Chemistry of Art

Chemistry and Art

Different chemical materials and tools are used in art. The restoration and analysis of artifacts requires knowledge of chemical relationships, reactions and compounds.

Pigment

If there is no Pigment, we cannot make art works.

Pigment is closely connected to chemistry. In the world, about 80-90% of

our pigments are made up of liquid nitrogen. For example, some pigments of white color are made up of compound of lead and other substances.

Ceramics

Ceramics is very important to our daily live because ceramics have many different uses and they are useful.

Ceramics can be a work of art with chemistry. Ceramics is inorganic metal that made up in high temperature. We need many chemical elements to make a ceramics, like carbon, oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, boron, etc.

Sometimes chemistry can improve on nature. Case in point: the 1641 oil painting "Portrait of a Man" by Dutch artist Govaert Flinck introducing this article. The image on the left shows the partially conserved painting. Only the right half is coated with a natural resin varnish. Next to it is the painting after conservation. It is now completely coated--the right side with the natural resin varnish, the left with a synthetic resin, a product of the chemical industry.