

Art Nouveau

1890 - 1905

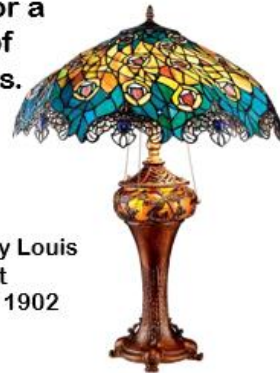


Horta House by Victor Horta, 1901

Art Nouveau (French for 'new art') was inspired by the Arts & Craft Movement and also cherished fine craftsmanship, but Art Nouveau did not detest the machine age

as the Arts and Crafts Movement did, but used it to its advantage. Art Nouveau was all about blurring the lines between fine art and design and taking a lot of inspiration from nature. But it took its design aesthetics to a much more dramatic level. Art Nouveau has a lot of curved lines and floral patterns, and often show an influence of Japanese art. Art Nouveau quite often has gold and jewel tones for a sense of richness.

Lamp by Louis Comfort Tiffany, 1902



Buffet cabinet by Hector Guimard, 1899

Metro entrance in Paris by Hector Guimard, 1900



Stairs at Grand Palais (museum in Paris), 1897



Chair by Louis Majorelle, 1905 approx.

KEY FEATURES:

- Natural, organic shapes with floral and plant influences
- Use of modern materials (iron, glass, ceramics) with wood
- Asymmetrical or whiplash curved lines

KEY SOCIAL FACTORS:

- Desire to create 'new' or modern design for all social classes
- Showcase art for everyday life

KEY DESIGNERS:

- Louis Comfort Tiffany
- Charles Rennie Mackintosh

Art Nouveau is a French term literally translating as "new art", symbolising a significant break from the art styles before it. The name was taken from the art gallery Maison de l'Art Nouveau (or the House of New Art) in Paris



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