

Neoclassicism

(c.1765-1850)

- Neoclassicism was a reaction against the pomposity of Rococo. This was the Age of the Enlightenment and political, social and cultural revolution were in the air. Artists needed a serious art for serious times and once again they looked back to the art of Antiquity as their model.
- Inspired by the archaeological discoveries at Herculaneum and Pompeii, Neoclassicism had a historical accuracy that earlier classical revivals lacked.
- Historical scenes of heroism and virtue were used as patriotic propaganda or allegories on contemporary circumstances.

JACQUES LOUIS DAVID (1748-1825)

'Napoleon Crossing the Alps', 1801 (oil on canvas)



Romanticism

(c.1765-1850)

- Romanticism valued the expression of emotion over the control of Classicism. This was achieved through spectacular painting technique and the choice of emotive and sensual subjects which often commemorated dramatic contemporary and historical events.

JOSEPH MALLORD WILLIAM TURNER (1775-1851)
'The Fighting Temeraire', 1839 (oil on canvas)



Realism

(c.1840-1880)

- Realism was a French style of painting that focused on the everyday reality of a subject, warts and all. Realist artists such as Millet, Corot, Courbet and Manet reacted against the heightened emotions of Romanticism. They sought an objective truth that reflected the social realities of the common man in his natural environment.
- Realism was also inspired by a new exploration of 'visual reality' that followed the invention of photography around 1840.

GUSTAVE COURBET (1819-1877)

'Apples and a Pomegranate', 1871 (oil on canvas)



Impressionism

(c.1870-1890)

- Impressionism is the name given to a colorful style of painting in France at the end of the 19th century.
The Impressionists searched for a more exact analysis of the effects of color and light in nature.
They sought to capture the atmosphere of a particular time of day or the effects of different weather conditions. They often worked outdoors and applied their paint in small brightly colored strokes which meant sacrificing much of the outline and detail of their subject.

CLAUDE MONET
(1840-1926)

'Rouen Cathedral in
Full Sunlight',
1893/4

(oil on canvas)



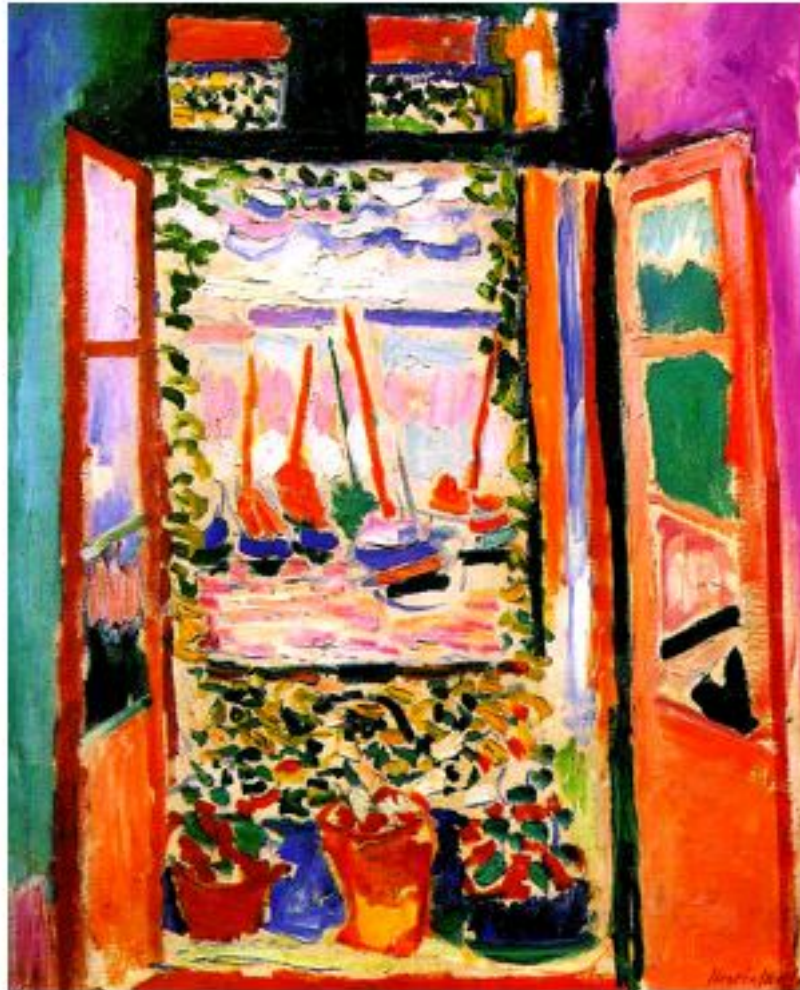
Fauvism

(1905-1910)

- Fauvism was a joyful style of painting that delighted in using outrageously bold colors. It was developed in France at the beginning of the 20th century by Henri Matisse and André Derain.
- 'Les Fauves' believed that color should be used at its highest pitch to express the artist's feelings about a subject, rather than simply to describe what it looks like. Fauvist paintings have two main characteristics: extremely simplified drawing and intensely exaggerated color.

HENRI MATISSE (1869-1954)

'The Open Window, Collioure', 1905 (oil on canvas)



Abstract Art

(c.1907 onwards)

- Abstract Art is a generic term that describes two different methods of abstraction: 'semi abstraction' and 'pure abstraction'.
- The word 'abstract' means to withdraw part of something in order to consider it separately.
- In Abstract art that 'something' is one or more of the visual elements of a subject: its line, shape, tone, pattern, texture, or form.



GEORGES BRAQUE
(1882-1963)
'Violin and
Pitcher', 1910 (oil
on canvas)

Cubism (1907-1915)

PABLO PICASSO
(1881-1973)

'Ambroise Vollard',
1915 (oil on canvas)



Cubism

- Cubism was invented around 1907 in Paris by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque.
- It was the first abstract style of modern art. Cubist paintings ignore the traditions of perspective drawing and show you many views of a subject at one time.
- The Cubists believed that the traditions of Western art had become exhausted and to revitalize their work, they drew on the expressive energy of art from other cultures, particularly African art.

Pop Art
(1954-1970)

ANDY WARHOL
(1928-1987)

'Campbell's Soup 1
(Tomato)', 1968
(silkscreen on
canvas)



Pop Art

- Pop Art was the art movement that characterized a sense of optimism during the post war consumer boom of the 1950's and 60's. It coincided with the globalization of pop music and youth culture, personified by Elvis and The Beatles.

Minimalism (1960-1975)

FRANK STELLA (b.
1936)

'Jarmolince III',
1973 (relief
assemblage)



Minimalism

- Minimalism was not only a reaction against the emotionally charged techniques of Abstract Expressionism but also a further refinement of pure abstraction. It was an attempt to discover the essence of art by reducing the elements of a work to the basic considerations of shape, surface and materials.
- Minimalist art used hard-edged forms and geometric grid structures. Color was simply used to define space or surface.