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SPACE R&D TRULY FOSTERING A BETTER WORLD FOR OUR FUTURE: A STUDY FROM THE
ASPECTS OF ART AND AESTHETICS

Abstract

Is space RD truly fostering a better world for our future? The answer is “Yes”. The purpose of this paper is to study, from the aspects of art and aesthetics, that the space RD truly fostering a better world for our future. From the technology point of view, space age is the period characterized by the launching of artificial satellites and manned space vehicles into the Earth orbit, and is usually regarded as beginning with the launching of the first Sputnik on 4 October 1957. Actually, at about one decade ago in 1940s, a group of artists already envisioned the birth of space age. The artist group consisted Chesley Bonestell (American, 1888-1986), Raquel Forner (Argentinian, 1902–1988), Victor Vasarely (Hungarian and French, 1906–1997), Robert Theodore McCall (American, 1919–2010), Robert Rauschenberg (American, 1925–2008), Pierre Cardin (Italian and French, 1922–2020), André Courrèges (French, 1923–2016), etc. Majorly, they are painting artists and fashion designers. Then more and more artists including musicians, architects and installation artworks came in with some of them commissioned by NASA, ESA and other space agencies to make excellent contributions. For examples, Makoto Azuma is a Japanese florist and artist who used flowers to create “living art”, Luke Jerram is an installation artist from UK who created three models in 7 meter diameter for worldwide tours: Moon, Earth and Mars, and Tena R. Clark is a musician who was commissioned by NASA to compose the song “Way up There” for the Space Shuttle Columbia memorial service. They make great contributions in the space-age culture through art and aesthetics.