

Talking About Art Summary of a Meeting

Continuing our main theme: The Development of Neoclassicism

How did Neoclassicism Develop in Germany? from Catherine

Introduction: There was a brief review of what we have learned already about Neoclassicism.

In Germany, it developed slightly differently to the rest of Europe. Trying to establish a sense of nationalism and identity after foreign occupations often influenced German Neoclassicism.

Architecture: There was a brief outline of German architecture through the ages until the arrival of Neoclassicism. German architects such as

Karl Friedrich Schinkel

decided that new buildings at all levels of the population would be popular, uniform and be influenced by ancient Greek architecture rather than Roman.

Some of our members had visited some of the buildings mentioned so could provide us with first hand accounts of what they looked like and the Neoclassical features.

Sculpture: The Nymphenburg Porcelain Manufacturer from 1760 -1765, produced a great deal of German's sculptures and tableware.

Johann Gottfried Schadow's 'Hercules and the horses of Diomedes' was a study for the Brandenburg Gate triumphal arch.



Messerschmidt

claimed that his character heads were created due to having aroused the anger of "the Spirit of Proportion", an ancient being who safe-guarded this knowledge. The spirit visited him at night and forced him to endure humiliating tortures. He looked at his reflection in a mirror as he suffered and drew his expression of pain then made these into his sculptures of heads. These heads became some of his most noted works.



German art:

**Anton Raphael Mengs
(March 22 1728 – June 29 1779)**

Held many important positions in Germany, Saxony and the Vatican
His connection to the north east of England. The 1st Duke of Northumberland
commissioned him to paint a copy of Raphael's 'The School of Athens' for his
London home.

The 7th Duke of Northumberland in 1911 gained another of Mengs' paintings of
'The Holy Family'



Mengs

Which German Artist was a Cannibal?!!

Can you remember?

CLUES: He painted arrange of topics in the 18th century

He kept reinventing himself

He was shipwrecked with several others. This was the event when they ate another
human.

Plenary: Reflecting on what we have learned – the packs were issued to members.
Using a Venn diagram and description cards, to classify which cards described and
which did not describe the Neoclassical painting, 'The Death of Sophocles' by
David.

All members felt that they now had a better knowledge of Neoclassicism.

**WELL DONE our TAA members once again for such
an interesting meeting and all your input.**