

HISTORY
ARTS
CULTURE

DOCUMENTARY
30 MIN.



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20x30 min.

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Art Beats

Mention culture, and what usually springs to mind is famous writers and composers, great painters and sculptors, celebrated actors and singers. But culture encompasses much more: street musicians and graffiti artists, samba and tango virtuosos, masters of caricature and satire. Culture is vibrant and diverse, international and able to unite nations and peoples.

01 **Swinging Paris – Music in the Metro** SD

A man stands on a busy platform in the Paris metro, playing familiar jazz hits on his double bass. Several passengers stop to listen, others don't have the time or the interest and hurry on. Few are aware of the fact that artists who want to perform here have to audition for the privilege.

02 **Elegance and Passion – The World of Tango** SD

Tango is rhythm. Tango is passion. Tango is elegance. Once you've been gripped by tango fever, you'll soon forget everything else. The dance originated in the 19th century in Buenos Aires and Montevideo. Today, it's a worldwide phenomenon. But no matter where its practitioners live, they all share one thing: a burning love for the dance and a desire to "lose themselves" in the music.

03 **New York Graffiti – From Street Art to Collectors Items** SD

His career began in the Bronx in New York, where he daubed his graffiti on walls for the first time. Since then, the German-French artist who goes by the name of Reso has been active in many countries, inspiring a generation of graffiti artists. He is internationally renowned and his works are shown at mainstream galleries. He still paints with the same passion – but these days, almost always on canvas rather than concrete.

04 **From the Townships to the Opera – Young South Africans Raise Their Voices** SD

The performers at the Cape Town Opera Company have audiences in raptures. Ninety percent of these singers come from the townships. Music has been their ticket out of poverty, criminality and despair. What remains is the delicate balancing act between fame on the operatic stage and the rigours of daily life in South Africa's townships.

05 **Living for Carnival – At a Samba School in Rio de Janeiro** SD

Think of samba, and images of the spectacular carnival shows in Rio de Janeiro spring to mind. The ecstatic performances are the culmination of highly concentrated work throughout the year by hundreds of people at each of the 12 traditional samba schools. Their aim is to be among the three winners. And to achieve that, the show has to be flawless.

06 **Drawing With Flowers – Nature Artist Nils-Udo** SD

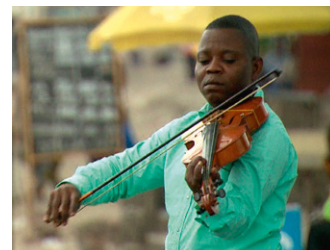
Drawing with flowers, painting with clouds, writing with water – this is the motto of Nils-Udo. The pioneer of the 'land art' movement finds his materials in the natural world: stones and twigs, leaves and petals, sand and salt. He processes these elements into pictures, metaphors and symbols – works that are not meant to last forever, but intended for the moment.

07 **Dancing to the Same Tune? – Life in the Orchestra Pit** SD

When orchestral musicians perform together, the focus has to be on harmony. But how harmonious is orchestral life behind the scenes? Is it true that down in the pit, string and brass players are locked in eternal rivalry? Or that harpists are sensitive types, and brass players machos?

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- 08 Kinshasa Symphony – An Orchestra in the Heart of Africa** **VoD** **HD**
Central Africa's only symphony orchestra was founded in the 1990s in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo. For members of the ensemble, who have had to live in a crisis-torn region for decades, music enshrines the hope for a better future.
- 09 Flamenco – Spain's Primal Scream** **HD**
Outside Spain, flamenco is often associated with a particular style of dance. But for the Spanish themselves, it is the song form that is most important. The music is raw, with an eastern inflection, and was at first only performed vocally. The familiar guitar and dance accompaniment came much later. Created by the gitanos, the Romani people of Andalusia, flamenco tells of poverty and hunger, and of the pride and exuberance of this marginalized ethnic group.
- 10 Voci Verdiane – Young Voices for Verdi** **VoD** **SD**
Every year, young singers from around the world gather in the small northern Italian town of Busseto to take part in the International Competition for Verdian Voices. Giuseppe Verdi was born in a nearby village and grew up in Busseto. Winning a prize at the competition often marks the start of a promising career, but other singers also stand a good chance of being discovered.
- 11 Danza Voluminosa – Challenging Ballet Stereotypes** **VoD** **SD**
The Cuban capital Havana is home to the fattest ballet ensemble in the world. None of the dancers weighs less than 100 kilos. Wherever they perform, any initial amusement soon gives way to appreciation, support and applause. After all, these dancers show that grace and beauty are not just the preserve of the typical skinny ballerina.
- 12 Courageous, Strong and Skillful – Folk Artists in Uzbekistan** **VoD** **HD**
Every summer, a troupe of dorboz and polvon – that is, highwire acrobats and heavy-weight athletes – draw enthusiastic crowds. They travel through the Fergana Valley from May to September, putting on shows in parks and at private celebrations. To this day, the densely populated region is the heartland of this traditional folk culture.
- 13 Flowers of Fire – The Art of Pyrotechnics** **SD**
The images painted by fireworks in the night sky are called "flowers of fire". The art of pyrotechnics creates pictures for the moment. But pyrotechnicians also have other talents, creating explosive and dazzling special effects for action movies and stage shows.
- 14 Roden Crater – The World's Largest Artwork** **HD**
The largest artwork in the world has been in production since the mid-1970s in the southwestern United States. Here, light artist James Turrell has been working to turn an extinct volcano, the Roden Crater, into a gigantic sculpture where the sky, light and stars can be experienced like never before.
- 15 Made in Tokyo – Art, Fashion and Music** **VoD** **HD**
Whether it's in the fields of art, fashion or music – talented individuals from the Japanese capital Tokyo distinguish themselves through skill and diligence, creativity and ambition, inventiveness and tenacity. For example the pop artist Keiichi Tanaami, the fashion blogger Juno Suzuki and the street musician Megumi Mori.
- 16 Berlin's Klezmer King** **HD**
Klezmer was the traditional music of the Jews of Eastern Europe. These days, it's popular in many other parts of the world. The performances of the passionate musician, comedian and ambassador for Yiddish culture Jossif Gofenberg can get any audience up on its feet.

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17 Freestyle – Jazz and China VoD HD

Shanghai boasts a cool cosmopolitan jazz scene. A number of musicians here are developing their own Chinese-influenced jazz style, encouraging improvisation and breaking with a tradition of performing scores exactly as written.

18 Polar Circle Rock – Iceland's Vibrant Music Scene VoD HD

Icelanders love making and listening to music. They see it as a way of expressing what makes them different. That's why some experts say Iceland has almost as many different musical genres as it does inhabitants!

19 What a Circus – The Wonderful World of the Artists HD

The Charles Knie Circus is one of Germany's newest circuses. It was only founded in 1995 but has already earned itself an excellent reputation. The ensemble is made up of international performers and strives for one thing above all else: perfection.

20 Masters of All Styles – Art Reproduction in Berlin VoD HD

Whether Renaissance, Baroque or Rococo – Evgeni, Mikhail and Semyon Posin know how to reproduce any style to perfection. In their art studio in Berlin, the three Russian brothers copy masterpieces from all epochs. Their reproductions are signed, to ensure that they do not pass as forgeries.