

Summer Reading for AP Art History 2010-2011 – Mrs. Cudworth

As with any AP course there is much to accomplish in a short amount of time. This summer reading and related assignment should give you a good head start to a great year of examining and thinking about significant works of art created throughout the centuries.

Assignments:

Read the Introduction as well as Chapters 1 & 2 of your text - Gardner's Art Through the Ages: 12th edition. You will be expected to know the information from this reading assignment when we begin in September. Preview the textbook and study CD. Scan through and note the headings, captions, major works of art that capture your eye, organization of the text, and any other significant aspects that you notice. Besides its unbelievable size and weight! Be prepared to share your thoughts on one image in the text when we meet in September.

Visit the class website - <http://teachers.yourhomework.com/cudworth/> - to get an idea of the types of assignments you will be doing – you may jump ahead and do any of the essays over the summer. I will read, grade, and return any submitted essays with comments. If the grade is low you can re-write to get a higher score. My goal is to help you learn to succeed, not to catch you doing poorly.

For those of you who enjoy reading –Fiction:

Brunelleschi's Dome: Ross King, Publisher: Penguin (Non-Classics) (October 30, 2001)

ISBN-10: 0142000159 and ISBN-13: 978-0142000151 - (The story of the creation of the dome of the cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence - completed in 1436 - and its brilliant but "hot-tempered" creator, Filippo Brunelleschi.)

Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling: Ross King, Publisher: Penguin (Non-Classics) (November 25, 2003) ISBN-10: 0142003697 and ISBN-13: 978-0142003695 - (A novel that provides an in-depth analysis of the complex historical background that led to the magnificence that is the Sistine Chapel ceiling along with detailed discussion of some of the ceiling's panels...including fabulous tidbits of information that creates a fascinating historical tale.)

The Judgment of Paris: The Revolutionary Decade That Gave the World Impressionism - Ross King, Publisher: Walker & Company (January 10, 2006) ISBN-10: 0802714668 and ASIN: B00120VIYO - (A novel exploring the years from 1863—when paintings denied entry into the French Academy's yearly Salon were shown at the Salon des Refusés—to 1874, the date of the first Impressionist exhibition...follows the careers of two formidable, and very different, artists: Jean-Louis-Ernest Meissonier, a conservative painter celebrated for detailed historical subjects, and Édouard Manet, whose painting *Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe* caused an uproar at the Salon des Refusés.)

Luncheon of the Boating Party: Susan Vreeland, Publisher: Penguin (Non-Classics) (February 26, 2008) ISBN-10: 0143113526 and ASIN: B001E96KJQ - (An historical novel centered on artists and their work... it traces Renoir's steps back from this joyous painting combined with historical facts not only about Renoir's inner circle but also details about French café society, culture, and painting techniques.)

Basilica: The Splendor and the Scandal: Building St. Peter's: R. A. Scotti, Publisher: Viking Adult (June 8, 2006) ISBN-10: 0670037761 and ASIN: B000OFOIWW - (Historical novel about the construction of the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome—the grandest architectural undertaking of the High Renaissance)

Birth of Venus: Sarah Dunant, Publisher: Random House Trade Paperbacks (November 30, 2004) ISBN-10: 0812968972 and ISBN-13: 978-0812968972 - (A novel about 15th-century Florence)

The Girl with the Pearl Earring: Tracy Chevalier, Publisher: Plume; Deluxe edition (August 30, 2005) ISBN-10: 0452287022 and ISBN-13: 978-0452287020 - (A novel about the time and culture of the artist Vermeer)

Summer Reading for AP Art History 2010-2011 – Mrs. Cudworth

The Lady and the Unicorn: Tracy Chevalier, Publisher: Plume (December 28, 2004) ISBN-10: 0452285453 and ISBN-13: 978-0452285453 - (A novel that surmises the circumstances surrounding the creation of the six Lady and the Unicorn tapestries that hang in the Museum of the Middle Ages in Paris. Interesting details about the social customs of 15th century Europe and the craft of weaving as it was practiced in Brussels.)

The Greek Treasure: Irving Stone - (A novel about the archeologist Schliemann and his wife who claimed to have discovered the legendary City of Troy)

The Agony and the Ecstasy: Irving Stone, Publisher: Signet (March 3, 1987) ISBN-10: 0451171357 and ISBN-13: 978-0451171351 - (A novel about Michelangelo and the creation of his frescos in the Sistine Chapel)

Lust for Life: Irving Stone, Publisher: Plume; 50 Any edition (June 1, 1984) ISBN-10: 0452262496 and ISBN-13: 978-0452262492 - (A novel about Vincent Van Gogh)

Depths of Glory: Irving Stone, Publisher: Plume (September 1, 1995) ISBN-10: 0452275016 and ISBN-13: 978-0452275010 - (A fictionalized account of the life of Impressionist Camille Pissarro chronicling the birth of the movement, public hostility, his personal life and relationships with other artists (like Monet, Renoir), and so on)

The Moon and Sixpence: Somerset Maugham, Publisher: Dover Publications (January 20, 2006) ISBN-10: 0486446026 and ISBN-13: 978-0486446028 - (A novel about a fictional artist whose life somewhat parallels that of Paul Gauguin.)

Pillars of the Earth: Ken Follett, Publisher: NAL Trade (February 4, 2002) ISBN-10: 0451207149 and ISBN-13: 978-0451207142 - (This novel chronicles the vicissitudes of a prior, his master builder, and their community as they struggle to build a cathedral and protect themselves during the tumultuous 12th century.)

German Lesson: Siegfried Lenz, Publisher: New Directions Publishing Corporation (April 1, 1986) ISBN-10: 0811209822 and ISBN-13: 978-0811209823 - (A novel exploring German social psychology during the Third Reich. The dourly, uncritically dutiful a rural constable, has been ordered to enforce a ban on painting against his childhood friend, an expressionist whose works have been deemed subversive...)

My Name is Asher Lev: by Chaim Potok, Publisher: Anchor (March 11, 2003) ISBN-10: 1400031044 and ISBN-13: 978-1400031047 - (Asher Lev is a Ladover Hasid who keeps kosher, prays three times a day ... Asher Lev is an artist who is compulsively driven to render the world he sees and feels even when it leads him to blasphemy. This novel traces Asher's passage between these two identities, the one consecrated to God, the other subject only to the imagination.)

For those of you who enjoy reading –*Non-fiction*:

The Accidental Masterpiece: Michael Kimmelman, Penguin Press (2005) ISBN-10: 1594200556
(A relaxed and welcoming approach to explicating art that makes this aptly unpredictable consideration of the role accidents and serendipity play in the making of art as pleasurable as it is enlightening. Kimmelman is interested in "how art transforms lives," and in how a life lived artistically can itself be seen as a masterpiece, and the examples he cites open up many new vistas of thought.)

The Rape of Europa: Lynn Nicholas, Publisher: Vintage (April 25, 1995) ISBN-10: 0679756868 and ISBN-13: 978-0679756866 - (A book documenting Nazi Germany's attempt to cleanse Europe of its "degenerate" art and the Allies' effort to preserve the continent's cultural treasures)

Methodologies of Art: An Introduction - Laurie Schneider Adams, Publisher: Westview Press (December 17, 1996) ISBN-10: 0064302318 and ISBN-13: 978-0064302319 - (Because works of art can be interpreted in a variety of ways, this book surveys "methodologies," diverse approaches to artistic analysis used by art historians, philosophers, and critics to enlighten viewers.)

Summer Reading for AP Art History 2010-2011 – Mrs. Cudworth

Critical Terms for Art History: Robert S. Nelson (editor) Richard Shiff (editor), Publisher: University Of Chicago Press; 1 edition (April 2003) ISBN-10: 0226571688 and ISBN-13: 978-0226571683 - (Contains scholarly essays that explore 22 terms commonly used by contemporary art historians... Terms such as representation, originality, appropriation, gaze, and commodity are treated within a historical context, and their influence on art criticism and aesthetics is shown.)

Learning to Look: A Handbook for the Visual Arts - Joshua C. Taylor, Publisher: University Of Chicago Press; 2 edition (June 15, 1981) ISBN-10: 0226791548 and ISBN-13: 978-0226791548 - (This handy guide to the visual arts is designed to provide a comprehensive view of art, moving from the analytic study of specific works to a consideration of broad principles and technical matters. Forty-four carefully selected illustrations afford an excellent sampling of the wide range of experience awaiting the explorer.)

Short Guide to Writing about Art: Sylvan Barnet, Publisher: Prentice Hall; 9th edition (January 18, 2007) ISBN-10: 0136138551 and ISBN-13: 978-0136138556 - (Equips students to analyze pictures (drawings, paintings, photographs), sculptures and architecture, and prepares them with the tools they need to present their ideas in effective writing.)

Learning to Look at Paintings: Mary Acton, Publisher: Rutledge; 2 edition (October 16, 2008) ISBN-10: 0415435188 and ISBN-13: 978-0415435185 – (A guide to the study and appraisal of paintings, drawings and prints. Mary Acton shows how you can develop visual, analytical and historical skills in learning to look at and understand an image by analyzing how it works, what its pictorial elements are and how they relate to each other.)

Ways of Seeing: John Berger, Publisher: Penguin (Non-Classics) (December 1, 1990) ISBN-10: 0140135154 and ISBN-13: 978-0140135152 - (Essential book on the psychological and social implications of visual imagery... Over six essays (that) encourages the reader to see the world with new eyes to allow greater understanding of the images around them...shows how the viewer can go beyond the surface of paintings, photographs and other images to see how even the tiniest details are part of the overall reading and perception of that image.)

The Shape of Pocket: John Berger, Publisher: Vintage (March 11, 2003) ISBN-10: 0375718885 and ISBN-13: 978-0375718885 - (24 essays impressions of artists such as Rembrandt, Degas, Michelangelo, Kahlo and Brancusi)

Soundings: Anita Brookner, Publisher: Harvill Pr (October 1998) ISBN-10: 1860463886 and ISBN-13: 978-1860463884 - (A collection of essays on French art and literature)

Artists on Art: Robert Goldwater (Editor), M. Treves (Editor), Publisher: John Murray Publishers Ltd (January 30, 1980) ISBN-10: 0719533120 and ISBN-13: 978-0719533129 - (Excerpts from the writings of painters and sculptors over a period of seven centuries present a highly personal and authentic history of art.)

The Many Masks of Modern Art: Theodore Wolff, Publisher: The Christian Science Monitor (1989) ASIN: B000MZ06D4 - (A book presenting 56 entertaining and erudite opinions on the works of a wide variety of artists such as Munch, Mondrian, Rouault and Klee to Warhol, O'Keefe, Cezanne, Homer and Matisse.)