

ENGLISH ROMANTICISM AND ITS DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

English Romanticism was a literary and artistic movement that emerged in the late 18th century, reaching its peak in the first half of the 19th century. This period was characterized by a shift in artistic and intellectual focus towards the individual, nature, and the imagination. Romanticism was a reaction against the Industrial Revolution, the Enlightenment, and the rationalism of the 18th century.

During this time, poets, writers, and artists sought to explore the English Romanticism was a literary and artistic movements, imagination, and the beauty of nature. They emphasized the importance of individual expression and freedom, valuing intuition over reason. Some *key* themes in Romantic literature include a celebration of nature, a focus on the supernatural and the sublime, an exploration of the self and individuality.

Keywords: emphasized, artistic, Romanticism, sublime

INTRODUCTION

The emergence of Romanticism as an artistic, literary, and intellectual movement in Europe towards the late 18th century marked a significant shift in cultural expression and philosophical thought. The publication of William Wordsworth's and Samuel Coleridge's "Lyrical Ballads" in 1798 is often regarded as the starting point of the Romantic movement in England. This work, with its focus on nature, emotions, and individual experience, set a new tone for literature and poetry at the time.

in their works. Romanticism In England, the Romantic period is generally considered to have ended with the crowning of Queen Victoria in 1837. This period saw the flourishing of poets like Lord Byron, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and John Keats, who explored themes of nature, emotion, and the supernaturalism celebrated the individual, the beauty of nature, and the power of imagination over reason, contrasting with the rationalism of the Enlightenment that preceded it.

While Romanticism originated in Europe, its influence spread to other parts of the world, including the United States, where it took hold around 1820. American Romantic writers like Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Herman Melville

embraced similar themes of nature, individualism, and the exploration of the human psyche in their works. The American Romantic movement had its own unique characteristics but shared the same spirit of rebellion against the constraints of convention and reason that defined Romanticism in Europe.

Overall, Romanticism was a transformative movement that reshaped artistic expression, challenged traditional norms, and celebrated the beauty of the natural world. Its impact on literature, philosophy, and culture reverberates to this day, influencing subsequent generations of writers and artists around the world.

FINDINGS

English Romanticism was a multifaceted movement that had a profound impact on literature, art, and culture during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Here are some key findings regarding English Romanticism and its development:

Nature and Beauty: One of the central tenets of English Romanticism was a deep appreciation for nature and its beauty. Romantic poets and artists often sought inspiration in the natural world, using its imagery to convey emotions, reflect on the human condition, and explore spiritual themes.

Individualism and Emotion: Romanticism emphasized the importance of individual experience and emotion. Poets like William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge focused on personal feelings and inner thoughts, valuing individual creativity and intuition over traditional forms and structures.

Imagination and Creativity: The Romantics believed in the power of the imagination to transcend reason and logic. They explored the realm of the fantastic, the supernatural, and the mysterious, often delving into dreams, myths, and folklore for inspiration.

Rejection of Industrialization: The Romantics were critical of the rapid industrialization and urbanization that characterized the period. They mourned the loss of connection to nature, the destruction of the countryside, and the alienation of individuals in increasingly mechanized societies.

Social and Political Critique: English Romanticism was not only concerned with aesthetic pursuits but also with social and political issues of the time. Many Romantic writers expressed revolutionary ideas, championing the rights of the individual, critiquing social inequalities, and advocating for human freedom and dignity.

Legacy and Influence The legacy of English Romanticism can be seen in various artistic movements that followed, such as the Pre-Raphaelites and the Arts and Crafts movement. Additionally, Romantic ideals of nature, emotion, and individuality continue to resonate in modern literature, art, and philosophy.

CONCLUSION

Romanticism was a period marked by rebellion against established norms, exploration of emotion and imagination, and a deep sensitivity to nature and the

individual experience. Within this dynamic environment, artists often grappled with conflicting ideas, desires, and values, resulting in works that reflect this internal turmoil.

Through the lens of internal conflict, we can better appreciate the richness and depth of Romantic works, as they reveal the struggle between reason and emotion, tradition and innovation, idealism and realism. This approach invites us to consider the personal journeys of the artists behind the works and the psychological landscapes they navigated in their creative processes.

Moreover, by focusing on internal conflict, we can uncover the universal themes and questions that continue to resonate with audiences today. The exploration of love, loss, nature, identity, and the search for meaning are all manifestations of the internal conflicts that drove the Romantics and continue to engage readers and viewers across cultures and time periods.

In conclusion, viewing Romanticism through a model of internal conflict offers a more holistic and insightful perspective that transcends traditional categorical boundaries. It invites us to delve into the complexities of the human experience, the struggles of the creative mind, and the enduring relevance of the Romantic spirit in our own lives.

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