist David Gerstein (b.1974) a creator of hand painted indoor and outdoor sculptures. And finally Figure 12 demonstrating horses. It was done by the Canadian artist Calvin Nicholls who creates amazingly beautiful sculptures using sheets of paper. In conclusion we can say that the presentation of the topic through the artwork makes it easier concept.



Figure 1: Sonate Africaine.



Figure 2: Elephant located in the Green Zoo in Portsmouth.



Figure 3: Light Camel on walls.

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Figure 4: Face of an animal on a sitting woman body.



Figure 5: Livre des Livre.



Figure 6: Papilon Pomme.



Figure 7: Wild animals painted on human hands.



Figure 8: Wild animals painted on human hands.



Figure 9: Painting of the Italian artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo.



Figure 10: Painting of the Italian artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo.



Figure 11: Metal art sculpture of a cow.



Figure 12: Horses.