

The Classical Foundation: The Copenhagen Collections

DIS Spring 2012

EH 3-credit course

Tuesdays and Fridays, 1:15 - 2:35 PM, Vestergade 10-A14

The Classical Foundation is the inspiration that Greek and Roman culture from circa 700 B.C. to A.D. 500 had on all kinds of later art and culture in Western Europe.

Many of the major changes in European culture are closely intertwined with the classical period. In the Middle Ages the architecture only survived due to their construction and because the art was buried in the ground. By the coming of the Italian Renaissance a new and vigorous interest for the classical period emerged.

Architects studied Vitruvius closely and the preserved buildings became an inspiration. A long line of architects used classical architecture as inspiration. In Denmark the so-called "Hansens-bross" singled themselves out as leading architects in the neoclassical period; C.F. Hansen and the two real brothers Christian and Theophil Hansen who worked in Athens, Copenhagen, Vienna, etc.

The sculptors and painters were greatly inspired by Greek and Roman sculpture. Italian artist as Michelangelo and Rafael were among the first.

The German art historian Winkelmann made a new standard regarding classical art with a great impact on the classical heritage.

In Denmark the sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen was world famous and a long line of Danish sculptors continued the trend he had set. The painters also used ancient mythology because an ancient reference allowed them to show the naked body.

The course will focus on some of the main elements in classical culture and how it influenced later European art, architecture and culture from the Renaissance until today.

A part of the course will also be to focus and discuss the different ways museums display paintings, sculptures etc.

Instructor:

Thyge C. Bro. Mag.art. Classical archeology, 1984, University of Copenhagen. Teaching assistant and external lecturer in art history at the University of Copenhagen 1985-1998. External lecturer in classical archaeology at the University of Southern Denmark 1998-2000. Teacher in classical archaeology and architectural history at the Extension Service at the University in Copenhagen since 1986. With DIS since 2006.

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Objectives

- To be able to identify and distinguish the art of the Italian Renaissance and their classical inspiration
- To be able to identify central buildings of the Italian Renaissance
- To be able to identify and distinguish the art of the Neoclassical period and their classical inspiration as it can be experienced in Copenhagen
- To develop the skills in identifying the different styles in Classical inspired art by confrontation in the collections
- To demonstrate knowledge of the cultural changes, social development and historical fix points 1400-1900
- To develop a basic skill in image and architectural analysis
- To develop a basic knowledge of design of museum display

Consultations:

Preferably after class

Class format:

Lectures, class discussions and museum visits

Course requirements:

- **Attendance and active participation** in class discussions and museum visits
- **Midterm short answer test**
- **Exhibition review**
- **Final project**

Attendance:

Class participation is required as well as participation in field studies

Midterm short answer test will take place in class

Exhibition review:

You are to review two museums and their exhibitions in a Power-Point presentation

- Four slides
- Maximum of four pictures per slide
- Four pages of accompanying text
- To be handed in as hard-copy, black-and-white print

Assignment will be handed out on March 13th 2012

Final Project

10-12 pages object analyses based on 5-6 sculptures from the Copenhagen collections by Danish sculptors or buildings in Copenhagen by Danish architects

Course evaluation:

Active participation	20%
Midterm short answer test	20%
Exhibition review	20%
Final project	40%

All work must be completed in order to pass this course.

Field studies:

Wednesday, March 28th 2012 (morning): The Royal Cast Collection

Wednesday, April 18th (afternoon): Rudolph Tegnens Museum

General information:

All assignments must be turned in on time, which is at the beginning of class on the day due. Assignments turned in late will be downgraded.

All written assignments must be computer printed with the best quality printing, double-spaced on plain, white paper.

The exhibition review and final research paper must be written in accordance with the conventions listed in the *MLA Handbook* (available in DIS Library) and the document: *Writing Papers at DIS*. Biographies, endnotes and correct spelling are mandatory.

Required Reading:

Burke, Peter: *The Italian Renaissance: Culture and Society in Italy* (1999).

Irwin, David: *Neoclassicism* (1997).

Compendia Readings

1. Plini the Elder: *Natural History*.
2. Haskell, Francis & Penny, Nikolas: *Taste and the Antique: The Lure of Classical Sculpture 1500-1900*. Yale University Press. New Haven & London 1994, pp. 1-30.
3. Hibbert, Christopher: *The Rise of the House of Medici 1420-39*.
In *Florence: The Biography of a City*. Viking. Harmondsworth 1993, pp. 74-108.
4. Hibbert, Christopher: *Recovery and Reform*.
In *Rome: The Biography of a City*. Viking. Harmondsworth 1985, pp. 165-178.
5. Hibbert, Christopher: *Bernini and the Baroque*.
In *Rome: The Biography of a City*. Viking. Harmondsworth 1985, pp. 179-199.
6. Wilkins, Thomas: *Bernini and Ovid: Expanding the Concept of Metamorphosis*.
The International Journal of the Classical Tradition vol. 6 (2000), pp. 383-408.
7. Bukdahl, Else Marie: *The Rebirth of Classical Antiquity: Its Art and World of Ideas*.

- Bukdahl, Else Marie & Bogh, Mikkel: *The Roots of Neo-classicism*. Widewelt, Thorvaldsen and Danish Sculpture of our Time. The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Art. Copenhagen 2004, pp. 12-24.
8. Balslev Jørgensen, Lisbeth: *Museum for the Danish Sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen*. *Living Architecture* no. 6 (1987), pp. 102-114.
 9. Helsted, Dyveke, Henschen, Eva and Hjørnæs, Bjarne: *Thorvaldsen*. *The Thorvaldsen Museum* 2003, pp. 6-8 & 15-26.
 10. Bencard, Ernst Jonas and Friborg, Flemming: *Danish Sculpture around 1900*. *Catalogue Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek*. Copenhagen 1995, pp. 7-23.
 11. Friborg, Flemming: *European Sculpture*. *Catalogue*. Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek. Copenhagen 1997, pp. 7-22.
 12. Monrad, Kasper: *Danish Artists Abroad*. In Monrad, Kasper and Rovsing Olsen, Henning: *The Golden Age of Danish Painting*. The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Copenhagen 1994, pp. 24-27.
 13. Berman, Patricia G.: *In another Light*. *Danish Painting in the Nineteenth Century*. Thames & Hudson. London 2007, pp. 69-90.
 14. Palladio, Andrea (1508-1580). In: Osborne, Harold (ed.): *The Oxford Companion to Art*. Oxford at the Clarendon Press 1978, pp.805-808.
 15. Ackerman, James S.: *Palladio*. Penguin Books Ltd, Harmondsworth, Middlesex 1983, pp. 19-35.
 16. Rudolf Tegner
 17. McNeal, R.A.: *Athens and Nineteenth-Century Panoramic Art*. *The International Journal of the Classical Tradition* vol.1 (1995), pp. 80-97.
 18. Worsley, Giles: *C.F. Hansen and International Neo-Classicism*. In Raabyemagle, Hanne and Schmidt, Claus M. (ed.): *Classicism in Copenhagen*. *Architecture in the Age of C.F. Hansen*. Gyldendal. Copenhagen 1998, pp. 187-204.
 19. Lund, Hakon: *Hansen's Capital City*. In Raabyemagle, Hanne and Schmidt, Claus M. (ed.): *Classicism in Copenhagen*. *Architecture in the Age of C.F. Hansen*. Gyldendal. Copenhagen 1998, pp. 83-99.

Course plan

1. Friday, January 27th

Classroom

Introduction and the fall of the Roman Empire

Burke, 1-39

2. Tuesday, January 31st

Classroom

The Classical Inspiration: from Ancient Greece to the Italian Renaissance

Course binder no. 1 Plini: Natural History & no. 2 Haskell, Francis & Penny, Nikolas: Taste and the Antique, pp. 1-30 (376). **Bring to Class!**

*****Election of two class representatives*****

3. Friday, February 3rd

Classroom

The Coming of the Renaissance

Burke, 43-88

4. Tuesday, February 7th

Classroom

Art of the Italian Renaissance

Burke, 89-177

Short Program Study Tours

5. Tuesday, February 14th

Classroom

Florence of the Medici

Burke, 181-208

Course binder no. 3: Hibbert, Christopher: The Rise of the House of Medici 1420-39, pp. 74-108.

6. Friday, February 17th

Classroom

The Renaissance Papacy

Burke, 209-247

Course binder no. 4: Hibbert, Christopher: Recovery and Reform, pp. 165-178.

7. Tuesday, February 21st

Classroom

Architecture and Urban Planning

Furniture and Decorative Arts

Burke, 248-256

8. Friday, February 24th

Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek

The Rediscovering of Ancient Greek Sculpture

9. Tuesday, February 28th

Classroom

From Renaissance to Neoclassicism: Baroque

Course binder no. 5: Hibbert, Christopher: Bernini and the Baroque, pp. 179-199; no. 6: Wilkins, Thomas: Bernini and Ovid: Expanding the Concept of Metamorphosis, pp. 383-408.

10. Friday, March 2nd

Classroom

Winkelmann and Neoclassicism

Course binder no. 7: Bukdahl, Else Marie: The Rebirth of Classical Antiquity: Its Art and World of Ideas, pp. 12-24.

Irwin 1-63

Long Program Study Tours

11. Tuesday, March 13th

Thorvaldsens Museum

Bertel Thorvaldsen: Life and Art

Course binder no. 8: Balslev Jørgensen, Lisbeth: Museum for the Danish Sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen, pp. 102-114.

12. Friday, March 16th

Thorvaldsens Museum

Bertel Thorvaldsen: Artist and collector

Course binder no. 9: Helsted, Dyveke, Henschen, Eva and Hjørnæs, Bjarne: Thorvaldsen, pp. 6-8 & 15-26.

13. Tuesday, March 20th

Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek

The Followers of Thorvaldsen: Danish Sculptors in the 19th Century

Course binder no. 10: Bencard, Ernst Jonas and Friberg, Flemming: Danish Sculpture around 1900, pp. 7-23.

14. Friday, March 23rd

Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek

Danish Sculptors in the 20th Century

Course binder no. 11: Friberg, Flemming: European Sculpture, pp. 7-22.

15. Tuesday, March 27th

Danish National Gallery

The Danish Golden Age: Travel and Ancient Mythology

Irwin 127-210

Course binder no. 12: Monrad, Kasper: Danish Artists Abroad, pp. 24-27 & no. 13: Berman, Patricia G.: In another Light: Danish Painting in the Nineteenth Century, pp. 69-90.

Wednesday, March 28th: The Royal Cast Collection

16. Friday, March 30th

Classroom

Palladio and Palladianism

Course binder no. 14: Palladio, Andrea (1508-1580), pp. 805-808 & no. 15: Ackerman, James S.: Palladio, pp. 19-35. Irwin 211-248 & 361-386

Short Answer Test

Optional Study Tours

17. Tuesday, April 17th

Travel and the Rediscovery of Greece

Course binder no 17: McNeal, R.A.: Athens and Nineteenth-Century Panoramic Art, pp. 80-97.

Wednesday, April 18th: Rudolph Tegnens Museum

Course binder no. 16: Rudolph Tegner.

18. Friday, April 20th

Streets of Copenhagen

The Coming of Neoclassical Architecture

Irwin 249-296

19. Tuesday, April 24th

Classroom

The Hansen Bros: C.F. Hansen

Irwin 67-126

Course binder no. 18: Worsley, Giles: C.F. Hansen and International Neo-Classicism, pp. 187-204.

20. Friday, April 27th

Classroom

The Hansen Bros: Christian and Theophil Hansen

21. Tuesday, May 1st

Streets of Copenhagen

C.F. Hansen and the Royal Chapel

Course binder no. 19: Lund, Hakon: Hansen's Capital City, pp. 83-99.

22. Tuesday, May 8th

Streets of Copenhagen

C.F. Hansen and the Church of Our lady

Irwin 299-358

23. Friday, May 11th

Classroom

The Classical Heritage and beyond

Irwin 389-416

Friday, May 18th

Final Project is due in Vestergade 10 room B10 no later than 14:00 as a hard copy.

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Museum opening hours

Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek

Dantes Plads 7

- Monday closed
- Open Tuesday – Sunday 11:00-17:00
- Sunday: Entrance free
- Tuesday – Saturday: Entrance free by showing your DIS Student ID-card
- Research Library, Tietgens Gade 25, is open Monday – Friday 09:00-16:00.

Thorvaldsens Museum

Bertel Thorvaldsens Plads 2

- Monday closed
- Open Tuesday – Sunday 10:00-17:00
- Wednesday: Entrance free

Denmark's National Gallery

Sølvgade 48-50

- Monday closed
- Open Tuesday – Sunday 10:00-17:00
- Wednesday: 10:00-20:00
- Entrance free
- Research Library is open as the museum.

The Royal Cast Collection

Vestindisk Pakhus, Toldbodgade 40

- Open Tuesday 10:00 – 16:00 and Sunday 14:00-17:00
- Entrance free

Rudolph Tegnens Museum

Museumsvej 19, Villingrød, 3120 Dronningmølle

Open from April 15th 12:00 – 17:00

Closed on Mondays

Entrance fee

The museums have lockers; ask at the entrance; always bring a 10 DKK and a 20 DKK coin!