I think that the artwork was each human creation prior of the writing, when it was necessary to recall the words with the help of rhymes (poetry and greek theater), when artists remembered events with images (sculptures, painting and dance) or sounds (music).

The mass media is a means to transfer the arts, so that the movie transfer the theater, the writing transfer the poetry, the tape transfer the music, but the art is not the full transmission of the thought (that allow the writing or the registration) but a vague work to be deciphered, due to the limitation of the human memory.