

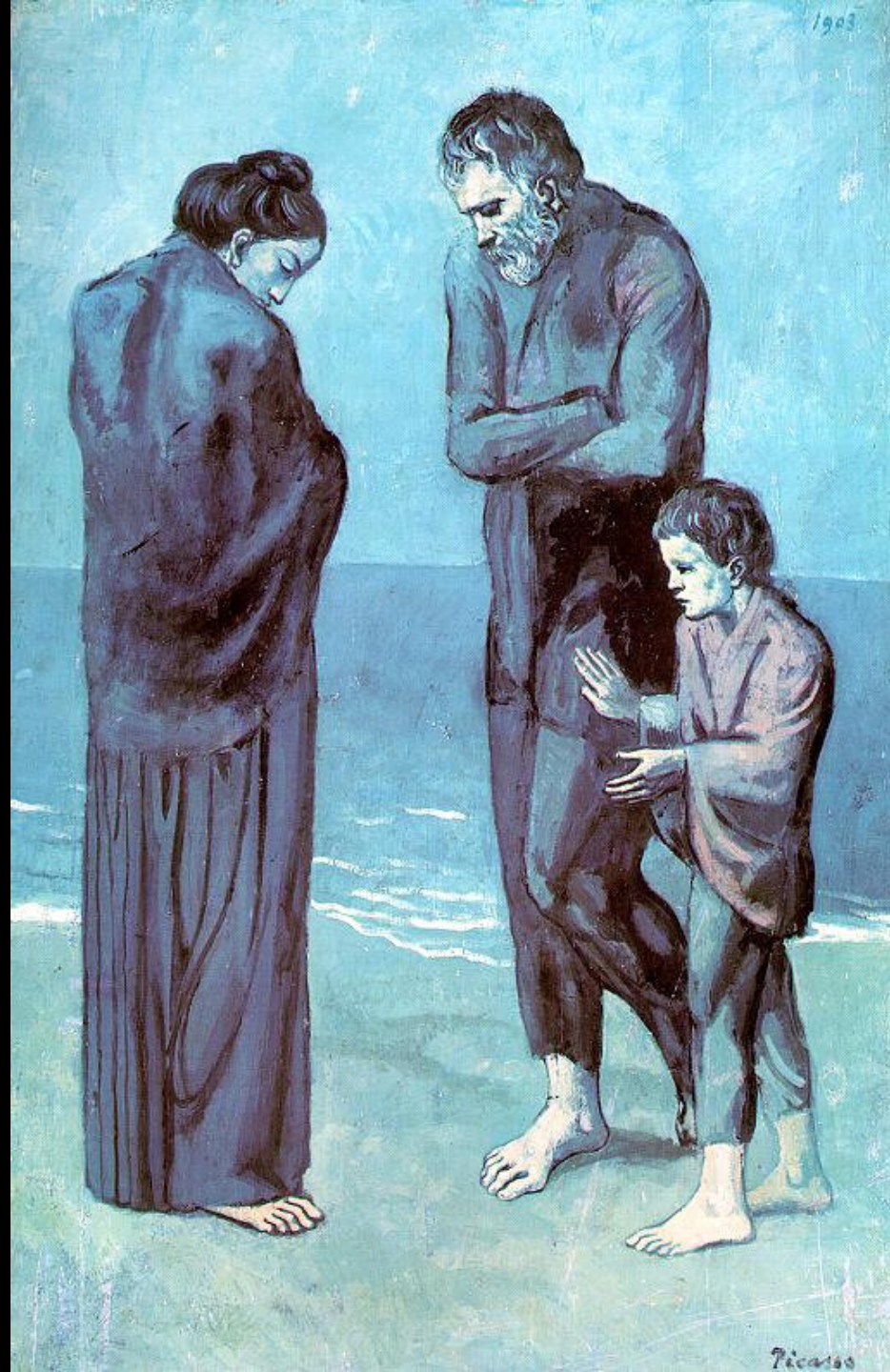
# Self-Portrait Blue Period 1901

- Spanish, child prodigy
- "By the time I was 15 yrs. old I could draw like Michelangelo, and it took me the rest of my life to learn to draw like a child."
- Moved to Paris 1900, at age 19
- Blue Period - Poor starving artist - work reflects mood, and personal feelings at the time.
- 20 yrs. old, but appears older



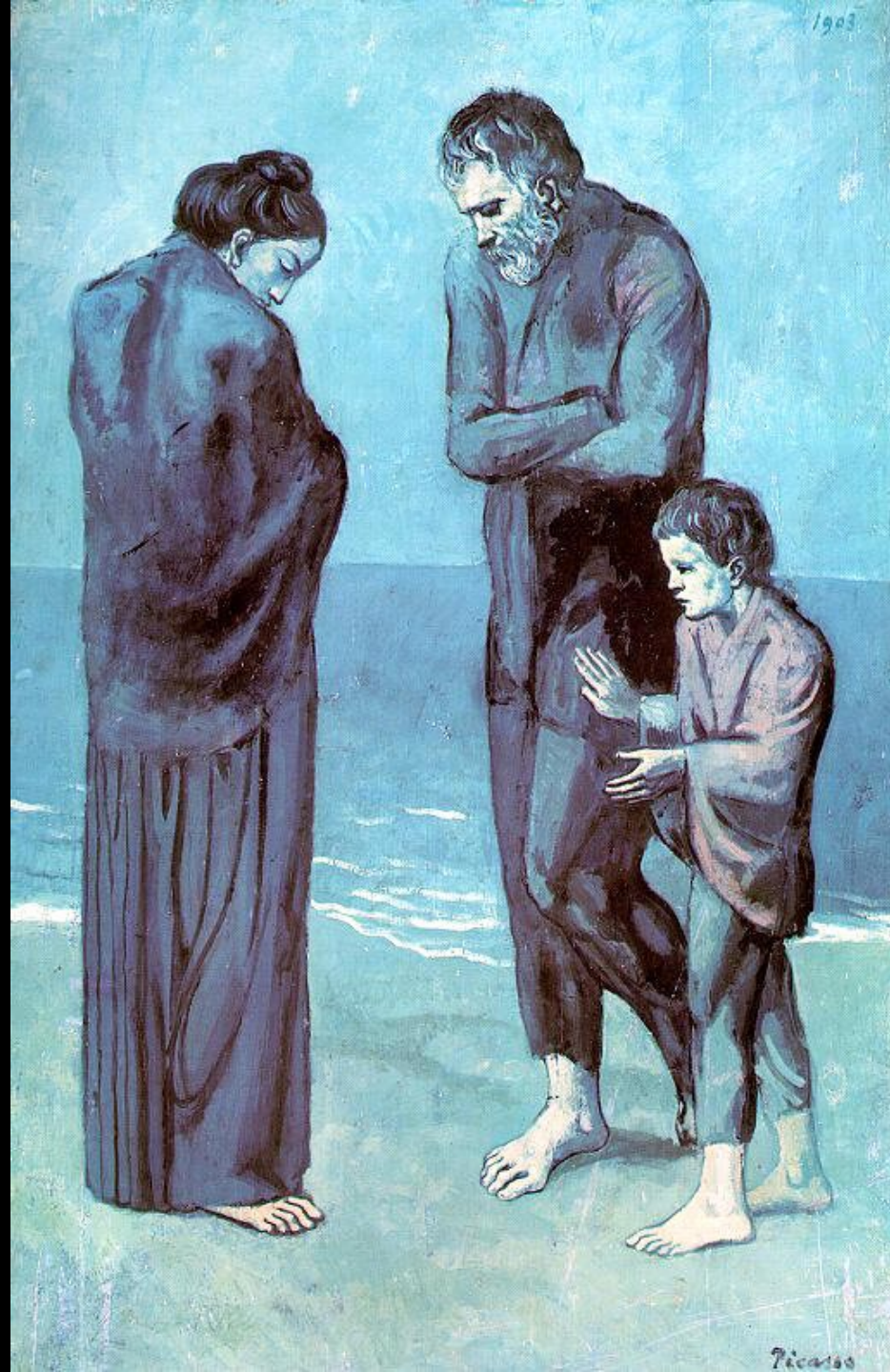
# The Tragedy, Blue Period, 1903

- Subject - title suggests grief, suffering, hopelessness
- Sea suggests mystery
- What is going to happen?
- What has happened?





- The work is Expressionistic
- Colour & form are distorted.
- Colour is reduced to tints and shades of blue
- Sadness is communicated through the colour
- Form - figures distorted for emotional effect - suggests physical & moral fatigue



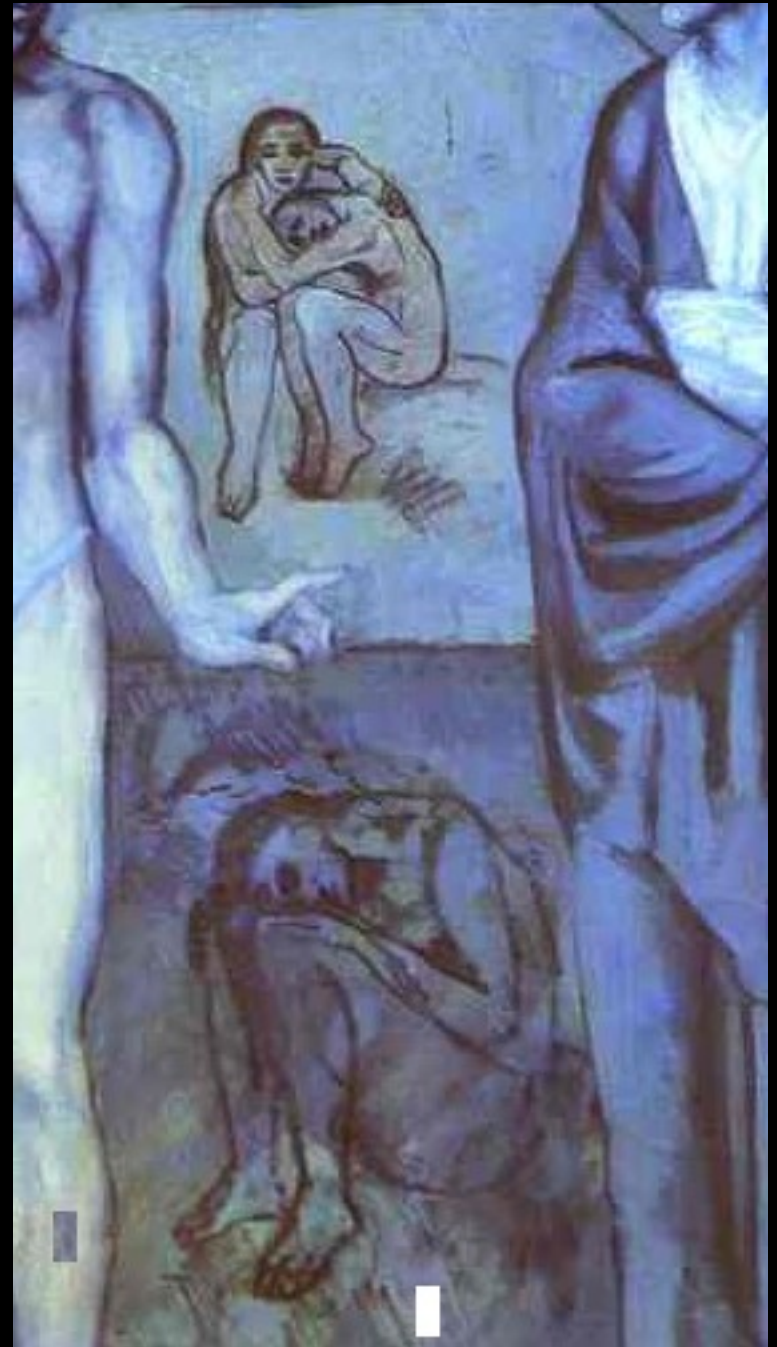
# La Vie, Blue Period, 1903

- **Subject - life ( vast & difficult subject)**
- **Reps. the span of life - Beginning/ middle /end**
- **Couple appear lost in thought - pondering mystery of life**
- **Statement about mystery & misery of existence, even love and motherhood (life at its greatest) is fraught with desolation.**

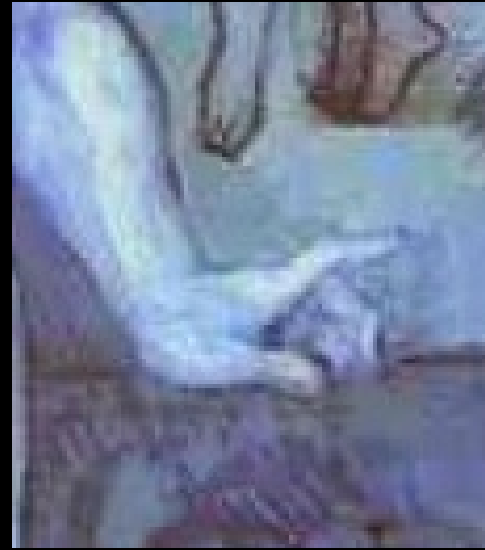




- **Paintings in the back between the figures further expresses the silent mood.**
- **Top figures console each other , while bottom figure in fetal position expresses isolation & loneliness.**



- **Can you tell me what famous work of art is referenced in Picasso's La Vie ?**
- **For what reason do you think he made this reference?**



# Analytic Cubism

- Picasso introduced a 4th dimension - movement through space & time.
- Objects are shown from multiple perspectives.
- He limited colour because form is the main concern.
- Works are made up of geometric shapes (i.e. cubes).



# Synthetic Cubism

- In 1912 Picasso incorporates elements of the real world into his canvases inventing collage.
- Introduces found materials, text, and colour into the Cubist vocabulary.
- Curved lines also enter the formerly rigid analytic cubism.
- There is an ambivalence in these works between represented reality and abstraction.





**Still-life With Chair Canning, Synthetic Cubism**

**1912**





- Subject - Still-life of a Cafe table in semi - abstract style
- Glass, Knife, Lemon slice, oyster shell, transparent glass, newspaper



- Paper suggested with partial text JOURNAL - journal
- Oil cloth - printed caning reps. chair (symbol)
- By using a printed image of caning he placed an object of mass production into a hand made object - the opposite.





- " It is not a reality you can take in your hand. It's more like a perfume. The scent is everywhere, but you don't quite know where it comes from."



**Girl before the Mirror** 1932





- The subject is actually a woman that Picasso was romantically involved with.
- This type of subject was traditionally used to depict vanity and the impermanence of beauty. "Mirror mirror on the wall..."
- The girl reaches out to the reflection, as if trying to unite her different "selves."





- We see a psychological interpretation of the subject.
- This is the girl as she sees herself in the mirror.
- In the mirror she is transformed.





- Cubism with curves, bright colour, patterns & texture
- Combo of expressionism & cubism







**Guernica 1937**





- Depicts the bombing of Guernica, Spain on [April 26, 1937](#) during the [Spanish Civil War](#).
- Franco, Spain's Fascist leader ordered the attack on his own people.
- As many as 1,600 were killed and many more were injured.



- The destruction was carried out by Hitler's bombers.
- Hitler's Nazi government and Franco's Facist governmment would later join forces in WWII.



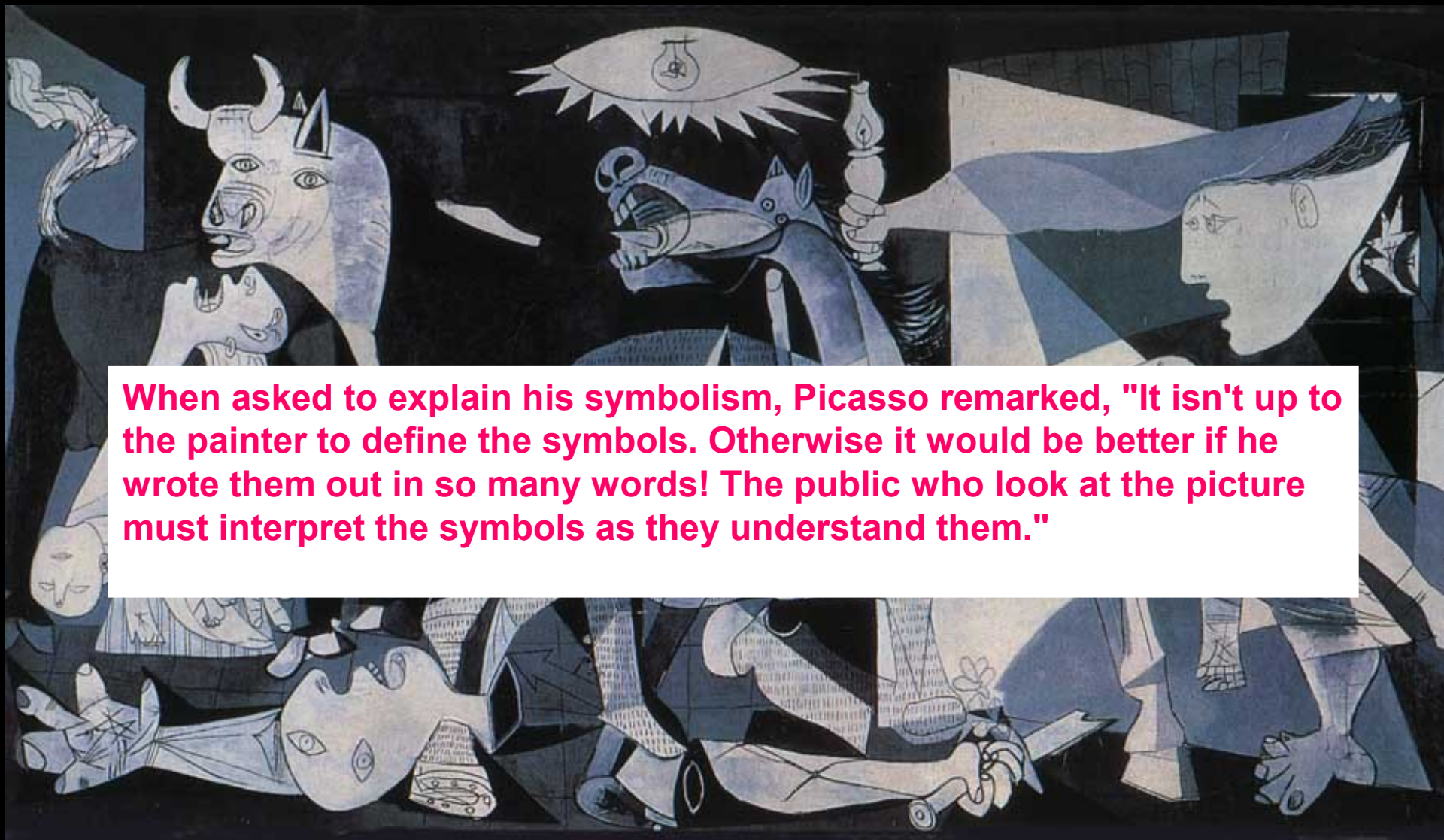


- The huge **mural** was commissioned by the Spanish Republican government to decorate the Spanish Pavilion at the Paris International Exposition (the 1937 World's Fair in **Paris**).
- It portrays the horror of the bombing, and represents a protest against Franco (Spain's Fascist dictator.)



- *Guernica* challenges our notions of warfare as heroic and exposes it as a brutal act of self-destruction.





**When asked to explain his symbolism, Picasso remarked, "It isn't up to the painter to define the symbols. Otherwise it would be better if he wrote them out in so many words! The public who look at the picture must interpret the symbols as they understand them."**



- What do you think the images mean?
- How might the symbols be interpreted?





- The images in the work are not new; Picasso brings together images he had used before, but in a new way.
- These include a weeping woman and Bullfighting imagery of the bull and horse.



# Weeping Woman & Minotauromachy





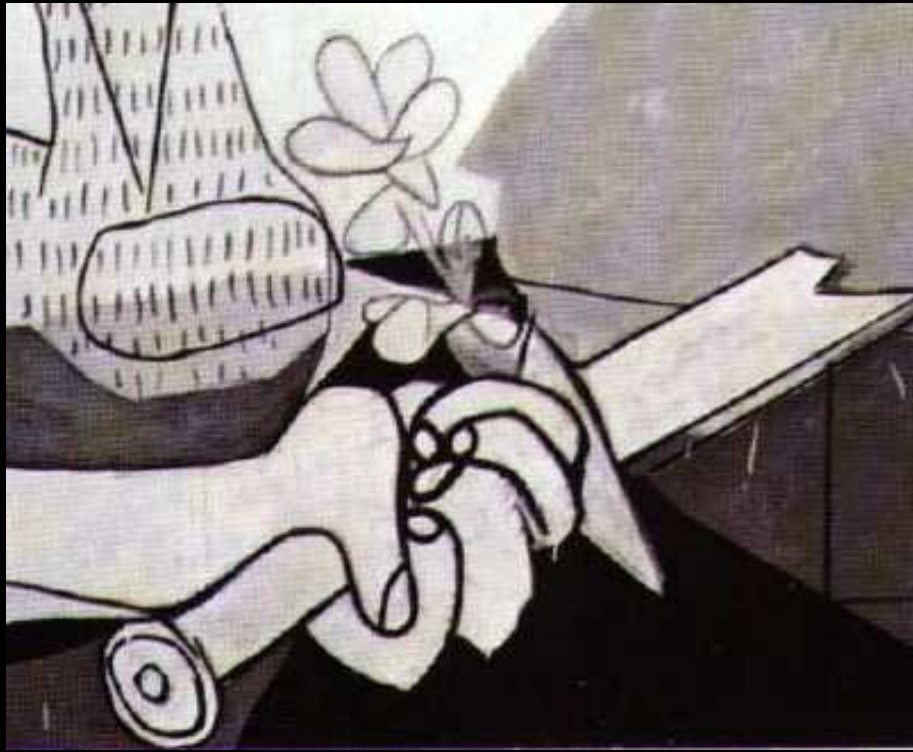


- The gored and speared horse may represent the Spanish Republic.
- The spiked tongue in its screaming mouth suggests the suffering of the people.



- The bull may represent Franco.
- He stands over a bereaved, screaming woman with a dead child.





- The broken sword may represent defeat.
- The flower could be a symbol of hope for the future.



- The eye-like light suggest that the world is aware and watching.
- The media was in fact doing its best to shed light on the event.





- The parallel line on the horse suggest lines of text in the worlds newspapers.



- The image is made up of only black, white, and grey.
- The colours suggest mourning, as well as the grainy flat look of a front page newspaper photo.