

chapter 46: sixteenth-century art of northern europe

intro

- the 1500s
- martin luther
 - theology professor
 - university of wittenburg
 - questioned the selling of indulgences
 - basically created protestanism
 - protestanism is a direct interpretation of the bible, instead of relying on the clergy.
 - catholic church unsurprisingly
- people were questioning medieval power structures

art and religious beliefs at the turn of the sixteenth century

- garden of earthly delights - heironymous bosch
 - triptych
 - depicts human direction to worldly sinfulness
 - on the outside, when closed, it shows the creation of the earth
 - the inside shows the beginnings of humanity, humans living carelessly, and hell (in that order from left to right)
- witches' sabbath - hans baldung grein
 - people were becoming more fearful of witches
 - chiaroscuro
 - work shows an image of witches preparing for a "black mass" ritual where they boil a potion to cast spells
 - witches are depicted as jewish women

the scene of hell in bosch's garden of earthly delights

- lots of symbolism
- probably not made to be displayed in a church
- chaotic, but structured scenes
- the hell scene shows people being tortured by supposedly sinful things
 - gambling
 - demons covered in dice and cards attack a group of people hiding behind a table
 - non-religious music
 - people are being tortured by musical instruments
 - a pair of ears with a spear through them
 - lust
 - a pig seduces a naked man into signing a legal contract
 - greed
- tree man
 - has trunks like a tree as legs
 - the head of a man

- egg shaped body
 - egg is broken
 - people are hanging out in there
 - may be a commentary about the frequent visiting of taverns

portraiture

- individual, family, and group identity
- rise of self portraits in the early 1400s
- self-portrait, albrecht durer
 - fully frontal pose with no emotional expression
 - this pose was usually reserved for images of christ
 - possibly he wanted to show the importance of the artist as a creator
 - lots and lots of detail
 - he wanted to show off
 - included a monogram
- the money changer and his wife, quenten massys
 - occupational portrait
 - not specific people, just people doing their jobs
 - a middle class couple sits at a table
 - the husband sits counting money, weighing it with a scale
 - the wife flips through a prayer book, but is distracted by the money on the table
 - small details
 - a tiny mirror showing a man reading on the other side of the room
 - an open door behind the wife, showing two men talking behind the store

the rise of secular art

- engraving
 - a process used for print making where the artist engraves a metal plate, then presses copies of artwork to sell over and over
- great piece of turf, albrecht durer
 - painting of plants and nature
 - watercolor on paper
 - "worm's eye view"
- view of the colloseum from the west, jan gossaert
 - pen ink over black chalk on paper
 - architectural art
 - pictures the colloseum in a partially ruined state
 - pieces are missing, showing how it was constructed
- battle of darius and alexander, albrecht altdorfer
 - landscape painting
 - the landscape is the primary subject instead of the people
 - bird's eye view
 - there is a battle going on down on the ground
 - darius and alexander are both barely visible in the painting
 - it is hard to make out the individual people

terms

- triptych
 - a portable tri-fold self standing poster sort of thing brought from church to church
- monogram
 - an artists logo, basically. fits in a square, used for self promotion