

Richard Gunning
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Introduction to Modern Art

The six week course will explore the exciting and dynamic changes that took place in art as it responded to, and at times pre-empted a rapidly changing world. Join artist Richard Gunning as he examines a period which has produced some of the most powerful, and at times bewildering and beautiful works in Western Art. This course is for anyone who is curious about the art of our times and it's not too distant predecessors.

To coincide with the exhibition '*Picasso to Warhol: Fourteen Modern Masters*' at the Art Gallery of Western Australia (closing 3 December), particular emphasis will be given to the artists on show.

Thursday 6.30pm -8.30pm

Starts 4 October 2012

Venue: Glyde-Inn Community Centre, 42 Glyde Street East Fremantle

Course cost: \$210

The course will be conducted as a series of talks with slide presentations (using a data projector). Students are encouraged to enter into discussion. The two hour class includes a coffee-break.

Week 1.

What is Modern Art? New approaches to a changing world.

- Post Impressionism, Art Nouveau
- Fauvism, Expressionism
- Cubism

Week 2

Utopian Dreams. Artists and architects create visions of a future based on technology, mass production and a healthy dose of optimism.

- Futurism and Constructivism
- De Stijl, Bauhaus –the influence of Frank Lloyd Wright

The school of Paris: a number of artists explore their unique sensibilities through the new forms of Modernism.

- Chagall, Modigliani

World War I: Artists react to the horrors of the war.

- Dada and Duchamp.

Week 3

Art between the wars

- The rise of Surrealism.
- The rise of American mass culture (Hollywood and Jazz).
- Art Deco.
- Masters of Modernism: Bonnard, Matisse, Picasso, Braque and Rivera.

Week 4.

The avant guard shifts to New York

- Abstract expressionism

The International Style: Modern architecture becomes a universal style.

- Figurative modernism; a look at artists who resist total abstraction in America, Britain (school of London) and Australia.

Week 5.

The 1960's and 1970's

Art responds to mass culture in the form of Pop Art, while 'High Modernism' produces Colour Field Painting and Minimalism. Experimentation in the 1970's sees the introduction of a multitude of movements; Conceptual art, Land art, Community Art, Identity art etc.

- Modern Art and the institution; the rise of the Modern art museum.
- Cracks in the surface –the end of Modernism?

Week 6

The 1980's till now!

- Painting makes a comeback.
- Post WWII Masters; abstract and figurative

Post Modernism

- Art Now!

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Payment can be made either by cheque or electronic transfer.

Booking is essential