



Money Talks

Art, Society & Power

Edited by Shailendra Bhandare

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- Art that immortalises, reflects and provokes us to explore the place of money in our world - Art as sometimes subversive or irreverent and always revealing
- Covers topics from ancient coins to Rembrandt to Warhol and Jamie Reid's depiction of the Queen
- Exploring art's role in the future of money, including NFTs and "financialisation"
- Accompanies a major exhibition at the Ashmolean, Oxford, 10 Aug 2024 – 5 Jan 2025

This book aims to tell the story of social history through Money. Money and Art have shared a long history. Both words are metaphors derived from Latin terms used over 2,000 years ago. The word Money derives its modern meaning as the general term for all means of payment from its use as the word for coins in the pre-modern period. Particularly since the introduction of paper money, the word was applied to coins because of the name of the place where coins were made in ancient Rome, the temple of Juno Moneta (Juno the Warner), from this name the word moneta came to mean mint in Latin, and later the product of a mint, i.e. coins. The word Art acquired its modern usage, meaning works of art, both singularly and collectively, from the Latin ars meaning a skill, and it has so been used in English to describe any form of skill, but gradually from the nineteenth century, the word came to signify the product rather than the skill, particularly in relation to painting, graphic works and sculpture. This eclectic collection of stories brings together a multitude of perspectives through collections from the Ashmolean and around the world — from Art Nouveau bank notes and global portrayals of prosperity to activist Money Art. Deep dives into compelling stories reveal humour, hidden surprises and a tension between the power of money and the playfulness of art.

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Money and Art: Mixed Messages
Jocelyn

Money and art have shared a long history, but with a complex and often contentious relationship. This article explores the ways in which money has influenced art, from the patronage of the Renaissance to the modern art market. It discusses the role of money in the creation and distribution of art, and how it has shaped the way we think about and value art.



"Monetism and the Machine": The Disruptive Use of Art and Modern Consumerism and Europe's Cities
Mehmet Yildirim

The historical question of art and money has been a central theme in the study of art and society. This article explores the ways in which art has been used to critique and challenge the power of money and consumerism, particularly in the context of modern Europe. It discusses the role of art in the development of modern consumer culture, and how it has shaped the way we think about and value art.



The Case of the Bank: Contemporary Money in the Global Context
Shelby Smith

This article explores the ways in which contemporary money has been used to challenge and critique the power of money and consumerism, particularly in the context of the global financial system. It discusses the role of art in the development of modern consumer culture, and how it has shaped the way we think about and value art.