

Winter 2016

Paris Art Studies – January - February 2016

To register for classes please send us an email.

The Story of the Portrait in European Art with Chris Boïcos

Part 9: The Belle Epoque II: The Portrait in Europe 1890-1920

Whistler, Sargent, Boldini and Blanche established a type of elegant, fluid, aristocratic portraiture that perfectly suited the social aspirations of the international rich of the Gilded Age. A looser, more modern version of their style prevailed in the international art scene of the early 1900's. In this part of our course we will see the confrontation between the older Belle Epoque styles and the emergence of Expressionist and Fauve portraiture in the period immediately before the First World War. An earlier version of 20th century Expressionism can be seen also in the mordant renderings of Paris nightlife figures by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec in the 1890's. The Sargent style continues in the later portraits of Blanche, the Spanish painter Sorolla and the Russian, Serov. Bridging the 19th and 20th centuries are the styles of German artists, Beckmann and Corinth, whereas Expressionism and its French version, Fauvism, emerge in the work of Kirchner, Meidner, Schiele, Picasso, Van Dongen and Matisse.

Friday 22 January - 10:30 am – 12 noon – Slide lecture – Toulouse-Lautrec and the dark side of the Belle Epoque.

Friday 29 January - 10:30 am – 12 noon – Slide lecture – Late Belle Epoque: Blanche, Sargent, Boldini, Sorolla and Serov after 1900.

Friday 5 February - 10:30 am – 12 noon – Slide lecture – The German and Austrian Expressionists: Corinth, Beckmann, Kirchner, Schiele and Kokoschka.

Friday 12 February - 10:30 am – 12 noon – Slide lecture – From Fauvism to Cubism, the modern French portrait: Matisse, Van Dongen, Derain, Vlaminck, Picasso.

Course fee: 80 € for the 4 sessions, or 25 € per session payable by check made out to: Chris Boïcos.

Coffee and tea are served at the home sessions between 10:00 and 10:30 am.

Students will receive from the instructor a printed historical chronology and list of artists.

Paris Special Exhibitions

Thursday 14 January, 10 – 11:30 am:

Fashion Regained. The treasured dresses of Élisabeth, Countess Greffulhe (Until 20 March 2016)
Visit to the exhibition at the Musée Galliéra with fashion historian Dimitri Papalexis

For the first time ever, the Palais Galliera is displaying the fabulous wardrobe of Countess Greffulhe, née Élisabeth de Caraman-Chimay (1860-1952). She was the cousin of French dandy and poet Robert de Montesquiou and was immortalized for posterity by Marcel Proust as the Duchess of Guermantes in his novel *In Search of Lost Time*. The Countess was one of the great musical and political hostesses of Paris and a patron of opera and ballet, notably Diaghilev's Ballets Russes, and Isadora Duncan. She lived through the Belle Époque and the Roaring Twenties, and was the acknowledged leader of « le Tout-Paris » for half a century. Her public appearances were highly theatrical, as she advanced in clouds of tulle, gauze, chiffon and feathers, or in her kimono jackets or velvet coats with oriental patterns in shades of gold silver and pink. The outfits were carefully chosen to emphasize her slender figure. On display at the Palais Galliera there are some fifty models bearing the labels of grands couturiers such as Worth, Fortuny, Babani, and Lanvin accompanied by period, documents, photographs and films.

Place: Musée Galliéra. 10 avenue Pierre 1er de Serbie 75116. Meet in lobby. Métro: Iéna (line 9).

Time: 9:45 for 10 am entry. Please bring 8 € for exhibition ticket.

Thursday 21 January, 11:45 am – 1:15 pm – Warhol Unlimited (Until 7 February 2016)
Visit to the exhibition at the Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris with Chris Boïcos

Housed at the Dia Art Foundation, Shadows is a striking group of 102 silkscreened canvases by Andy Warhol (1928-1987) in 17 different colors whose length totals more than 130 meters. This is the first time this famous series is being shown in its entirety in Europe. Flouting the art conventions of his time, when asked if these pictures were art, Warhol said: "You see, the opening party (at the museum) had disco. I guess that makes them disco décor." Another 200 works including the Electric Chairs (1964–1971), the Jackies (1964), the Flowers (1964–1965) and the Maos (1972–1973) accompany the Shadows installation. The often, controversial way Warhol staged his own work is a core part of the exhibition. As much lauded as he was criticized and despite the permanent media overkill he was subjected to, Warhol never lost his ability to surprise and shock. The current show is a great opportunity to reassess the impact of the iconoclastic « King of Pop Art ».

Place: Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris. 1 avenue du Président Wilson 75016. Meet in lobby.
Métro: Léna (line 9).

Time: 11:30 for 11:45 am entry. Please bring 9 € for exhibition ticket.

Thursday 28 January, 10:30 – 12 noon – Wilfredo Lam (until 15 February 2016)
Slide lecture on the exhibition at the Centre Pompidou with Chris Boïcos

Wilfredo Oscar de la Concepción Lam y Castilla, better known as Wilfredo Lam (1902-1982), is a Cuban born artist who was associated with the French Surrealist movement in the 1930's and in the postwar period. He brought to modern art and Surrealism his particular brand of primitivism very much inspired by the Afro-Cuban culture and magical rituals of his home island. In our lecture we will follow Lam's relationship with all the major artistic figures of his time from Dali to Picasso, to the Surrealist chief André Breton and his multifarious career and life in Cuba, Spain, Paris, Marseille (where he was famously stranded in the company of fellow Surrealists after the German invasion of France in 1940) and the Americas. This is the first major exhibition (with over 400 works) in France of the art of one of the great figures of later Surrealism.

Place: Chris Boïcos apartment. 14, boulevard Saint-Martin 75010 Paris. 6th floor (building code: 56453)

Métros: Strasbourg-Saint Denis, exit 3: Porte Saint-Martin (lines 4, 8, 9) or République exit 6: rue René Boulanger (lines 8, 9 - fewer steps)

Time: 10 am for coffee and tea, lecture begins promptly at 10:30 am.

Thursday 4 February, 10:30 am – 12 noon (time to be confirmed)

Musée Picasso, the Permanent Collection. Visit to the museum with Chris Boïcos

This is the largest collection in the world of the works of Pablo Picasso (1881-1973), covering his entire career from the 1890's to 1972 and illustrating all his many periods and styles. The art is beautifully presented in a spectacular 17th century Marais townhouse that was recently refurbished and expanded. The top floor also displays Picasso's collection of the work of old and modern masters.

Place: Musée Picasso, 5 rue de Thorigny 75003. Meet in courtyard or lobby.

Métro: Métro: Saint-Paul (line 1) or Chemin Vert (line 8).

Time: to be confirmed

Thursday 11 February, 10:30 am – 12 noon: Anselm Kieffer.

Slide lecture on the exhibition at the Centre Pompidou (until 18 April 2016) with Chris Boïcos.

The exhibition devoted to the work of Anselm Kiefer (born 1945) by the Centre Pompidou is unprecedented in terms of scope and selection. It provides a retrospective journey through the prolific career of the celebrated German artist from the late 60's to the present day. Sixty major paintings, brought together for the first time from international private and public collections are juxtaposed to installations, showcases and books in an exhibition designed as a series of dramatic moments in the artist's career.

During the 1970's, the artist along with Georg Baselitz, Gerhard Richter, Sigmar Polke and Jorg Immendorff participated in the revival of German painting under the label of Neo-Expressionism. Kiefer rapidly established a highly singular style, marked by an obsession with history and myths from German culture. Immersion in the past and memory are his strategy for answering the question gnawing at this generation of artists: how to create after Hitler,

in response to Theodor W. Adorno's celebrated injunction that "any culture after Auschwitz, including its urgent criticism, is only a pile of filth." This is a great opportunity to assess the evolution of one to the most important international artist of the last 50 years.

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Time: 10 am for coffee and tea, lecture begins promptly at 10:30 am.

Course Fees: 100 € for all 5 sessions or 25 € per session.

Museum fees are additional to course fees*.

You can sign up for individual sessions or a series by sending an email to parisartstudies@gmail.com

or by calling Chris Boïcos on +33 (0) 686 58 98 09 and by sending a check made out to "Chris Boïcos"; to Chris Boïcos, 14 boulevard Saint-Martin 75010 Paris. Museum fees are additional to course fees.

Please register for classes in advance to ensure that group visits are not full.

*Please note that sometimes museum ticket prices go up slightly between the time of reservation and the actual date of the visit.

Paris Art Studies at the home of Chris Boïcos

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