**UNDERSTANDING MODERN ART**

***BEYOND REALISM AND NARRATIVE -* Professor Nancy G. Heller**

**Session # 2**

**RELEVANT SURVEYS/ANTHOLOGIES**:

Alan Bowness, *Modern European Art: From Impressionism to Abstraction* (Thames & Hudson, 2003)

Nikos Stangos (ed.), *Concept of Modern Art: From Fauvism to Postmodernism* (Thames & Hudson, 1994)

**USEFUL, BUT DIFFICULT TO CATEGORIZE**:

Robert Atkins, *Artspeak: A Guide to Contemporary Ideas, Movements, and Buzzwords 1945 to the Present* (Abbeville Press, 1997)

*Artspoke: A Guide to Modern Ideas, Movements, and Buzzwords, 18481944*

(Abbeville Press, 1993)

Nancy G. Heller, *Why a Painting is Like a Pizza: A Guide to Understanding and* *Enjoying Modern Art* (Princeton University Press, 2002)

**PARTICULAR MOVEMENTS**:

**CUBISM**

Robert Rosenblum, *Cubism and Twentieth-Century Art* (Abrams, 1976)

William Rubin, *Picasso and Braque: Pioneering Cubism* (Museum of Modern Art,1989) + related documentary film, “New Ways of Seeing: Picasso, Braque, and the Cubist Revolution”

**CUBIST OFFSHOOTS**

Matthew Drutt (ed.), *Kazimir Malevich: Suprematism* (Guggenheim Museum, 2003)

Vivien Greene (ed.), *Italian Futurism, 1909-1944: Reconstructing the Universe*  (Guggenheim Museum, 2014)

Paul Overy, *De Stijl* (Thames & Hudson, 1991)

**BASIC TERMS/CONCEPTS OF 20TH CENTURY ART**

**Cubism** (co-inventors:  Picasso & Braque); three main phases (for the co-creators):

Cézannian (c.1908-1909); Analytic (c.1910-1912); & Synthetic (c.1913-1914).

**Influence of ancient Iberian and traditional African “tribal”**

**Simultaneous views/perspectives**

**Collage**

**Effects of Russian Revolution of 1917 (Socialist Realism)**

**Futurism (**Italy) & F.T. Marinetti (Futurist “spokesperson”)

**Vorticism** (England) & Wyndham Lewis (painter & theoretician)

**Orphism** (France)

**De Stijl**--a.k.a. Neoplasticism (Holland), + American Neoplasticism

**Suprematism** (Russia)

**Monochrome paintings**

**White-on-white** paintings

**PRINCIPAL ARTWORKS DISCUSSED**

**BASIC CUBISM**

Pablo Picasso (1881-1973):

            *Les Demoiselles*d’Avignon, 1907 (transition to Cubism)

            *Woman with a Guitar*(*Ma Jolie*), 1912 (Analytic Cubism)

            *Guitar, Sheet Music, and Wineglass*, 1912 (Synthetic Cubism, + collage)

            *The Three Musicians*, 1921 (variation on Synthetic Cubism, with humor)

            *Guernica*, 1937 (variation on Cubism, with emotion/political commentary)

Georges Braque (1882-1963)

            *Houses at l’Estaque*, 1908 (Cézannian Cubism)

            *Man with a Guitar*, 1911 (Analytic Cubism)

            *Still Life with Fruit Dish and Mandolin*, 1938 (late example of Synthetic Cubism)

Marcel Duchamp (1887-1968)

            *Nude Descending a Staircase #2*, 1912 (Analytic Cubism)

**ADDITIONAL VERSIONS OF CUBISM: INDIVIDUAL VARIATIONS**

Fernand Léger (1881-1955)

            *Three Women,*1922

Juan Gris (1887-1927)

            *Portrait of Picasso*, 1912

**INTERNATIONAL SPREAD OF CUBISM**

**SUPREMATISM** (Italy)

Umberto Boccioni (1882-1916)

*Dynamism of a Soccer Player*, 1913 (painting)

*Unique Forms of Continuity in Space*. 1913 (sculpture)

Giacomo Balla (1871-1958)

*Dynamism of a Dog on a Leash*, 1912

**VORTICISM** (England)

Christopher Nevinson (1889-1946)

*Return to the Trenches*, 1916 (b/w lithograph)

*La Mitrailleuse*, 1915 (painting)

**ORPHISM** (France)

Co-founded in 1912 by Robert Delaunay (1885-1941) and Sonia Terk Delaunay (1885-1979)

**DE STIJL/NEOPLASTICISM** (Holland, + offshoots in the U.S., etc.)

Piet Mondrian (1872-1944)

*Composition with Red, Blue, and Yellow*, 1930

Gerrit Rietveld (1888-1964)

*Schröder House*, 1925, Utrecht

Theo van Doesburg (1883-1931)

new typeface, etc.

**AMERICAN NEOPLASTICISTS**

Charmion von Wiegand (1896-1983)

Ilya Bolotowsky (1907-1981)

**SUPREMATISM** (Russia)

Kazimir Malevich (1878-1935)

*Suprematist Composition: White on White*, 1918

**CUBISM IN THE OTHER ARTS**

*Parade*, a Cubist ballet premiered by Diaghilev’s Ballets Russes in 1917, with set and

costume designs by Pablo Picasso

*Victory Over the*Sun, premiered in 1913; a Russian Futurist opera with set and costume

designs by Kazimir Malevich

*Le Ballet Mécanique*, a short, experimental, b/w, silent film by Fernand Léger.