

The History of German Art
WS 2018_19 Regina M. Fischer M.A.
Outline of the course

1. Introduction
German art? – does this exist?
2. Early traces: antique, Teuton and Celtic influences.
3. Development of Christian Churches
4. The Middle Ages. Influences from France and some specific ways of Mysticism
Kathedral of Ulm
5. Renaissance – art around 1500
Lukas Cranach
Albrecht Dürer
6. Baroque and classicism –
the last European styles in history of art.
Palace of Ludwigsburg
7. Romanticism, Caspar David Friedrich
8. Typical German, the so called “Biedermeier”
Carl Spitzweg and the Style of Biedermeier
9. Visit to an Exhibition
10. Historism
11. Art Nouveau - the so called “Jugendstil”, handcrafted furniture, architecture and jewellery.
Art Nouveau, Jewellery at the Schmuckmuseum in Pforzheim
12. German avant-garde, Expressionism, the art of “Brücke” and “Blauer Reiter”.
Wassily Kandinsky and Gabriele Münter
The Brücke
13. Visit of an artist or exhibition
14. After 1945, influences of USA
15. German contemporary art
Summary

The History of German Art

Is there a thing like typical German art?

This is one of the questions that we will have a closer look at during the course of the lecture.

How much is German art influenced by other nations or ancient influences?

For this discussion the course looks back on ancient Greek and Romanesque art and the early tribes of Celtic art. The course follows the development of the art from the Middle Ages and the Italian influence of renaissance and baroque style. Typical German styles like for example the Biedermeier and Romanticism are also part of the discussion as the dark chapter of degenerated art and the leading position of Germany at the beginning of the 20th century, when the expressionists established themselves. The course follows art up to the contemporary variety of styles and techniques.

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