

Famous artists and architects who designed windows

Stained glass art dates back to ancient times. Historically, artists would carefully design lead dividers, hand tint the glass, and carefully cut each piece.

Many of the artists who we know and love for their paintings have also dabbled in glass design... creating a kaleidoscope of colors that glow, and project colored shadows on the walls and floor of the rooms they occupy!

Take a look at a few famous artists who have designed extraordinary windows!

Stained Glass

Handout #2

Chagall Window

Marc Chagall designed the America Windows to commemorate the bicentennial in 1976, and they were given to The Art Institute of Chicago in 1977 in memory of Mayor Richard J. Daley. This set of 3 windows features Chagall's dreamy and symbolic style, and it's become somewhat of a pop-culture icon... appearing in Ferris Bueller's Day Off.



Marc Chagall, *America Windows*, 1977. Photo by Anna Fox, via Flickr

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Matisse Window

Matisse is known for his organic paper cut-out shapes. He used this same technique when he created the stylized windows at The Chapelle du Rosaire de Vence (sometimes called the Matisse Chapel).



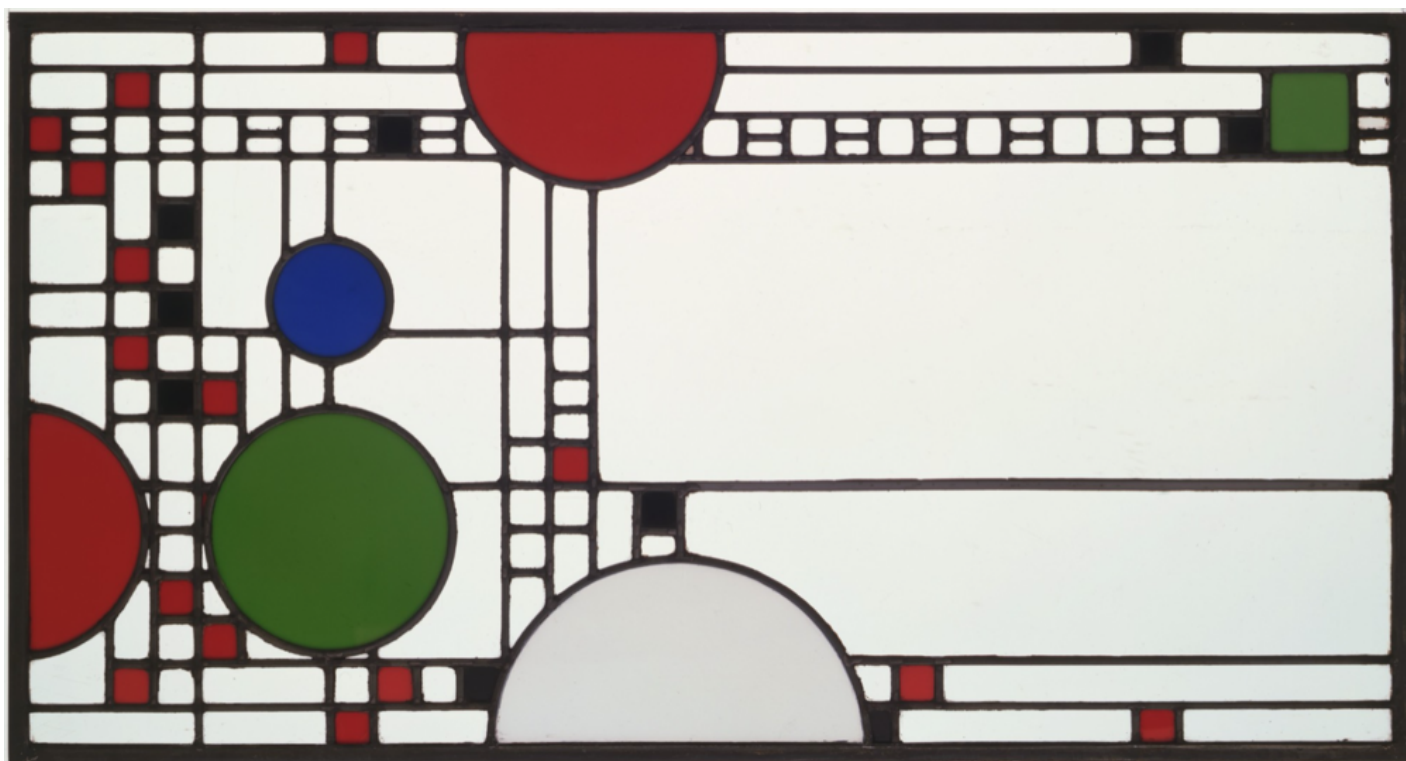
Henri Matisse, "Tree of Life" windows. (Claude Almodovar/2019 Succession H. Matisse / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York)

Stained Glass

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Frank Lloyd Wright Window

Frank Lloyd Wright is mainly known for developing his Prairie style of architecture, but he also designed windows to go in many of his buildings! This one is especially interesting because of the bright colors– Wright usually used a neutral color scheme. His love of architecture started at a young age as he played with blocks for hours... exploring their potential. The element of geometric forms was a common theme in many of his designs.



Frank Lloyd Wright, Windows from the Avery Coonley Playhouse, 1912

Stained Glass

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Marianne Peretti Windows

Peretti is a painter and sculptor, and this cathedral project showcases her amazing mastery of form and color! Visitors travel through a darkened corridor with low ceilings before emerging into this grand space... making it even more astounding when you enter this vast room filled with colored light!



Interior of the Cathedral of Brasília. Photo via Wikimedia Commons.

Stained Glass

Handout #2

David Hockney's Window

David Hockney is best known for his paintings and photo collages, but he designed his first window this year. This window at Westminster Abbey was designed for the Queen of England!

Guess what he used to draft his plans? An iPad! He said it was a natural device to use for sketching because, like a window, it's lit from behind.



David Hockney, The Queen's Window. Photo Credit: Eddie Mulholland