



CANNABIS & ART

S I L A S I N S K E E P

Cannabis has been a part of human civilization for thousands of years and has crept its way into the creative landscape in that time, notably in ancient Egyptian and Asian art. Cannabis has been embraced by writers, painters, musicians, and many of the artistic temperament for the ability to provoke offbeat thoughts.

Hashish directly influenced an entire generation of the art world in France after Club des Haschichins member Charles Baudelaire popularized the symbolism movement by introducing this into his writing and sparking the symbolism art movement. Symbolism in art focusses on the concept of capturing emotion rather than just an image of realism. A well-known example of symbolism is The Scream, by Edvard Munch.

Many artists and writers were influenced by this movement, one of them being Gaetano Previati, an Italian painter living from 1852-1920. Previatti would paint The Hashish Smokers in 1887, capturing a cannabis-loving side of Paris and marking a place for women in cannabis history. Three women sit in a dimly lit room, with the clouds of hashish filling the air, reclining in what appears to be a blissful hashish-induced state.

"...the most ordinary words, the simplest ideas assume a new and bizarre aspect"

Charles Baudelaire

Emile Bernard
Le Caire 1900





THE FUMEUSE DE HASCHISCHEMILE
EMILE BERNARD
1900

Emile Bernard painted this portrait after having travelled in the Middle East and experiencing cannabis culture. The Fumeuse de Haschisch depicts a woman lavishly decked out in jewelry and fine clothing while enjoying hashish.

Women have been part of cannabis history and this painting is a statement to that aspect of the heritage. It embodies empowerment, confidence, and questioned gender roles at the time.



THE CULTURE KEEPS ON