

Scientific analysis of artworks as an ally for teaching science in current times

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Abstract: In ancient times, it was common for artists to do chemistry tasks to prepare pigments, solvents, varnishes, and even their tools. Nowadays it is highly unlikely for an artist to prepare his own materials, although the relationship between art and science remains obvious for them. During the last decades, science has made its way into art through fields such as conservation and it was precisely through this that it found its ally as a diagnostic tool, since the chemical industry is largely responsible of the evolution of artistic materials used today. However, the contribution of science to art is not known in the same way worldwide, as, for example, in regions of the Caribbean. The international scientific and technology evolution have given rise to new fields in the sciences that have generated greater interest and have left the pure sciences aside, which is why teachers and professors look for more motivating teaching methods. The concerns for better education and interest in scientific fields is an international issue. One of the goals is to make science courses more interesting for students. In some cases, the

relationship between chemistry, physics and art has been used as an interdisciplinary field of study, highlighting the use of this scientific career as a diagnostic tool. This paper shows how the scientific analysis of artworks by great artists worldwide was used as headline in dissemination, education and mentoring programs. Proving that the relationship between these two fields, especially with painting, can be an efficient and motivational teaching method for scientific careers.



Image: Students from the Escuela Central de Artes Visuales de San Juan, PR during their visit at the Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico (MAPR).