
From Beethoven to Polka

— Fine Arts Lesson —

What is Expressionist Art?

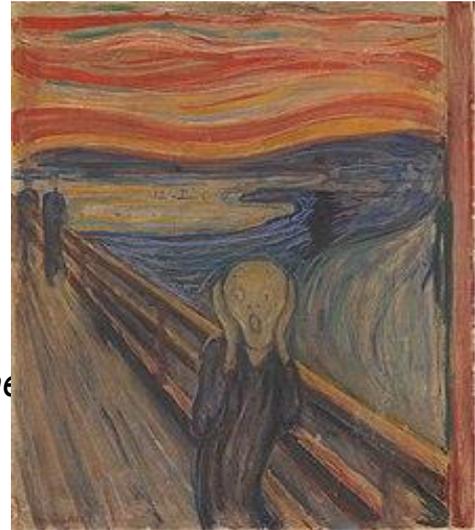
— German Expressionism —

German expressionism was an early twentieth century German art movement that emphasized the artist's inner feelings or ideas over replicating reality, and was characterised by simplified shapes, bright colours and gestural marks or brushstrokes



Expressionism was initially in poetry and painting, originating in Germany at the beginning of the 20th century. Its typical trait is to present the world solely from a subjective perspective, distorting it radically for emotional effect in order to evoke moods or ideas.

Expressionist artists have sought to express the meaning of emotional experience rather than physical reality.



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Expressionism developed before the First World War. It remained popular during the Weimar Republic, particularly in Berlin. The style extended to a wide range of the arts, including expressionist architecture, painting, literature, theatre, dance, film and music.

"The Fate of the Animals" (1913)

is a painting by German Expressionist painter Franz Marc



"The Lamb" (1913-1914) is a painting by German Expressionist painter Franz Marc



What is romanticism in Art?

An artistic and intellectual movement originating in Europe in the late 1700s and characterized by a heightened interest in nature, emphasis on the individual's expression of emotion and imagination, departure from the attitudes and forms of classicism, and rebellion against established social rules.

What is German Polka Music?

Polka music is a form of European dance music which originated in Bohemia (what is now an area within the Czech Republic).

For most people, polka is linked at the hip with the accordion, and indeed, it's the force behind every polka band. The 2/4 rhythm of the basic polka has a very bouncy, upbeat sound - great for dancing!



Many Eastern and Central European composers of the Romantic Period composed polkas, especially the Strausses. These 2/4 timed masterpieces are still being performed today, keeping the link between folk and classical music alive.

