



Diploma Lecture Series 2012
Absolutism to enlightenment: European art and culture 1665-1765

Boucher and the artifice of nature

Jessica Priebe

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Lecture summary: Through the paradigm of rococo artist François Boucher's approach to nature, this lecture considers the role of artifice and the issue of artistic invention in the evolution of eighteenth-century French landscape painting.

Artists and theorists discussed in this lecture:

Antoine Watteau (1684-1721)

Jean-Baptiste Oudry (1686-1755)

Claude-Henri Watelet (1718-1786)

Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Joseph Vernet (1714-89)

Jean-Honoré Fragonard (1732-1806)

Hubert Robert (1733-1808)

Roger de Piles (1635-1709)

François Boucher (1703-1770)

Louis de Carmontelle (1717-1806)

Jean-Baptiste-Simeon Chardin (1699-1779)

Claude Lorrain (1604-1682)

Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)

Slide list:

1. **Boucher**, *The Landscape Painter*, c. 1730-1735, oil on canvas, Paris, Musée du Louvre.
2. **Watteau**, *Assembly in the Park*, c. 1710, oil on canvas, Paris, Musée du Louvre.
- * 3. **Oudry**, *Park of Château d'Arcueil*, 1744, black and white chalk on tan paper, Los Angeles, John Paul Getty Museum.
4. **Boucher**, *Aqueduct in the park of Château d'Arcueil*, 1752, black and white chalk on blue paper, Vienna, The Albertina Museum.
- * 5. **Boucher**, *Landscape with a Watermill*, 1755, oil on canvas, London, The National Gallery.
6. Franz-Edmund **Weiotter**, *Le Moulin Joli à Colombes*, c. 1773, red chalk drawing, Sceaux, Musée de l'Île-de-France, MIF. INV. 94.20.1
7. **Boucher**, *The Enjoyable Lesson*, 1748, oil on canvas, Melbourne, National Gallery of Victoria.
8. **Boucher**, *The Mysterious Basket*, 1748, oil on canvas, Melbourne, National Gallery of Victoria.
9. Hameau de Versailles, designed by Richard Mique, 1783–1787.
10. **Carmontelle**, *The Female Farmers* (Madame de la Houze and Mademoiselle de Longueil), c. 1782, pencil, watercolour, gouache and red chalk on paper, Chantilly, Musée Condé.

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11. Exterior and interior of Marie-Antoinette's pleasure dairy, Hameau de Versailles, designed by Richard Mique, 1783–1787.
12. **Boucher**, *Autumn Pastoral*, 1749, oil on canvas, London, The Wallace Collection.
13. **Boucher**, *Are They Thinking About The Grape?* 1747, oil on canvas, Art Institute of Chicago.
- *14. **Boucher**, *The Clogs*, 1768, oil on canvas, Toronto, Art Gallery of Ontario.
15. **Chardin**, *Bowl of Plums, a Peach and Water Pitcher*, c. 1728-1730, oil on canvas, Washington D.C., The Phillips Collection.
16. **Chardin**, *Basket of Wild Strawberries*, 1761, oil on canvas, Private Collection.
- *17. **Vernet**, *Seaport at Sunset*, 1749, oil on canvas, San Diego, Timken Museum of Art.
18. **Claude**, *Seaport*, 1637, oil on canvas, Private Collection.
19. **Vernet**, *The Port of Toulon*, 1756, oil on canvas, Paris, Musée de la Marine.
20. **Vernet**, *Shipwreck in Stormy Seas*, 1773, oil on canvas, London, The National Gallery.
21. **Fragonard**, *Landscape*, 1760s, chalk drawing.
22. **Robert**, *View of the villa Aldobrandini at Frascati*, (seen from the garden), 1761, chalk drawing.
23. **Fragonard**, *A Game of Horse and Rider*, c. 1770s, oil on canvas, Washington D. C., National Gallery of Art.
24. **Robert**, *Landscape with Ruins*, 1772, oil on canvas, Los Angeles, John Paul Getty Museum.
25. The Broken Column House at Désert des Retz. Built for François Racine de Monville. Photographed by Michael Kenna, 1993.

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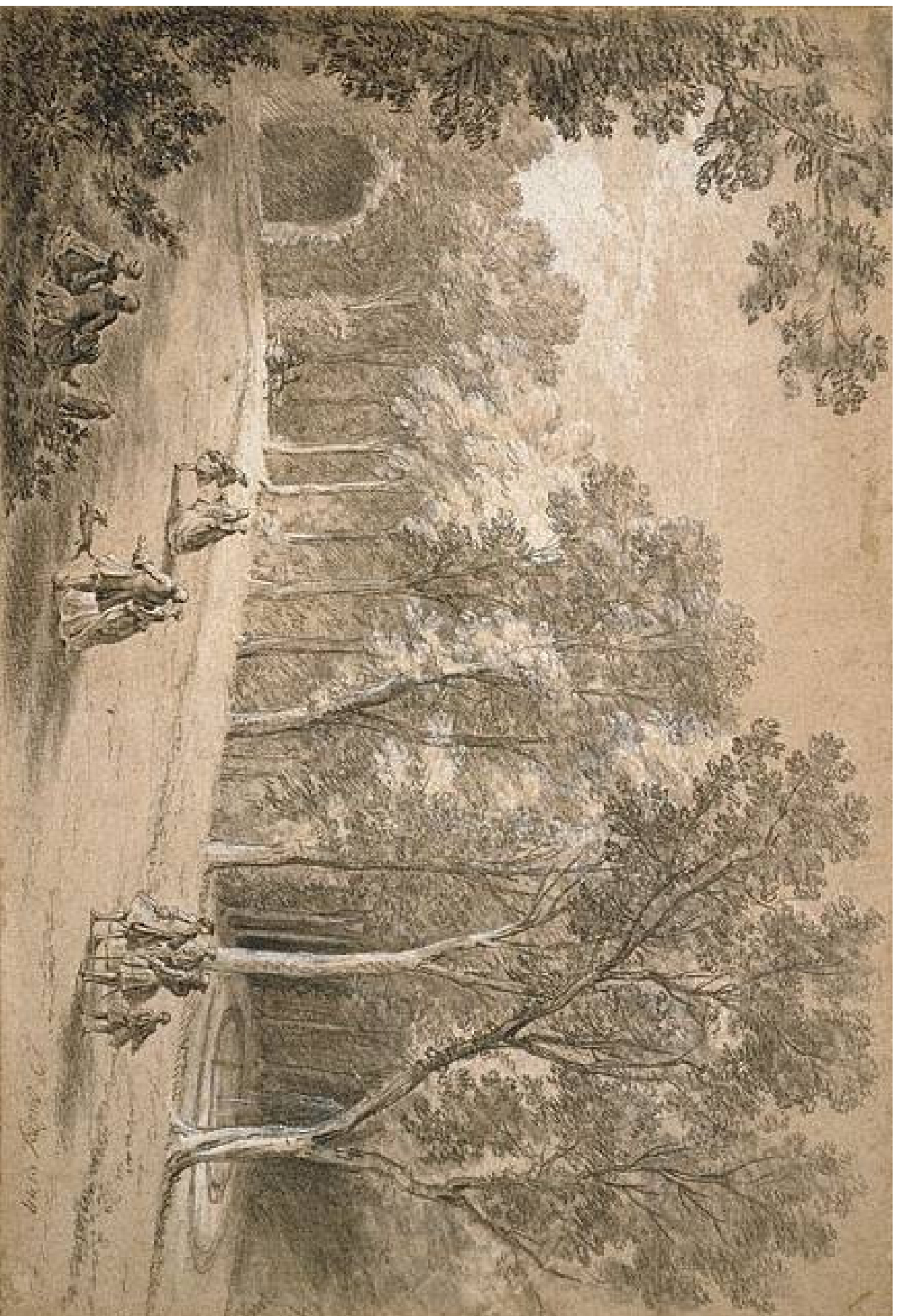
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Jean-Baptiste Oudry, *Park of Château d'Arcueil*, 1744, black and white chalk on tan paper, Los Angeles, John Paul Getty Museum.



François Boucher, *Landscape with a Watermill*, 1755, oil on canvas, London, The National Gallery.



François Boucher, *The Clogs*, 1768, oil on canvas, Toronto, Art Gallery of Ontario.



Joseph Vernet, *Seaport at Sunset*, 1749, oil on canvas, San Diego, Timken Museum of Art.

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