

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART IN LONDON

Carole Machin

Fall Semester Programme 2011

London, England

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Tuesday 11am – 1pm

Thursday 9.30am – 10.30am

Over the last thirty years Britain has become a vibrant and fertile international centre for the visual arts. Through the work on display in the museums and galleries of London, the course will attempt to relate the current confusing range of artistic styles with the revolutionary ideas of the first twenty five years of the 20th century including the impact of two world wars and more recent social and global events. Some reference will also be made to parallel developments in architecture.

The aim of this course is to help the student find pathways through the wide range of art of the last hundred years. They will learn to identify works that can be attributed to movements and 'isms' and learn to recognize and understand the diversity of media now used to create 'fine' art. They will also discover the problems of making quality judgements about contemporary art and will be encouraged to develop their own critical faculties as well as develop a framework of historical references with which to judge art now.

We will debate the changing method of art sales and patronage over the last hundred years which include both art offered for sale, via exhibitions and dealers, and art of a more temporary nature that cannot be sold as a material commodity but must rely on sponsorship.

Methodology

London provides an excellent selection of public and commercial galleries and museums from which to study work from 1900 through to the present.

Each week a one hour session will be held in the classroom and a two hour session will take place in a museum or gallery.

The classroom session will include illustrated lectures, student presentations, video/DVD material and student led discussions. Gallery visits will require the students to give oral reports on specific works, to answer questions and complete worksheets in their journals.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING.

Students will be required to complete three course essays, a weekly journal and a final examination.

Essay 1 = 10% approx. 700 words

Essay 2 = 15% approx. 1000 words

Essay 3 = 25% approx. 1000 words

Journal, presentations, attendance and participation = 25%

Examination = 25%

Every class (whether on- or off-site) must be attended. Absence will only be accepted on the grounds of sickness. Sickness must be notified in advance on person (by phone, note or email) either to Martin, Mary or me. Any absence, other than sickness, will affect your grade.

CLASS TEXTS

- Norbert Lynton *The Story of Modern Art* Phaidon 1989
- Edward Lucie-Smith *Movements in Modern Art since 1945* Thames and Hudson, London 2001
- Photocopied materials

Additional Reading (available in the study room)

- Alan Bowness 'Modern European Art' Thames and Hudson
- Franscina and Harrison 'Modern Art and Modernism: A Critical Anthology
- R. Hughes 'The Shock of the New' BBC
- G. Hamilton 'The Pelican History of Art, Europe 1880 – 1968
- H.B. Chipp 'Theories of Modern Art. A Source Book for Artists and Critics'
- Anthony Penrose 'Roland Penrose: The Friendly Surrealist'
- Michel Remy 'Surrealism in Britain'
- Fiona Bradley 'Surrealism'
- Martin Harrison 'Transition: The London Art Scene in the Fifties'
- Paul Wood 'Conceptual Art'
- Elsen 'The Origins of Modern Sculpture'
- N. Stangos 'Concepts of Modern Art'
- H. Osbourne ed. 'The Oxford Companion to Modern Art'
- Susan Compton ed. 'British Art in the 20th Century' Prestel.
- Sensation Exhibition Catalogue 1997. Royal Academy.
- Louisa Buck 'Moving Targets 1 and 2: A Users Guide to Art Now. Tate Publications.
- Kenneth Frampton 'Modern Architecture: A Critical History'

- 'From Blast to Freeze'
- Mary Acton 'Learning to Look at Modern Art'
- Carole Machin 'British Art Since 1945' (chapter 10 from *A Visitor's Britain* ed. P. Tatspaugh and M. Upham)
- Ed. Chris Stephens 'A History of British Art: 1870-Now' vol.3 Tate Gallery Publications 2009

COURSE SCHEDULE

	Student readings
Week 1. Thurs. 8 th Sept. <i>Classroom</i> – Introduction	
Week 2. Tues. 13 th Sept. <i>Visit The Courtauld Institute Gallery</i> to study late 19 th and early 20 th century art. Thurs. 15 th Sept. - <i>Classroom</i> An outline of the artistic ideas of the late Nineteenth century, challenged after 1900 by ideas of 'Modernism'	Read – Lynton introduction and chapter 1
Week 3. Tues. 20 th Sept. <i>Visit – Tate Modern</i> Cubism, Vorticism, Futurism Thurs. 22 nd Sept. <u>Edinburgh</u>	Read – Lynton chapters 2 & 3
Week 4. Tues. 27 th Sept. <i>Visit – Tate Modern</i> Surrealism Thurs. 29 th Sept. <i>Classroom</i> – Surrealism	Read – Lynton chapters 4 & 5 Assignment 1 due
Week 5. Tues. 5 th Oct. <i>Visit - Imperial War Museum</i> Thurs. 7 th Oct. <u>Stratford</u>	Read - Lynton chapter 4
Week 6. Tues. 12 th Oct. <i>Visit – Saatchi Gallery The Shape of Things to Come: New Sculpture</i> Thurs. 13 th Oct. <i>Classroom</i> – Discussion	Read – C. Machin, 'British Art Since 1945' chapter 9 from <i>A Visitor's Britain</i> . First journal submission. Assignment 2 due
Week 7. Flexi Week	
Week 8. Tues. 25 th Oct. <i>Visit- The National Portrait Gallery</i>	Read - Lucie-Smith chapter 2

Thurs. 27 th Oct Classroom - Painting and Sculpting the Human Form	
Week 9. Tues. 1 st Nov. Tate Modern Thurs. 3 rd Nov. Classroom – Abstract Expressionism and Pop Art	Read – photocopied materials Lucie -Smith Chapters 1 & 4
Week 10. Tues. 8 th Nov. Visit – Tate Modern A <i>Bigger Splash: Painting after Performance Art</i> exhibition Thurs. 10 th Nov. Classroom - Minimalism, Conceptualism, Super-realism	Read – Lucie – Smith chapter 5 & 6
Week 11. Tues. 15 th Nov. Visit -TBA Thurs. 17 th Nov. Classroom Discussion of contemporary art	Read – Critics articles from national newspapers Lucie- Smith chapters 9&10
Week 12. Tues. 22 nd Nov. Visit - TBA Thurs. 24 th Nov. Classroom	Assignment 3 due
Week 13. Tues. 29 th Nov. Visit - Cork Street and its commercial art galleries Thurs. 1 st Dec. Classroom - Buying and Selling Art: The Changing Face of the Art Market	Read -L. Buck <i>Moving Targets</i> section ‘The Players’ page 96 onwards Journal submission
Week 14. Tues. 6 th Dec. Review Thurs. 8 th Dec. Examination	