

The Application of Astrology to the Display and Storage of Paintings

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We searched for several years for the definitive preventive conservation system for displaying and storing paintings and now - thank our lucky stars! - we have found it. Simply find the astrological sign of the painting and deal with it by the following guidelines. NOTE: if the painting's actual date of creation is not known, simply add nine months to the date at which it was conceived in the artist's mind.

Type of Sign

Just think of the cost-effectiveness of placing paintings together by their type of sign and providing specific protection as required according to their predestined needs. See Table 1 which follows shortly.

There has always been concern about having paintings born under the last three types of sign in collections because they are always bickering over who is the best.

Compatibility

Everyone knows about the importance of the components in a painting being compatible. Due to their astrological signs, not all paintings are compatible with each other. There are carefully documented cases¹ of finding traces of paint on one painting that were obviously hurled from a nearby incompatible painting.

Nor do we seek to put paintings together which are too compatible. Everyone remembers the celebrated scandal in the Vatican when the mysterious appearance of several miniature paintings was traced back to putting an overly amorous Scorpio painting in the same room as a fiery Taurus painting.

Houses

Paintings cannot be put into just any old room. Again, the Houses of Astrology give us valuable insights into where to display or store paintings.

House of the Sun

Paintings should not be put into this house because the lux levels are far too high.

House of the Moon

Lux levels are significantly lower here than in the House of the Sun. Paintings with very fugitive pigments can be put on the dark side of the House of the Moon, where the lighting is even lower but no one can see the paintings.

House of the Rising Sun

Again, lower light levels than the House of the Sun but be warned - "Baby, please don't go down to New Orleans."

House of Ill Repute

Most modern art feels right at home here, although some artists consider it prostituting their talent.

House of Commons

Only caricatures are displayed or stored here.

House of Mirrors

Can be used very imaginatively for displaying collections of artists who have done only one painting.

House of Mystery

Who knows?

House of Love

Until Venus moves out, this house has a permanent collection.

House of Cards

Display anything you want...carefully.

House of Glass

Expressionist paintings (other than the expression "oops!") can be displayed here.

Conclusion

You may be sceptical about this method for determining the preventive conservation system for the display and storage of your paintings, but you should try it....

shortly

Table 1.

Type of Sign	Sign (and creation dates)	Protection Details
Air	Aquarius (21 Jan-19 Feb)	does not need protection from oxygen, air-borne pollutants, air-breathing pests (ie. humans), comets or space-ships following comets
	Gemini (21 May-21 June)	
	Libra (23 Sept-22 Oct)	
Fire	Aries (21 March-20 April)	does not need protection from fire, heat or lack thereof (ie. temperature)
	Leo (23 July-22 August)	
	Sagittarius (23 Nov-23 Dec)	
Earth	Taurus (21 April-20 May)	does not need protection from earthquakes, dust particulates or dust bunnies
	Virgo (23 August-22 Sept)	
	Capricorn (23 Dec-20 Jan)	
Water	Pisces (20 Feb-20 March)	does not need protection from floods, relative humidity, mould or watered-down conservation theories
	Cancer (22 June-22 July)	
	Scorpio (23 Oct-22 Nov)	
Paper	(1 January-31 December)	does not need protection from Rock or other loud music
Rock	(1 January-31 December)	does not need protection from Scissors or other forms of vandalism
Scissors	(1 January-31 December)	does not need protection from Paper, bureaucracy, or other forms of concealment

Reference

1. Dung, Hoo Flung. "Incompatible Paint Compositions and How to Avoid Them Hitting Your Collection," Journal of Trace Analysis, Volume 0, 1997 BC, pp. vii-3904.