Resource Guide

ART FROM EUROPE AND AMERICA, 1850-1950: GALLERY 17
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How to Use this Guide
This resource guide provides Ackland visitors with suggested resources for background information about objects on display at the museum. This particular guide relates to Art from Europe and America, 1850-1950 in Gallery 17. Links without descriptions correspond to books in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s library. Click on images to see the record database information for the object in the Ackland Collection Database.

Background Information: Countries

EUROPE
What's Happening in Europe in 1837 CE – TimeMaps
https://www.timemaps.com/history/europe-1837ad/
Map of Europe in the mid-19th century. Resource provides information about the French Revolution and the Industrial Revolution. One can navigate to specific regions to see more detailed historical information.

1800-1900 Europe – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/chronology/#!?time=10&geo=eu
From this page, one can access the 1800-1900 chronologies of Central Europe, Eastern Europe, France, Great Britain, and Southern Europe. These chronologies include maps, timelines of key events, and links to thematic essays.

FRANCE
France 1800-1900 – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/10/euwf.html
Resource provides historical context for the art movements of 19th-century France. The French Revolution and Napoleon are discussed, as well as Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, and Art Nouveau.

French Paintings of the 19th Century – National Gallery of Art
Introduction to French art of the 19th century, including references to such artists as Delacroix, Renoir, and Degas. Resource also links to descriptions of key terms (Impressionism, Post-Impressionism) with examples of works that represent the vocabulary.

Empire Splendor: French taste in the age of Napoleon by Bernard Chevallier

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
The United States and Canada 1800-1900 – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/ht/10/na.html
Resource combines historical background with artistic developments in North America during this time period.

America Comes of Age: 1876–1900 – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
After the Civil War, the United States of America took its place on the world stage as a political, cultural, and artistic power. Resource describes the artists who helped put America on the map.

What is Happening in the United States in 1871 CE – TimeMaps
https://www.timemaps.com/history/usa-1871ad/
Map of the United States with brief information about the Civil War.

**Background Information: Historical Context**

Elisabeth Jerichau-Baumann, German, 1819-1881:

**THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION**
The Industrial Revolution marks the period of transition between manual and machine power that took place in the late-18th and early-19th centuries. The steam engine improved transportation and new factories allowed for mass-production. The labor necessitated by these factories caused urbanization. European and American society would never be the same.

The Industrial Revolution – British Library
https://www.bl.uk/georgian-britain/articles/the-industrial-revolution
Resource describes how the Industrial Revolution changed British Society with sections about steam and coal, factories, and transportation.

The Industrial Revolution – Art History Unstuffed
https://arthistoryunstuffed.com/industrial-revolution/
The concept of the avant garde in art is closely linked with the Industrial Revolution. The mindset of progress that technological developments of the 18th and 19th centuries created was translated to art.
THE SALON
The Salon continued to regulate art in Europe, especially in France. However, many nineteenth-century art movements challenged the power of the Salon.

The Salon and the Royal Academy in the 19th Century – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/sara/hd_sara.htm
The French and British Royal Academies of art were like unions for artists; they trained artists, organized exhibitions, and provided young artists with connections to patrons and fame. The academy maintained academic painting techniques and subjects, which were challenged by avant-garde movements in the 19th century.

Sculpture and the Salon in 19th Century France
The Salon also regulated sculpture and the subject matter that could be sculpted. Article also describes sculpture patronage in the 19th century.

THE CIVIL WAR
The American Civil War – Encyclopaedia Britannica
https://www.britannica.com/event/American-Civil-War
Resource provides a timeline and complete history of the Civil War with detailed historical information.

The Civil War and American Art – Smithsonian American Art Museum
https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/civil-war
Exhibition introduction with accompanying informational podcast.

History Painting

History Painting and its Critics, 1870-1910 – Nineteenth-Century Art Worldwide
Article by renowned scholar about the effect of Modernist art movements on the academic genre of history painting. Although other genres of painting rose to prominence, history paintings continued to be made during the 19th century.

History at the Academy and the Salon – Yale University Art Gallery
https://artgallery.yale.edu/education/lesson/lecture-11
Lecture analyzing Jean-Léon Gérôme’s Ave Caesar! Morituri te salutant in the context of Realism and Impressionism. This history painting presents a Roman scene.
LITERATURE AND ART
Shakespeare and Art, 1709-1922 – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/shaa/hd_shaa.htm
Resource about the history of depicting scenes from Shakespeare’s plays in art. The Ackland’s Cleopatra and the Peasant depicts a scene from Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra.

Symbolism – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/symb/hd_symb.htm
Starting as a literary movement in France, Symbolism came to be associated with artists who rejected naturalism in favor of representing the artist’s emotions in a work of art. This resource describes the history of Symbolism while also comparing it to other contemporary art movements. Important symbolist artists, such as Gauguin, are referenced.

Atala by François-René Chateaubriand
The Ackland’s Atala and Chactas depicts a scene from this text

Redefining American History Painting by Patricia M. Burnham

Genre Painting

American Scenes of Everyday Life – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/scen/hd_scen.htm
Resource describes the introduction of everyday life subjects into American painting starting with portraiture and becoming increasingly prevalent during and after the Civil War.

Painting out of the Ordinary: modernity and the art of everyday life in nineteenth-century Britain
by David H. Solkin
**Redefining Genre: French and American painting 1850-1900** by Gabriel P. Weisberg

**REALISM**
Realism was a way of updating academic painting to the modern world through capturing scenes of what life was really like.

Nineteenth-Century French Realism – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History  
[https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/rlsm/hd_rls.htm](https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/rlsm/hd_rls.htm)

The Industrial Revolution changed all aspects of life in Europe. Realism was a movement to capture these changes in society by painting scenes from real life, rather than historical or biblical scenes.

![Eastman Johnson, American, 1824-1906: Cranberry Pickers, c. 1875-80; oil on board. 3 3/4 x 7 11/16 in. Ackland Art Museum, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hirschl, 72.51.1.](Image)

**Realism in the Age of Impressionism: painting and the politics of time** by Marnin Young

**IMPRESSIONISM AND GENRE**
Impressionist art was seen as radical in the 19th century. Artists who are today considered to be impressionists were exiled from the Academy because their work diverged from academic techniques and subject matter. The term Impressionism is used because Impressionist art is concerned with capturing the impression of a single moment.

Impressionism: Art and Modernity – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History  
[https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/imml/hd_imml.htm](https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/imml/hd_imml.htm)

In 1874, the first Impressionist exhibition was put on display. This article describes the origins of Impressionism as a movement and includes extensive information (and links to related essays) about important Impressionist artists.

American Impressionists of the Late 1800s and Early 1900s – National Gallery of Art  
[https://www.nga.gov/features/slideshows/americainpressionistsofthelate1800sandearly1900s.html](https://www.nga.gov/features/slideshows/americainpressionistsofthelate1800sandearly1900s.html)

Slideshow of works in the NGA’s collection with accompanying information about the unique interpretation of the Impressionist movement in the United States. Themes addressed by this resource include, scientific developments, plein air painting, orientalism, and revivalism.
## Portraiture

### Citizens and kings: portraits in the age of revolution, 1760-1830 by Royal Academy of Arts

### The Neo-Impressionist Portrait, 1886-1904 by Jane Block and Ellen Wardwell Lee

### The modern portrait in nineteenth-century France by Heather McPherson

### The Painted Face: portraits of women in France, 1814-1914 by Tamar Garb

### Facing the Public: portraiture in the aftermath of the French Revolution by Tony Halliday

### Beauty's Legacy: gilded age portraits in America by Barbara Dayer Gallati

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## Landscape Painting

The Transformation of Landscape Painting in France – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History  
[https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/lafr/hd_lafr.htm](https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/lafr/hd_lafr.htm)

In the 19th century, Landscape painting was elevated from a minor genre to the hotbed of artistic development. In fact, many of the modern techniques that developed in the 19th century were first seen in landscape paintings. Resource describes the importance of landscape in artistic developments of the time.
THE BARBIZON SCHOOL
Artists of the Barbizon School strove to capture the magic of the Forest of Fontainebleau in their artwork. Theodore Rousseau was the leader of the group of artists, and would lead the men into the forest to observe and paint *en plein air* in any weather condition.

Barbizon School – Encyclopaedia Britannica
https://www.britannica.com/art/Barbizon-school
Encyclopedia entry on the Barbizon School and its origins in France.

The Barbizon School: French Painters of Nature – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/rlsm/hd_rlsm.htm
Resource provides context about the changes in French landscape painting, especially in the Salon in the 19th century. Essay is also about contributions made by members of the Barbizon School, including Charles-François Daubigny, whose work, *Pond at Corbigny*, is in the Ackland’s Collection.

The Barbizon School and the Nature of Landscape – Kemper Art Museum
http://kemperartmuseum.wustl.edu/files/Barbizon.pdf
Exhibition guide describes the influence of the Industrial Revolution on Barizon School artists, especially in regard to their practice of *plein air* painting.

THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL
Despite being named after the Hudson River, this American art school was not geographically rooted to this location. As this first American school of art, the Hudson River School celebrated the American landscape and pioneer spirit of westward expansion.

The Hudson River School – Encyclopaedia Britannica
https://www.britannica.com/art/Hudson-River-school
Entry about the origins and key members of the Hudson River School, including Albert Bierstadt, whose work is represented in the Ackland’s collection.

The Hudson River School – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
Resource provides information about the early days of the Hudson River School with Thomas Cole through its end with the death of Albert Bierstadt.

Nature and the American Identity – University of Virginia
http://xroads.virginia.edu/~cap/nature/cap2.html
Article links the Hudson River School’s connection to gothic literature and romanticism.

Decorative Arts

European Revivalism – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/eurv/hd_eurv.htm
Numerous styles were revived in the decorative arts across Europe during the 19th century. Interior design trends included Neoclassicism, Gothic Revival, Rococo Revival, and others.

American Revival Styles 1840-76 – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/revi/hd_revi.htm
Many of the same revival styles popular in Europe were also popular in the United States, especially Gothic Revival.

Exoticism in the Decorative Arts – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/exot/hd_exot.htm
Due to the flourishing trade routes between Europe and Asia, Europeans were introduced to, and quickly enamored with, porcelain. Europeans began to produce works inspired by Asian designs.

ARTS AND CRAFTS
The Industrial Revolution mass produced machine-made goods. As a reaction to this, the Arts and Crafts movement promoted handmade products and embraced the imperfection of hand-craftsmanship. This was also a moral movement that linked the good morals of society with good design.

Design Reform – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/dsrf/hd_dsrf.htm
Resource describes two types of design reform in England – reform of industrial design to make English-produced goods more desirable, and the Arts and Crafts Movement which sought to reform the morality of design and do away with industry.

The Arts and Crafts Movement in America – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/acam/hd_acam.htm
The Arts and Crafts Movement spread to the United States where it was not as intensely linked to socialism and utopianism.


Arts and Crafts Objects by Imogen Hart

ART NOUVEAU
This style developed in the late-19th century as a combination of ideas from botanical studies, naturalism, the Arts and Crafts movement, and the Aesthetic Movement. Art Nouveau is characterized by abstracted organic shapes, and is especially present in architecture and decorative arts of the time.

Art Nouveau – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/artn/hd_artn.htm

Resource describes the movement Art Nouveau and its expression in architecture and decorative arts.

GLASSWARE
Mid-19th to 20th Century Glassware – Encyclopaedia Britannica
https://www.britannica.com/art/glassware/Mid-19th-to-20th-century

Resource describes trends in glass art by country. The section about France mentions Emile Gallé.

Objects of Beauty: Art Nouveau Glass and Jewelry – Victoria & Albert Museum
https://www.vam.ac.uk/articles/objects-of-beauty-art-nouveau-glass-and-jewellery

Names and descriptions of artists whose glass work are in the V&A collection, including Emile Gallé.

Themes

FRENCH INFLUENCE
Americans in Paris 1860-1900 – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/ampa/hd_ampa.htm
Resource describes the influence that Paris had on visiting American artists, and how that influence translated back to the United States and shaped the visual culture of that country.

Style Guide: French Style – Victoria & Albert Museum
http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/s/style-guide-french-style/

Even old French styles became in vogue in the 19th century. Rococo revival with its gold gilding and rich colors was popular in Britain.

French Art in Nineteenth-century Britain by Edward Morris.

French Realist Painting and the Critique of American Society, 1865-1900 by Laura L. Meixner

NATIONALISM
Art was used for political aims, to engender national pride, especially after the French Revolution.

The Allure of Empire: Art in the Service of French Imperialism by Todd Porterfield

The Artist and the State, 1777-1855: the politics of universal history in British and French painting by Daniel R. Guernsey

Early impressionism and the French state, (1866-1874) by Jane Mayo Roos

The Nation Made Real: art and national identity in Western Europe, 1600-1850 by Anthony D. Smith

Nationalism and Classicism: the classical body as national symbol in nineteenth-century England and France by Athena S. Leoussi

The Troubled Republic: visual culture and social debate in France, 1889-1900 by Richard Thomson

ORIENTALISM
Orientalism is the depiction of the Eastern world by Europeans in art or literature.

Visual Culture of the Atlantic World – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/vcaw/hd_vcaw.htm

Resource provides background information about trade routes across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. These trade routes created spheres of influence and allowed for decorative styles and aesthetics to be translated across space and adapted different by colonizers and colonized alike. Resource also addresses the representation of natives and slaves in art.

Orientalism in Nineteenth-Century Art – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/euor/hd_euor.htm

As seen in Eugene Fromentin's Five Standing Arabs, foreign people became popular subject matter in European art. Artists often depicted the East as a backwards and
barbaric place, asserting European cultural dominance. At the same time, Europeans became obsessed with Eastern aesthetics as architectural works with Orientalist themes were built.

Japonisme – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/ipon/hd_ipon.htm
Resource describes how Japanese woodblock prints inspired European artists. Japanese prints were especially influential in the Impressionist movement.

Style Guides – Victoria & Albert Museum
Influence of China http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/s/style-guide-influence-of-china/
Influence of India: http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/s/style-guide-influence-of-india/
Influence of Islam: http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/s/style-guide-influence-of-islam/
Influence of Japan: http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/s/style-guide-influence-of-japan/
Resources provide information about the characteristics of European art inspired by different cultural traditions encountered during the Age of Exploration.

Inventing Exoticism: geography, globalism, and Europe's early modern world by Benjamin Schmidt

The Orientalists: Western artists in Arabia, the Sahara, Persia & India by Kristian Davies

American Orientalists by Gerald M. Ackerman


Technique

PROCESS
Revolution in Paint – North Carolina Museum of Art
https://ncartmuseum.org/pdf/revolution-supplement.pdf
Exhibition guide about the revolutionary aspects of nineteenth-century art, especially the technological and scientific developments in paint and paint storage that allowed for the process of painting to change.

Plein Air
The ability to paint outdoors was due to advances in technology allowing painters to buy and carry oil paints in tubes. Artists painted landscapes and everyday life scenes from observation. Plein Air painting was crucial to the Impressionist movement and the revolutionary developments in landscape painting of the 19th century.

Plein Air - Tate
https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/p/plein-air
Dictionary definition of plein air painting.

Plein Air Painting – Encyclopaedia Britannica
https://www.britannica.com/art/plein-air-painting
Resource describes the radical changes in the process of creating art that resulted from plein air painting, especially the relationship between sketching and the finished work.


Sketching
The traditions of making a preliminary sketch of a work before applying paints had existed since the 16th century. In the 19th century, the process of creating art changed and the sketch aesthetic was embraced in France, leading to changes in art styles and conflict with the Salon.

The Aesthetic of the Sketch in Nineteenth-Century France – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/aest/hd_aest.htm
Article about the history of sketching in the process of creating art and how plein air painting and Romanticism led to a change in the way artists thought about the sketch and created art.

Claude Glass – Victoria & Albert Museum
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O78676/claude-glass-unknown/
The Claude Glass was a sketching aid used by landscape artists to see behind them, creating a round image. The results of using a claude glass to paint can be seen in Cropsey's Landscape with Mountains at Sunset.

PAINTING
Painting Tools – Florence Griswold Museum
http://florencegriswoldmuseum.org/collections/online/fox-chase/fox-chase-painting-tools/#paints
Resource provides information about the types of paints, brushes, varnishes, canvases, and easels that American artists, specifically impressionists, used.

The Materials Used by British Oil Painters in the 19th Century - Tate
Detailed information about everything painters needed to create art, including images of contemporary tools.

Gustave Courbet’s Painting Technique – The Getty Museum
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lzZX3CxUY2c
Video demonstrates the manner in which Courbet used palette knives, rags, sponges, and even his fingers to apply paint.

SCULPTING
Sculpture Techniques – Victoria & Albert Museum
http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/s/sculpture-techniques/
Resource about sculpting techniques in various media.

Adriaen de Vries's Bronze Casting Technique: Direct Lost-Wax Method – The Getty Museum
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JiofOv18o2M&feature=youtu.be
Video shows step-by-step instructions to direct lost-wax method bronze casting, the type of casing used by Degas.

Casting Bronze: Indirect Lost Wax Method – The Getty Museum
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AR_KftDRs4&feature=youtu.be
Educational video about indirect lost wax bronze casting.

Edgar Degas (1834-1917): Bronze Sculpture – Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/dgsb/hd_dgsb.htm
Article describes Degas’ bronze sculptures, especially of dancers, like Spanish Dance in the Ackland’s collection.

Terms

Aestheticism
Encyclopaedia Britannica
Victoria and Albert Museum
Art for Art's Sake: aestheticism in Victorian painting by Elizabeth Prettlejohn

Art Nouveau
Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History - Resource describes the origins of Art Nouveau style and mentions important figures in the movement, including Eugène Emmanuel Viollet-Le-Duc. Different national interpretations of Art Nouveau are also explained
Art Nouveau: the French aesthetic by Victor Arwas

Arts and Crafts
Victoria and Albert
Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History – Resource describes the Arts and Crafts Movement in the United States.

Cameo Glass
Encyclopaedia Britannica

Ciborium
Encyclopaedia Britannica

Impasto
Encyclopaedia Britannica

Impressionism
SmartHistory - Resource explains why the Impressionists putting on their own exhibition was so revolutionary and lists characteristics of Impressionist artwork. There are also subpages about artists including Degas and Renoir.
National Gallery, London
Florence Griswold Museum - Resource breaks down and describes the characteristics of American Impressionism. This museum is dedicated to the Old Lyme Art Colony in Connecticut, but the information about Impressionism can be applied to the United States at large.

Nabis
Encyclopaedia Britannica
Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History

Post-Impressionism
Museum of Modern Art
Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History - Article defines Post-Impressionism and also provides information about the most important artists who defined this style.

Pre-Raphaelitism
Khan Academy
English Pre-Raphaelitism and its reception in America in the nineteenth century by Susan P. Casteras.

Realism
Khan Academy - Resource provides an introduction to Realism along with several interpretations of Realist paintings, featuring many Courbet pieces.
Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
The Realist Tradition: French painting and drawing, 1830-1900 by Gabriel P. Weisberg

Romanticism
Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History

Symbolism
Tate

Artists
Bernard, Émile Encyclopaedia Britannica, Van Gogh Museum
Bierstadt, Albert Benezit Dictionary of Artists, Yale University Art Gallery, Smithsonian
Bonnat, Léon Encyclopaedia Britannica, Benezit Dictionary of Artists
Cropsey, Jasper Francis National Gallery of Art
Courbet, Gustave Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Musee Orsay
Daubigny, Charles-François National Gallery, London, National Gallery of Art
Degas, Edgar Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, Encyclopaedia Britannica, National Gallery of Art
Delacroix, Eugene Encyclopaedia Britannica, National Gallery of Art
Fromentin, Eugene National Gallery, London, Benezit Dictionary of Artist Names
Gallé, Emile Encyclopaedia Britannica
Jerichau-Baumann, Elisabeth Benezit Dictionary of Artists, National Museum of Women in the Arts
Johnson, Eastman Smithsonian, National Gallery of Art
Pissarro, Camille Guggenheim, Encyclopaedia Britannica
Powers, Hiram Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
Rodin, Auguste Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, Rodin Museum
Scott, William Bell Tate, Benezit Dictionary of Artists
Singer Sargent, John Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, Encyclopaedia Britannica
Stuart, Gilbert Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History
Viollet-le-Duc, Eugène Emmanuel Encyclopaedia Britannica, Mapping Gothic France
Westall, Richard Tate

Other Resources
The Short Story of Art: a pocket guide to key movements, works, themes & techniques by Susie Hodge

Nineteenth Century French Art: from Romanticism to Impressionism, post-Impressionism and Art Nouveau by Henri Loyrette