



Arts in the UK



Plan:

Architecture

Music

Theatre

Painting

1. Architecture of the United Kingdom

The architecture of Great Britain has a long history, and over that history architecture has ranged from the simplest hovel to the most elaborate palace.

Architecture

- The art of the designing and erecting buildings was the main art in the 11th-14th centuries.
- Architectural monuments of that time are churches and cathedrals in Oxford, Winchester, Lincoln, Canterbury, York.
- Architecture flourished after the Norman conquest, as church building mostly.



Romanesque style

- The arches were round, with a lot of brickwork, decoration, beak-head edges and chevron design.
- Tower of London was founded in the 11th century by William the Conqueror
- Thomas More, Henry VIII Chancellor, the King's 2nd wife Anne Boleyn, his 5th wife Catharine were beheaded in the Tower.



Gothic architecture

- Was introduced in the 13th century.
- It was a style harmoniously blending architecture, sculpture and pictorial art.



The emergence of english direction in the Gothic style



14 century

the era of the decorative Gothic style.
characterized by large volumes, fine stone carvings and sumptuous ornamentation



15 century

appeared perpendicular Gothic –
large windows, clear vertical and horizontal lines, sumptuous decorations of ceilings

Gothic style



During
the reign
of Queen
Victoria
is a
revival of
Gothic
style
(Westmin
ster
Abbey in
London)



**St Paul's
Cathedral St
Paul's
Cathedral was
designed by
Sir Christopher
Wren and built
between 1675
and 1708.**

Anglo-Saxon period

modest, mostly to defensive structures, few of which survived until our days.





The history of English architecture begins with **the Norman style - after the conquest of England by the Normans.**

Tudor style (XVI cent.)



bizarre mixture of Gothic and Renaissance elements. In this era vast palaces of the nobility are built, the so-called Stately homes, mostly - from the red brick.

Elizabethan style (XVII century)



characterized by richly decorated half-timbered buildings that adorn many of the city in England, such as Chester Cathedral

Georgian style (XVIII century)



**(formed during
the reign of
King George)
is elegant
and
sumptuous
architectural
forms**

John Nash

- Well-known architect of the end 18-19th c.
- He produced Gothic country mansions, Italian-style villas. His largest project was Regents Street and Regent's Park in London, Trafalgar Square.



Styles of the 20th century



Architects of the early XX century, sought to create functional designs fit the new era. In the heart of many cities have grown concrete skyscrapers, featureless, as in continental Europe

2. Music

Music in the UK has a long history. The 15th century was the period when folk music flourished. In the 15th century a new type of music with 2 or more independent melodic parts that sounded together came into being. It was called polyphonic music. Since the 15th century in England there has also been a tradition of choral singing.

John Dunstable

- Conspicuous English composer of the 15th century. He enjoyed European reputation for his church music.
- Henry Purcell wrote music for plays, church music and operas. He composed the first English opera “Dido and Aeneas”.
- The greatest musician of
- the XX century is Benjamin
- Britten. He composed
- the opera “A Midsummer
- Night’s Dream”.



Theatre

- **The Theatre appeared in England in the 14-15th centuries. The 2nd half of the 16th century was the age of theatre. In 1576 the first theatre was built in London.**
- **The United Kingdom also has a vibrant tradition of theatre. Theatre was introduced from Europe to what is now the United Kingdom by the Romans and auditoriums were constructed across the country for this purpose.**

- Great playwrights of 16 century were Shakespeare, Universe Wits.
- In the first half of the 17th century puritans forbade performances because they were against them and this marked the defeat of the theatre in its fight with Puritanism.

- Great playwrights of the 18th century are Sheridan, Oliver Smith, H. Fielding and in 19-20th centuries-are Bernard Shaw, Oscar Wilde.
- Nowadays dramatic training is provided by the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.



The Royal Shakespeare Theatre, opened in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1932, was named after the playwright, William Shakespeare



Painting

- Secular patronage insisted on portraiture, and the habit grew up of using foreign painters.
- Hans Holbein arrived at the age of 29 with a recommendation to
- Sir Thomas More from
- Erasmus. He became
- the official court painter
- to Henry the VIII.



- In the 17th c Charles I induced the Flemish painter Van Dyck to settle in England in 1632.



- That was of greatest significance for English painting. He had acquired all the resource of Baroque art in arrangement and variety of pose and gesture. His portraits were a classic example of grace and refinement of detail and colour.
- Van Dyck was really the father of the English portrait school.

- The first truly English painter is William Hogarth(1697-1764). He was one of the greatest of English artists and a man of remarkably individual character and thought. He produced portraits which brought a fresh vitality and truth into the profession.
- “Marriage-a-la Mode” his masterpiece, a series of pictures that show the negotiations between the daughter of a rich citizen and a young dissipated nobleman.

Marriage-a-la-mode



Painting

- **Sir Joshua Reynolds:** Sterne, Mrs Siddons, Lord Heathfield.
- **Thomas Gainsborough:** “The Painter`s Daughters with a Cat”, “Portrait of the Duchess of Beaufort”, “The Blue Boy”, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Andrew”, “The Morning Walk”, “Cornard Wood”.



- **John Constable:** “The Valley Farm”, “The Hay Wain”, “The Leaping Horse”, “The Flatford Mill”.
- **George Romney:** “The Lady in a Brown Dress”, “The Portrait of Elizabeth, Countess of Derby”, “The Beaumont Family”.



- **William Turner:** “Snowstorm: Steamboat off a Harbour Mouth”, “Fire at Sea”, “The Calais Pier”, “Snowstorm: Hannibal and His Army Crossing the Alps”.

