Diploma Lecture Series 2013
Revolution to Romanticism: European Art and Culture 1750-1850

The everyday aesthetics of Danish and Biedermeier art in the early 19th century

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Lecture summary:

This lecture considers the connections between Danish painting and the Biedermeier aesthetic. During the years from 1815-1848, following the defeat of Napoleon, a lively exchange took place between artists from Central and Northern Europe and a common aesthetic was developed which emphasised functionality, the art of the everyday and natural beauty. In Berlin and Vienna the legacy of Biedermeier was most strongly articulated in the decorative arts while artistic developments in Denmark played an important role in shaping a new direction in painting which focussed on themes drawn from everyday events and settings.

Slide list:

*Georg Friedrich Kersting, Woman embroidering, 1817, oil on panel, National Museum, Warsaw


Eduard Gaertner, Toilette room in the apartment of Prince Wilhelm and Princess Marianne in the Royal Palace, Berlin, 1849 and Prince Waldemar’s living room in the Royal Palace, Berlin, 1847, watercolour, Hessische Hausstiftung, Kronberg

Writing cabinet, Munich, c.1810, cherry, cherry veneer, Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin

Tea table, Vienna, c.1825, maple veneer on beech, mahogany inlays, private collection, Germany

Coffee bowls, Vienna, c.1835, porcelain, Technisches Museum, Vienna

Two cups and saucers, Vienna, 1814-17, porcelain, private collection, Vienna

Beakers with pansies and four-leaf clover, Vienna, c.1820, Wien Museum, Vienna

Studies for the decoration of interior walls, c.1837-50, gouache, Museum of Decorative Arts, Prague

Pair of candelabra, Vienna, c.1820, silver-plated copper, Collection Christian Witt- Dörring, Vienna

Jakob Alt, View from the artist's studio in Alservorstadt towards Dornbach, 1836, watercolour over pencil, Albertina, Vienna

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Wilhelm Bendz, *Life class at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen*, 1826, oil on canvas, Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen

Christen Købke, *View of the plaster cast collection at Charlottenborg Palace*, 1830, oil on canvas, The Hirschsprung Collection, Copenhagen

Frederik Sødring, *The rear courtyard of Charlottenborg Palace*, 1828, oil on canvas, Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen

Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg, *Julie Eckersberg, née Juel, the artist’s second wife*, 1817, oil on canvas, Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen

*Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg, *Woman standing in front of a mirror*, 1841, oil on canvas, The Hirschsprung Collection, Copenhagen

Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg, *A view towards the wharf at Nyholm with crane and warships*, 1826, oil on canvas, The Hirschsprung Collection, Copenhagen

*Christen Købke, *Frederiksborg Castle in the evening light*, 1835, oil on canvas, The Hirschsprung Collection, Copenhagen

Constantin Hansen, *Kronborg Castle*, 1834, oil on canvas, Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen

Christen Købke, *One of the small towers from Castle Frederiksborg*, c.1834, oil on canvas, The David Collection, Copenhagen

Christen Købke, *View from the grain loft*, 1831, oil on canvas, Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen

Eduard Gaertner, *Panorama of Berlin from the roof of the Church of Friedrichswerder*, 1835, oil on canvas, Stiftung Stadtmuseum Berlin

Martinus Rørbye, *Vester Edege Church with Gisselfeld Covent in the background*, 1832, oil on paper pasted on canvas, Ny Carlsberg Glyptotk, Copenhagen

Martinus Rørbye, *View from the artist’s window*, c.1825, oil on canvas, Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen

*Johan Christian Dahl, *Dresden in moonlight*, 1843, oil on canvas, Bergen Kunstmuseum

Johan Christian Dahl, *Cloud study*, 1832, oil on paper on card, Hamburger Kusthalle, Hamburg


*Johan Christian Dahl, *Vesuvius in eruption*, 1821, oil on canvas, Bergen Kunstmuseum


References:


Catherine Johnson et al, *Baltic Light: Early Open-Air Painting in Denmark and Northern Germany*, exh cat, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, 2000


Images:

Georg Friedrich Kersting *Woman embroidering* 1817 National Museum, Warsaw

Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg *Woman standing in front of a mirror* 1841
The Hirschsprung collection, Copenhagen
Christen Købke *Frederiksberg castle in the evening light* 1835
The Hirschsprung collection, Copenhagen

Johan Christian Dahl *Dresden in moonlight* 1843
Bergen Kunstmuseum
Johan Christian Dahl *Vesuvius in eruption* 1821
Bergen Kunstmuseum