

Orientalism & Realism

Orientalism

- Roots date back to romanticism in the later 1700's
- Overlap between 2 art periods
- Area including modern day Turkey, N Africa (Egypt/Morocco), Greece and Parts of the Middle East
- Two European interests that influenced spread of movement: French and English

- *Napoleon's 1798 campaigns in Egypt: occupied that country up to 1801
- French put out a 24 installment publication on Egypt which included topography, architectural illustrations, and cultural information *Description de l'Égypte*
- Travel to Egypt increased
- Initial artworks used as propaganda in justifying foreign rule...portrayed culture as lawless or barbaric
- Other works portrayed a lavish opulence via the concept of harems...interiors with exquisite details and odalisques...most often the fantasy of european male artists since they were not allowed in harems
- ” ‘**Chinoiserie**’ is the catch-all term for the fashion for Chinese themes in decoration in Western Europe, beginning in the late 17th century and peaking in waves, especially Rococo Chinoiserie, ca 1740 – 1770”
- “After 1860, **Japonerie**, sparked by the arrival of Japanese woodblock prints, became an important influence in the western arts”



**Prayer in the
Mosque, 1871**
oil on canvas
Jean-Léon

Gérôme



**Scene in the
Jewish Quarter
of Constantine,
1851**

oil on canvas

Théodore

Chassériau

Odalisque in Grisaille, ca. 1824–34

oil on canvas Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres



Impact upon European art

- European demand for Oriental textiles, furniture, vessels, metals and architectural adornment
- Influenced style:
- Attention upon detail
- Intricate designs
- Exotic themes
- Use of line

**Hammamet
with Its
Mosque, 1914**

Paul Klee

watercolor and
pencil





**Robe à la
française**, third
quarter of 18th
century
French
Ivory cotton
printed in
multicolored floral
motif

Resources

- <http://www.all-art.org/history386.html>
- http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/euor/hd_euor.htm
- http://arthistoryclub.com/art_history/Orientalism

Critique

- Carpet merchant jean Gerome

Comparative

James Abbott McNeill
Whistler (American, 1834-
1903), *Sketch for Rose and
Silver: La Princesse du Pays
de la Porcelaine*, 1863-64,
oil on fiberboard



Arrangement in Grey and Black: Portrait of the Painter's Mother
1871: Oil on canvas

Realism

- Began in the mid 19th century in France
- Reaction against idealism of Romanticism
- “Real Life” portrayals

characteristics

- Stylistically, painting technique similar to Neo-classical artists who abandoned sweeping brush strokes
- Works lacked the dramatic lighting

Gustave Courbet

- 1819-1877
- Born in Ornans, France to a well-off agricultural family
- Came to Paris in 1841 to supposedly study law, went for painting
- Painted master paintings
- His self-portrait, “Courbet with a Black Dog” accepted by the Salon (annual art exhibition sponsored by Royal Academy: the defining body of what is and what is not popular in art)
- Trouble in paradise with peer artist
- Not all works accepted...Painting of a real artist's studio not accepted...he exhibited the works regardless, near Salon hall
- Most known for his natural scenes, especially seascapes that influenced the soon-to-come Impressionists due to the changing light from weather variations
- Politically active...participated in revolutionary groups, caused his imprisonment and eventual exile to Switzerland, where he died

The Painter's Studio; A Real Allegory

1855 (170 kB); Oil on canvas, 361 x 598 cm (11' 10 1/4" x 19' 7 1/2")



The Stormy Sea (or The Wave)

1869 (220 kB); Oil on canvas



- “Burial at Ornan”
- 124” x 260”...basically 10 ft x 21 ft
- Figures are larger than life
- Funeral shows realistic portrayal of event...not a romantic version
- Hints at genre of Memento Mori
- No singular heroic emphasis...all people important
- <http://smarthistory.khanacademy.org/courbet-burial-at-ornans.html>

Jean-François Millet

- 1814-1875
- Born in small farming village in Normandy France
- Family of peasant farmers
- Went to Paris at age of 24 to study art
- Showed aptitude in portraiture
- Began painting works from his experiences in Normandy
- Achieved acclaim in this area
- Cholera epidemic in Paris prompted his move to Barbizon....where he was instrumental in establishing the Barbizon School
- Continued to work with rural themes
- One painting, *Angélus* (1858-9) sold for 553, 000 francs 40 years after production (1898-9!) that's over \$600,000 US dollars...holy painting cow!

Characteristics of work

- Rural themes
- Earlier works had religious undertones
- Works painted with amazing draughtmanship

Les Glaneuses

1857





Angelus
Oil on
Canvas

Frau beim Brotbacken

Jean-François Millet - The Complete Works



courtesy of www.jeanmillet.org

Resting Harvesters Millet



Rosa Bonheur

- Born March 16, 1822 in France
- Died May 25, 1899 at her home in Thomery near Fontainebleau
- Bit of a behavior issue in school
- Protégé trained by her father, portrait/landscape painter
- Copied master works from Louvre
- Performed dissections on animals
- First exhibited at the Salon when she was only 19!
- She was extremely independent...went places most women not accepted...permission obtained from Police to wear mens clothes as not to be disturbed
- Early day feminist
- First woman artist as member of Legion of Honour

Characteristics of style

- Sketches and studies to prepare for final works
- Truth to nature
- Great attention to detail

The Horse Fair 1855

(10' x 6' approx) Her most famous painting



Rabbits

1860



Sheep Grazing in a Meadow

Date unknown



Resources

- <http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/glo/realism/>
- <http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/auth/millet/>
- <http://www.jeanmillet.org/>
- [http://www.caroun.com/Research/Art/Rosa Bonheur.html](http://www.caroun.com/Research/Art/Rosa_Bonheur.html)
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_Bonheur
- [http://www.artinthepicture.com/artists/Rosa Bonheur/](http://www.artinthepicture.com/artists/Rosa_Bonheur/)

Critique & Comparative

John Constable

Thomas Eakins