

In art a landscape is a graphic representation of a large field, but at the same time is an aesthetic experience, the perception of beauty in the physical or geographical space. At the beginning of landscape representations, landscapes appeared in the plastic work just like a scene; it is just in the late 19th century that landscape becomes central that artists decide to capture the excitement of outdoor elements: the mountains, the sea or the jungle and the need of telling a story or painting a character.

Landscape

ANDRÉS DE SANTA MARÍA
Marina

ca. 1893 óleo sobre tela

In 1894, Luis de Llanos and Andrés de Santa María founded the chair of Landscape at the National School of Fine Arts. As a result, the understanding of this type of painting was transformed by the artists: while they cultured sensory appreciation, developed ways of representing the wealth of the nation.

During the decades of the 1930s and 1940s of the 20th century, the generation of painters contemporary to Pedro Nel Gómez highlighted the landscape as a subject of art. Pedro Nel Gómez exalts the qualities of color and playing with small brushstrokes gives the painting a sense of movement.

PEDRO NEL GÓMEZ *Casa sabanera*
ca. 1934 óleo sobre tela

In the 1950s landscape interpretation transformed from naturalistic description to visual experimentation. One of the greatest representatives of this change was Alejandro Obregón, who was interested in representing the natural features of the country in a way that could arouse emotion in the viewer.

ALEJANDRO OBREGÓN *Volcán Gaterazamba*
ca. 1966 óleo sobre madera

In the case of the work *Insectos*, the artist Marcial Alegría gives us a notion of allegorical landscape. It emphasizes the description of each of the species and in some cases altered their scale to account for certain details rather than the environment in which they occur.

MARCIAL ALEGRÍA *Insectos*
2008 mixta

