

What is Expressionism?

- Artistic movement that developed in Europe in reaction to the previous trend(Impressionism)
- Focused on the expression of feeling and emotions
- Used vivid colors, distorted shapes, high contrast, "freely applied brushstrokes", and impasto paints.



Historical Background

- Competition over colonies
- Industrialization
- International trade
- Urbanization
- World War I







Founders of Expressionism

- Inspired by Post-Impressionists:
 - Vincent van Gogh
 - Edvard Munch
 - James Ensor
- Influenced by African art and by the power of color

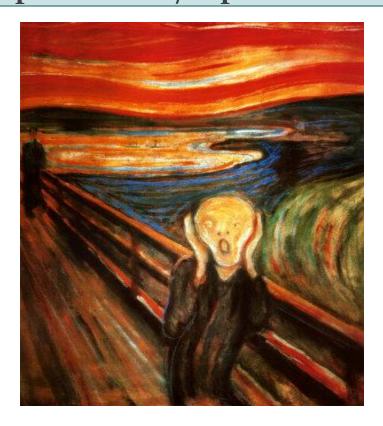
Comparison

Impressionism



Paris Street, rainy day(1876)-Gustave Caillebotte

Post-Impressionism/Expressionism



The Scream(1893)- Edvard Munch

Growth of Expressionism

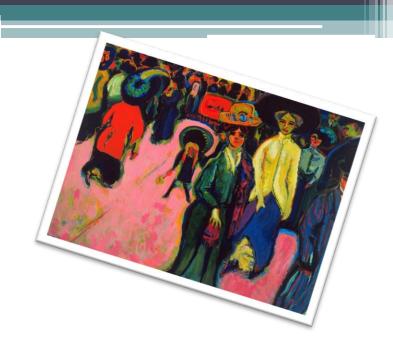
- Concentrated in Germany
 - Die Brucke(The Bridge) (1905-13)- Dresden
 - Der Blaue Reiter(The Blue Rider) (1911-14) –
 Munich
 - Die Neue Sachlichkeit(New Objectivity) (1920's) –
 Berlin
- France
 - Fauvism(1905-1907) Paris
- Expanded throughout Europe after 1914

Themes in Paintings

- City Life
- War
- Nature
- Portraits

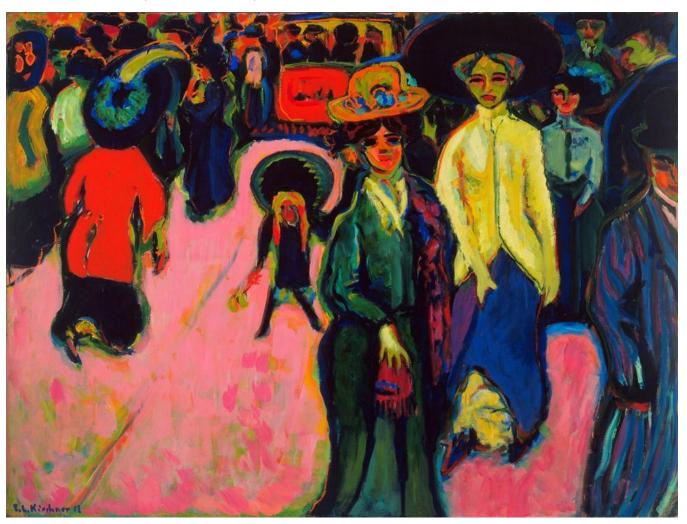




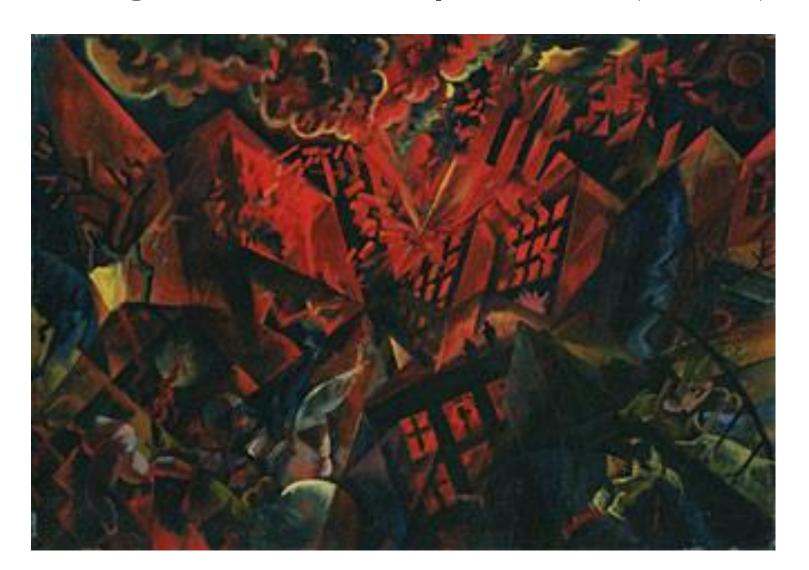




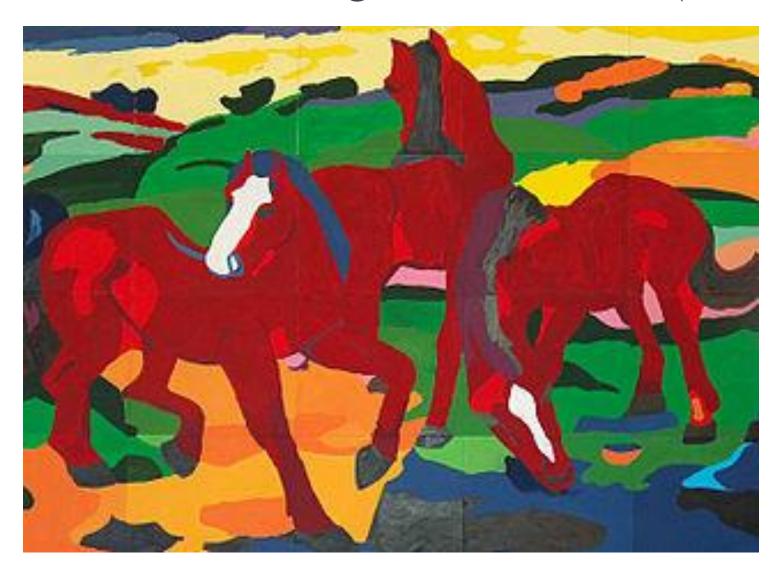
Ernst Ludwig Krichner's *Street*, *Dresden* (1908)



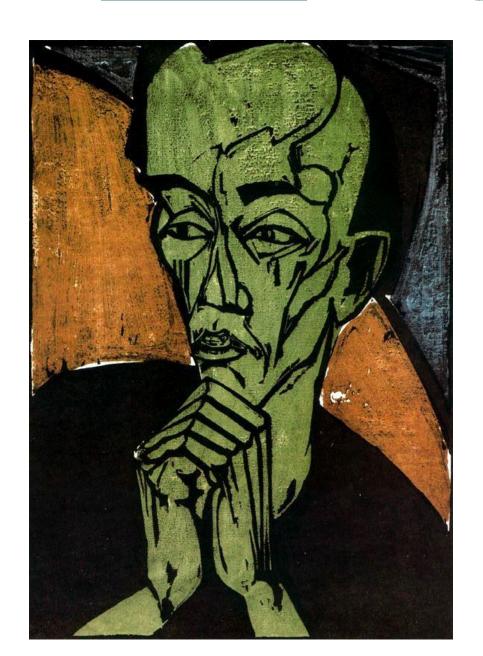
George Grosz's Explosion (1917)



Franz Marc's Large Red Houses (1911)



Erich Heckel's Portrait of a Man (1919)



Decline of Movement

- Eliminated in Germany by Nazis in 1930's as not agreeing with Nazis' ideology
- Escaped to United States and initiated development of Abstract Expressionism in 1940's

Legacy

- Abstract Expressionism in 1940's
 - United States
- Neo-Expressionism in 1980's
 - Great Britain
 - France
 - Germany
 - Italy
 - United States



Personal Reflection

- Began a new trend of thinking
- Artists used Expressionism style to relieve their anxieties and frustrations.
 - Paintings reflected past experiences



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