

Visual Narrative: Motifs in 19th-century Painting

Lecturer: Eric Weichel

Series Description:

Storytelling is often defined as the central aspect of culture, and visual art's histories are heavily intertwined with those of literature. How does visual art create narrative, and how does art history deploy its own narratives of progress, monumentality, and decadence? In this course, participants learn to use visual art, literature, story-telling and performance as critical tools of cultural analysis. Artists under consideration include Edmonia Lewis, John William Waterhouse, John Everett Millais, Pierre Renoir, Eugène Delacroix, Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun, Suzanne Valadon and other towering figures of nineteenth-century painting.

Schedule of Topics:

1. Romantic Art: Landscape, Place, Identity

Michael Ranta, '(Re-)Creating Order: Narrativity and Implied World Views in Pictures', *Storyworlds: A Journal of Narrative Studies*, Vol. 5 (2013), pp. 6-30 (you may dispense with the first five pages, 1-5)

2. Pre-Raphaelite Art-1: Spirituality and Morality in Victorian Britain

P.B. Søndergaard, 'Something strangely perverse'. *Nature and Gender in JE Millais's Ophelia*, *Romantik: Journal for the Study of Romanticisms* 7: 1 (2018), pp.115-126.

3. 19th Century French Painting: Orientalism, History, & the Novel

Lee Johnson, 'The Art of Delacroix', in John P O'Neill, ed., *Eugène Delacroix (1798–1863): Paintings, Drawings, and Prints from North American Collections* (1991), pp. 11-33.

4. Impressionism and Exhibitions: Subversive Shows

Juliet Wilson-Bareau, *The Salon des Refusés of 1863: A New View*, *The Burlington Magazine*, Vol. 149, No. 1250, French Art (May, 2007), pp. 309-319.

5. Pre-Raphaelite Art-2: Forbidden Passions, Sexual Awakenings

Lynn Nead, 'The Magdalen in Modern Times: The Mythology of the Fallen Woman in Pre-Raphaelite Painting', *Oxford Art Journal* 7, no. 1 (1984), pp. 26-37.

6. Symbolist Art: Psychological Iconographies

Brendan Cole, 'Nature and the Ideal in Khnopff's *Avec Verhaeren: Un Ange and Art, or the Caresses*', *The Art Bulletin* 91, no. 3 (2009), pp. 325-42.