

Artists to Follow on DeviantArt

MASHIYAT NAYEEM

Whether you are a passionate artist or not, everyone likes eye candy in the form of beautiful art. One such a black hole of a place to delve deep into is DeviantArt, boasting the world's largest community of independent artists. From lush landscapes to intricate anime to animation concept art, they have it all. Follow these artists below and you are good to go.

PIPER THIBODEAU

cryptid-creations.deviantart.com

Follow him and your daily dose of cute and quirky speed-paintings are guaranteed. A freelance character designer and illustrator for clients like DreamWorks TV and Nickelodeon, all his paintings feature cute critters that are actually a depiction of clever puns. His daily paintings are so popular that almost every day they show up on the Daily Deviations page. Also, you'll get your fair share of purr-fect cat puns, hehe.

STANLEY LAU

artgerm.deviantart.com

Like superheroes and anime? Look no further if you want to see realistic paintings and get sneak peeks to official concept art of your favourite characters. With high-profile clients like DC Comics and Square Enix, Stanley Lau runs a world acclaimed digital art studio that produces artworks for the gaming and entertainment industry.

VLAD D. (SIR TOWEL THE SALTY)

saltytowel.deviantart.com



Another concept artist, his cartoonish landscapes are clean and simple yet perfect for feasting your eyes upon them. And isn't the quirky name enough to get you interested?

LEONID AFREMOV

leonidafremov.deviantart.com

You have probably seen some of his works randomly on the internet before Prisma commercialised his style as their

own. A master of fine art, with thousands of works in his gallery, his speciality is his signature palette knife on oil technique. Each one is like a kaleidoscope of polychromatic hues painted with beautiful raw strokes of nothing but a palette knife. Most of the paintings are nature inspired with cityscapes and human figures thrown in from time to time. All his works are up for sale and eagerly collected by curators

globally. And to quote him, "Presently it is just enough to type my name in an internet search engine to discover the value and magnificence of my art."

PASCAL CAMPION

pascalcampion.deviantart.com

Popular on social media platforms too, his illustrations are slices of life. From depictions of a walk in the neighbourhood to star gazing on a lonely night, his gallery has it all. The beautiful speed-paintings are accompanied with a micro story or a real slice of his life: conversations with his son. Follow him ASAP if you want to share relatable pictures because his paintings are the new memes.

GABRIEL PICOLO

picolo-kun.deviantart.com

If monochrome is your thing, look up Gabriel Picolo and fall in love with his inky black drawings of popular characters as well as his own creations with subtle hints of surrealism. Currently he is focusing more on comic strips with his own beautifully illustrated series up and about.

Of course there are thousands of artists out there to be discovered and these are just some of my personal favourites. Go ahead and use the "More Like This" feature to come across more incredible artists.

Mashiyat Nayeem has a genuine phobia of onions and identifies as a chocolate connoisseur. She spends her free time making relatable memes or hunting down the next great book. Check them out at mashiyat.nayeem@gmail.com

An Ode to Classic Memes

MUSTAFID RAIYAN KHAN

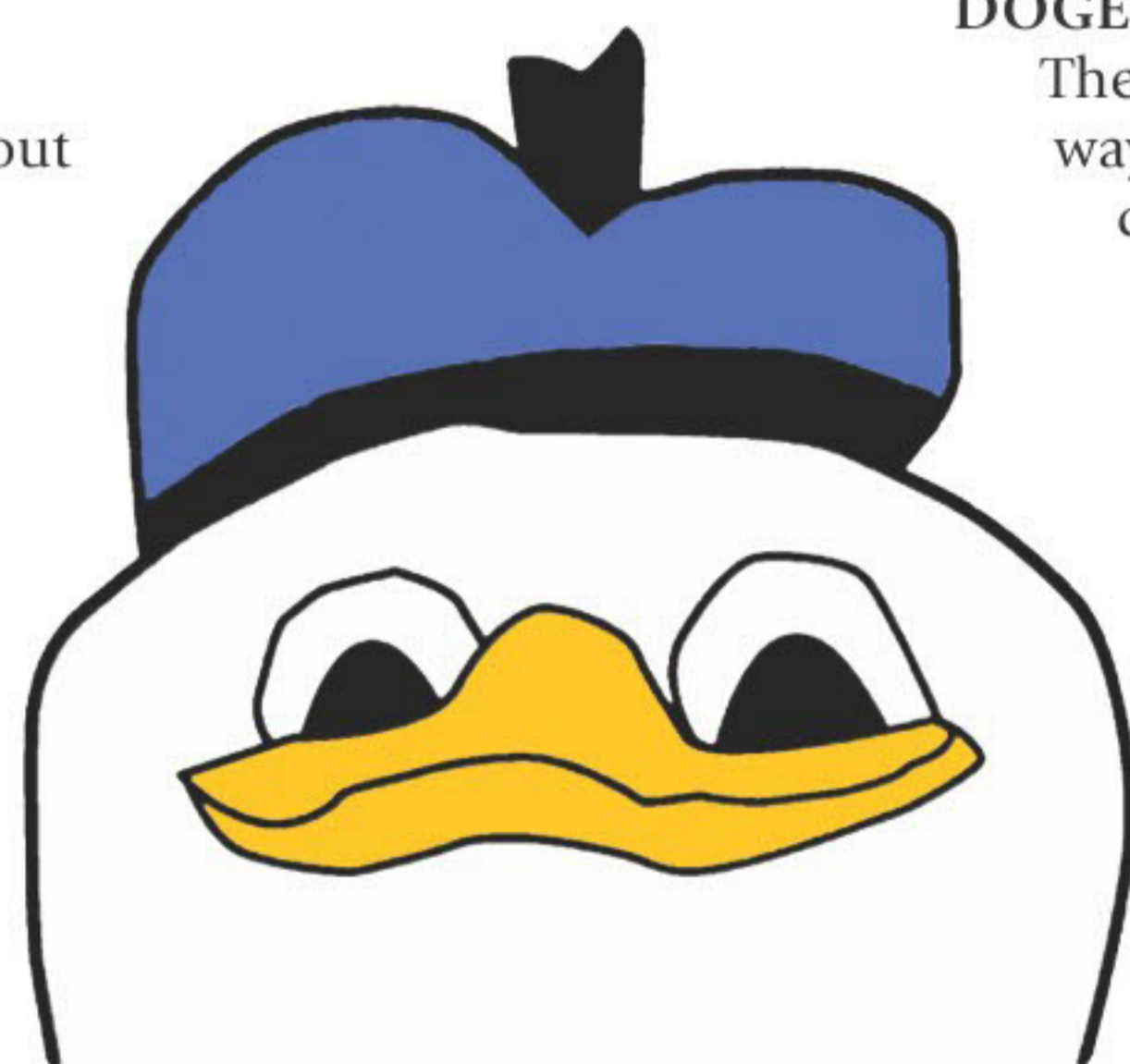
Back in the day, one only ventured out into Facebook only to like a few statuses, add the occasional beauty/beast (we don't judge), play a few online quizzes and call it fate when the letter Facebook says your crushes name starts with happens to coincide with, well would you know it, your crush. How boring.

But then one fine day, someone in the magical world of the internet, decided to break away from the kind of self-absorption and materialism social media breeds. Regardless, enter the crudely drawn faces which changed our lives forever. Memes.

From the Y U NO faces to the SpongeGar and Harambe memes of today, we've come a long way. Gone are the days we'd go "Dost ei mey-mey ta dekh" because hey, they're everywhere. But alas, all memes must end one day. While the death of one meme signifies the birth of another, let us look back at some of the memes that were legends in their days.

GRUMPY CAT

The Grumpy Cat meme is probably as famous a meme as it is because it gives life to deep set low key disdain for humanity we're all in denial about having. I can't say I'm happy about someone as bad a failure as I am but, Grumpy Cat can because he's grumpy. Convenient.



DOGE

The Doge meme set fire to the internet way back in 2010 when a funky Shiba Inu dog named Kabosu made a weird face at a camera, and his Japanese owner shared pictures on her blog. Like all things on the internet, somebody noticed, decided to add a few choice lines to the picture and voila - instant hit for the ages. Such article. Very read. Much good. Wow. Many like.

DOLAN DUK

The Dolan Duk memes are throwbacks to the times when writing in shorthand was considered cool (read: k3wlz). Featuring crudely drawn Disney characters and their crudely written and imagined shenanigans in a comic-like format, Dolan memes very

apparently have a dark side (Darth Vader would be proud). In fact, these memes can get borderline offensive, given Dolan's, um, predatory demeanour.

I DON'T ALWAYS _____ BUT WHEN I DO, _____

Possibly one of the first memes on the internet, this meme is based off a 2007 commercial called "The Most Interesting Man in the World", which quickly turned into an internet sensation between 2009 and 2013. This meme accurately depicts what I like to call the impressive-douchebag-effect, where you hear someone brag and you hate it, but you can't help being impressed somewhat and hate yourself for it.

YOU DON'T SAY

This is as classical as classic memes get, and it features the forever young and balding Nicholas Cage sarcasti-

cally reacting to the obvious. You don't say memes were the rage back in 2012, and soon it became a thing to blurt out "You don't say" anytime someone farted and someone else went "haha someone farted."

These barely scratch the surface of the wide and varying kinds of memes that exist, or have existed, over the ages. While one may very well feel sad and reminisce about how the great memes over the internet have slowly withered away into oblivion, at least we know there's something else, something brand new, right around the corner.

Because after all, it's a jungle out there.

