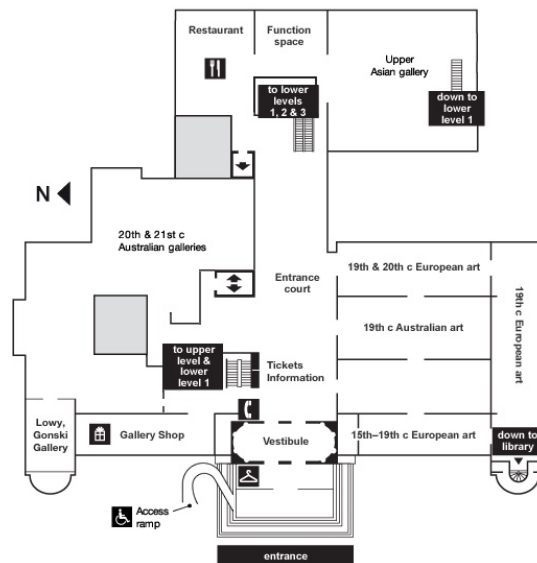


Art Gallery Quiz Questionnaire 2019

In your “pears and/or bananas” first try to locate each painting in turn and then -with your partner(s)- discuss and write down your answer to the question(s) in the space provided. As you will discover there are many literary connections with the paintings: artists inspired by poets or artists presenting images and themes very like those encountered in literature. There is a seamless connection between all the arts in any cultural period. By understanding the motivation and techniques of artists we are expanding our understanding of literature and of the times in which the literature was created.

Most of the answers can be found either in the painting itself or in the notes next to the paintings.

Here is a simple map of the Art Gallery Floor plan that concerns us. From the entrance we turn right--into the 19th Century Australian. But we go first into the room next to this, the 16th-18th Century European. Then we will come back to 19th Century Australian (to look at early Romanticism) and then we will go round to the 19th Century British and European Rooms.



The Eighteenth Century Enlightenment(With Some Romanticism- post 1780)

Francis Boucher “A Young Lady Holding a Pug Dog” 1740s. What does the the young lady have under her right eye? How important is this? What is the symbolism of the band around the dog’s neck? How would you know that this is a pre-Romantic painting?



Sir Joshua Reynolds [He was the artist most hated by Blake who said “Reynolds is the death of art”]. This painting is of “James 7 Earl of L.” 1759-61. How old was the earl’s wife when she married him? What colours are used for the pattern on his inside leg? What is he thinking? The second painting by Reynolds is “Stephen Croft. What does this painting reveal about the life of a teenager in the Enlightenment.



Thomas Gainsborough “Reverend Sam K.” 1770. Is Gainsborough’s attitude to his subject different to Reynold’s attitude to the Earl? Is there any connection between Gainsborough’s world and that of the Romantics [hint: look at notes]



Jean Marc Nattier “Madam de La Porte” 1754. The aristocracy in pre-Revolutionary France. Does this painting give any hint of what the revolutionaries might have been angry about?



John Glover “Ullswater” 1824. How are Romantic themes reflected in this painting? Who was John Glover? What impressions does Glover give of this world of the great Romantic poets?



Hubert Robert “An Extensive Landscape Near Paris” 1781. How can you tell this landscape is on the way to being Romantic in emphasis?



19th Century Early Australian Romanticism

(FIRST DOOR ON RIGHT OFF FOYER)



You have seen **John Glover's** "Ullswater" (The Lake District England) 1824- in the 18th Century Room.

Here is **John Glover** "Launceston and the River Tamar" 1832. Compare this with his painting of a Tasmanian Landscape here- are any aspects of English Romanticism transferred to or amplified in the Australian setting?



John Glover "Natives on the Ouse River" 1838:

Australian Landscape as seen by early settlers; note the depiction of Aborigines; are these "noble savages". What attitude is expressed? What Romantic attitudes are expressed here? Is this a new Eden?



John Skinner Prout "Bush Landscape with Waterfall & an Aboriginal..." 1860. What features of this landscape suggest it was produced by someone influenced by attitudes of the Romantic period?



Eugene Von Guerard “Milford Sound” (1877-1879). What are some of the key Romantic themes in this painting?



Eugene Von Guerard “Waterfall Strath Creek” (1862). What feelings are expressed through this painting? Do they align with Romantic taste? Do the figures at the foot of the waterfall express any sense of the presence of the divine in the landscape?

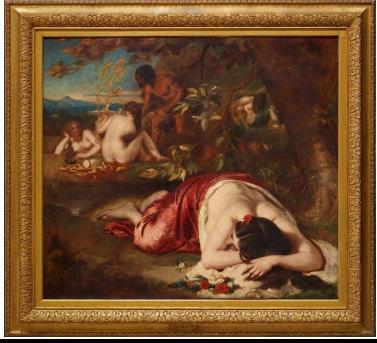


W.C. Piquenit “The Upper Nepean” 1889. Notice the scale of the human figure in this painting. What is this saying about the relationship between man and nature. How is this landscape different to those by John Glover? Were there different ways of viewing landscape in the 19th Century? What were they?



The Victorian Hall

William Etty “The Golden Age” 1840. Possibly inspired by the Ancient Greek poem “Theogony” dealing with the Golden Age, what does this painting suggest about how life was lived before the industrial revolution?



Ford Madox Brown, “Chaucer at the Court of Edward III” 1847. What does this painting reveal about Victorian interests? What are the narratives that this painting explores? How is this painting a celebration of the English Language? [hint: look at description]. What makes this a strongly Pre-Raphaelite painting?



John Seymour Lucas “The Gordon Riots 1780” 1879. What is this painting showing about English attitudes towards revolution in the 19th Century? Have we seen these attitudes in any of the literature we have been reading this semester?





Sir Luke Fildes “The Widower” 1875-1876. Compare this painting with Tissot’s painting of the same title. Are there class differences between the two works? Why did this painting appeal so strongly to the Victorian public? What connection is there between this painting and Charles Dickens [hint: see notes]. What narrative is this painting presenting? Can you identify salient narrative details (i.e. objects that hint at a deeper meaning).



James Tissot “The Widower” 1876. This is a typical Victorian narrative painting. The Victorians loved to sow the seeds for a complex story in their paintings. How do the details in this painting help the audience to construct the narrative of which this moment in time is just a part? What does this painting suggest about the importance of childhood? How is this widower presented as different from Fildes’ Widower?



John Waterhouse “Diogenes” 1882. Who was Diogenes? What is this painting trying to say about modern (Victorian) life? And what is it also saying indirectly about Victorian women?



Frederic Lord Leighton “Cymon & Iphigenia” 1884. What does this painting tell us about one of the core Victorian attitudes towards women? What is the narrative behind this painting? What symbolic details can you find and how do the colours support the key theme in this painting?



Edward John Poynter “Helen” 1881. What other attitudes towards women are presented on this wall?



Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema “Cleopatra”. *Damned Whores and God's Police* is the title of an Australian book on the representation of women (author Anne Summers). Does this description help understand the variety of women in 19thC art?



Edward John Poynter “The Visit of the Queen Sheba to King Solomon” 1881.

1 Kings 10:

1. And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to prove him with hard questions
2. And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones; and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him all that was in her heart
3. And Solomon told her all her questions: there was not anything hid from the king, which he told her not
4. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, 5. And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cup bearers, and his ascent by which he went up into the house of the Lord; there was no more spirit in her
6. And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land, of thy acts and of thy wisdom

The second half of the 19th Century was filled with remarkable archeological discoveries and the British Museum was a treasure house of antiquities that inspired local artists. The subject of this painting can be contextualized against a craze for orientalist narratives in all the arts. What is the narrative content of this painting? What attitude to women does it display? What is the importance and impact of the frame?



Frederick Lord Leighton “Winding the Skein” 1878. What do the notes mean when they speak of the “contrast between domesticity and heroic classicism”? What did the author Henry James think about this painting? Do you think the colours of the wool are significant?



Edwin Long “A Dorcas Meeting” 1873 . How is the attitude to women in this painting distinctive, compared to other images of women in this section of the gallery? What social classes of women are being portrayed?



“The Sea hath its pearls” 1897. What symbolism is explored in this painting? What does this painting tell us about Victorian feelings about what was important?



Fritz Beinke “Juggler” 1873. This painting was first exhibited in the Sydney International Exhibition (1879- 80) in the The Garden Palace (burnt down). Is this entertainer closer to Jane Austen’s gypsies or to Dickens’ circus?



Fried Kallmorgen “Spring Day” 1886. How is country life being presented in this late 19th Century art work?



Evariste Luminais “The Sons of Clovis” 1880.

“Alarmed by her sons’ rebellion against their absent father, King Clovis, their mother - the regent Sainte Bathilde - has their tendons cut before sending them, immobilised, downstream on a barge to their fate. “

What narrative is being presented here? Who were the sons of Clovis? What happened to their feet? How is this painting typical of the period?



Edouard Detaille “Vive L’Empereur” 1881. 100 years on from the French Revolution, how does this painting give a glimpse of what has happened to French politics since the great days of Revolution?



Basile Lemeunier “Portrait of Edouard Detaille” 1891. What is Lemeunier’s portrait telling us about his attitude towards the working practice of Edouard Detaille? How does this contrast with Johann Platzer’s “The Sculptor’s Studio” 1780?



Beginnings of Modernism

Vincent Van Gogh “Head of a Peasant” 1884. This is the only painting by the most famous 19th Century painter in the NSW Art Gallery. What is distinctive about the way he portrays a face compared to the representations earlier in the 19th Century? How do his techniques lead into the modernism of the 20th Century?



If you want a very informative on-line audio tour of the NSW Exhibition running a few years ago “Victorian Visions” go to <http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/victorian-visions/audio-tour/>