Revolutions in Art – The Shock of the New

Stanford Continuing Studies – Remote Sessions - Fall 2021

The impact of new Artistic Movements: six sessions exploring ways in which painters blazed new pathways and audaciously broke with the prevailing Cultural Establishment

1) Florentine Renaissance – 15th century vs. International Gothic Art
   Linear Perspective breaking through the constraints of stilted Medieval formats
   Shift in emphasis from Human Sinfulness to Human Dignity and Physical Beauty
   Masaccio – Fra Angelico – Fra Filippo Lippi – Piero della Francesca – Botticelli

2) Baroque Art – 17th century vs. Late Renaissance Mannerism
   Dynamism and High Drama supplanting the artificiality of stylized Mannerism
   Religious artists heeding the Clarion Call of the Catholic Counter-Reformation
   Caravaggio – Carracci – Rubens – Artemisia Gentileschi – Bernini – Rembrandt

3) Rococo Style – 18th century Enlightenment vs. French Classicism
   Enlightenment sophistication countering the pomposity of Classicist artwork
   Inventive and sunny playfulness conveying the optimism of the Enlightenment
   Antoine Watteau – François Boucher – Fragonard – Tiepolo – Rosalba Carriera

4) Romantic Movement – Early 19th century vs. Neo-Classicism
   Emotional reaction to Enlightenment Rationality and Rampant Industrialization
   Unquenchable sense of longing – Portrayal of magical realms – Air of Mystery

5) Impressionism – La Belle Époque vs. Académie des Beaux-Arts
   Play of Light vs. Precise Representation – Slice of Life vs. Historical Grandeur
   Bohemian environment of Montmartre – Coterie of experimental Artistic Rebels

6) Surrealist Revolt – Early 20th century vs. Art of Illustration
   Artistic response to the Absurdity and Destruction involved with the Great War
   Unfettered Play of Imagination – Incorporation of Dreams and the Unconscious
   Salvador Dali – René Magritte – Marcel Duchamp – Marc Chagall – Giorgio Chirico

Recommended Text: From Giotto to Cezanne: Concise History of Painting - Michael Levey

Course Instructor – Dr. Bruce Elliott, Cultural Historian
PRELIMINARY COURSE SYLLABUS

Required for Credit/No Credit option: Attendance at five of the six Zoom class sessions

Required for Letter Grade: A six to eight page paper on an assigned art history theme

Class sessions will be recorded and available for the duration of the course. Live attendance is required for students enrolled for credit.