Neoclassicism

1700-1825

Neoclassicism

- 18th century revival of Roman and Greek art & literature
- Excavation of <u>Pompeii</u> and Herculaneum.
- "Enlightenment" Age of Reason
- Promoted individualism and free-thinking through the use of REASON
- Stressed ORDER, BALANCE, and CLARITY







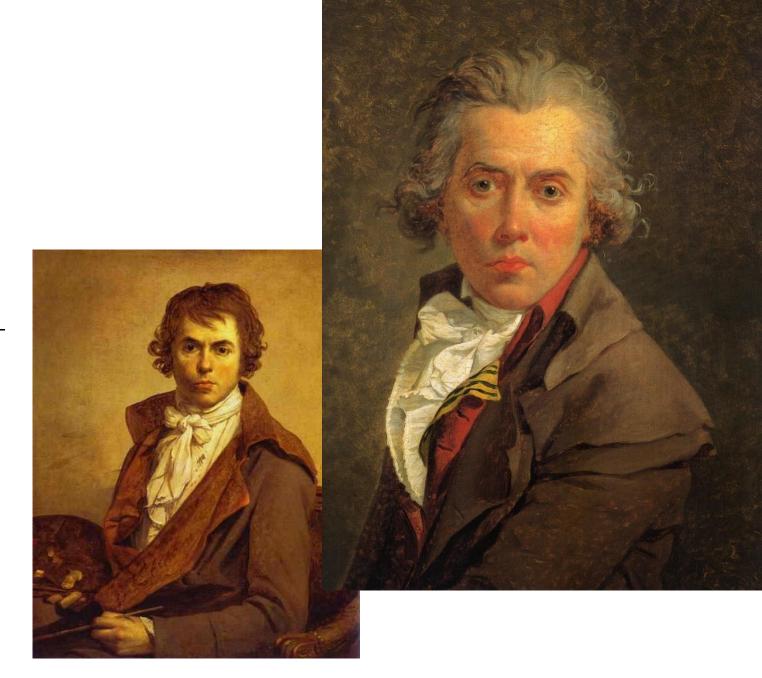
The Ruins Influenced Artists of the Time



Visual Art

Jacques Louis David:

- Shapes are painted with a refined, crisp technique (not painterly)
- Light is often theatrical, dramatic a lingering Baroque characteristic

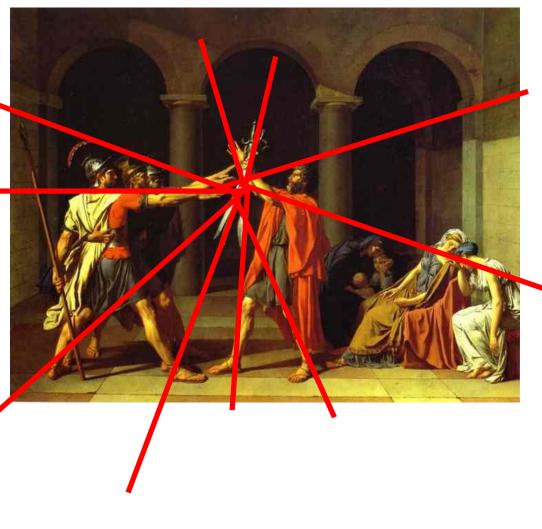


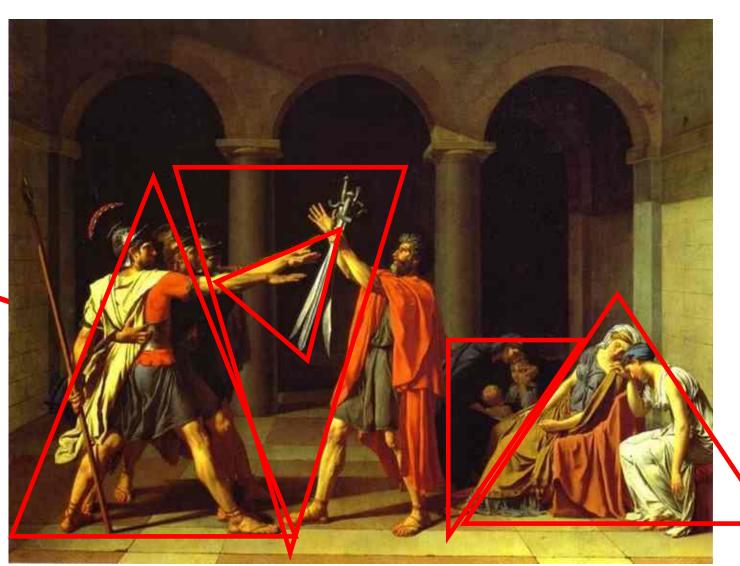
"Oath of Horatti" (1784, oil on canvas, 11'x14')



It depicts a scene from a Roman legend about a dispute between two warring cities; Rome and Alba Longa, when three brothers from a Roman family, the Horatii, agree to end the war by fighting three brothers from a family of Alba Longa, the Curiatii. The three brothers, all of whom appear willing to sacrifice their lives for the good of Rome, are shown saluting their father who holds their swords out for them. The principal sources for the story behind David's Oath are the first book of Livy (sections 24-6) which was elaborated by Dionysius in book 3 of his Roman Antiquities. However, the moment depicted in David's painting is his own invention.

"Oath of Horatti" (1784, oil on canvas, 11'x14')







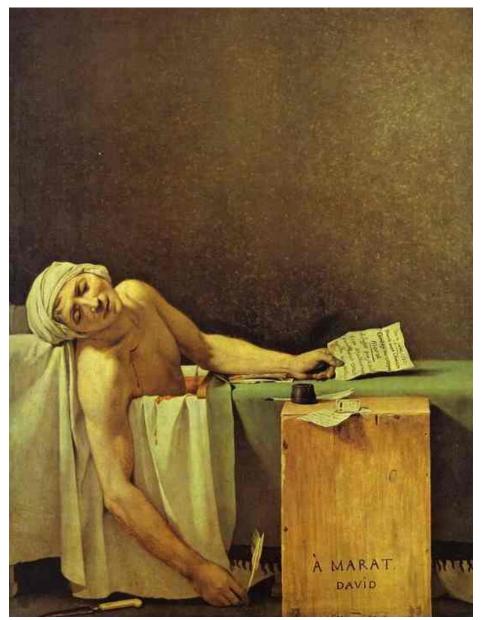


Notice the difference between the eras

Again, notice the fine lines and sharp edges



"Death of Marat" (1793, oil on canvas, 5'x4')



Light is often theatrical, dramatic—a lingering characteristic.

"Napoleon Crossing the Alps"

"Death of Socrates"



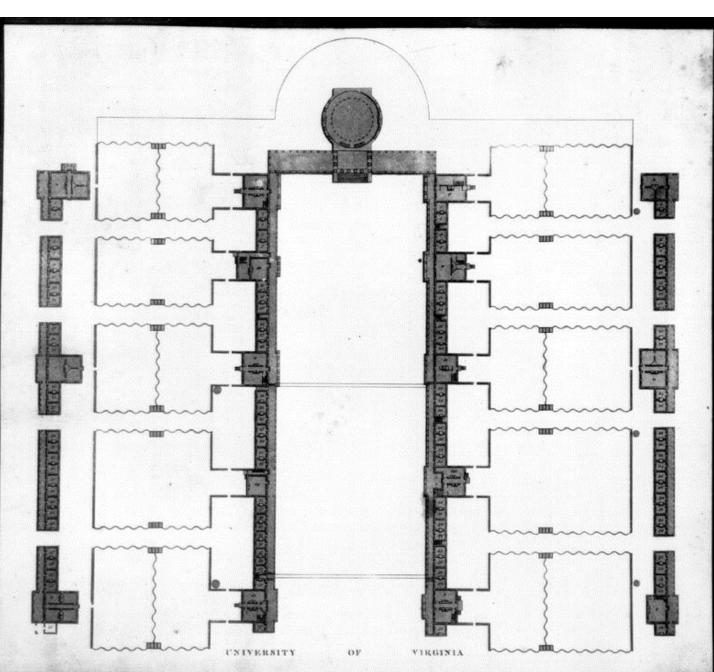
Thomas Jefferson 1743-1826

- Our 3rd President
- Minister to France
- Secretary of State to George Washington: supported logical ordered city plan for Washington D.C. and designs for the federal capitol building
- Scholar, economist, educational theorist, statesman, and the reason we are studying him....a gifted architect.

Thomas Jefferson

University of Virginia





Thomas Jefferson

Virginia State Capitol, Richmond

Monticello, Charlottesville



Why was Thomas Jefferson's designs considered Neoclassical?

- Neoclassical architecture brought back classic characteristics of Greek and Roman architecture similar to the way that you see a revival of Greek and Roman art and literature.
- It is characterized by grandeur of scale, simplistic geometric forms, and Greek (doric) columns.
- He created an Americanized version of Neoclassical Architecture referred to as the Jeffersonian style

Neoclassical Music

Composers.....



CLASSICAL

1678 - 1741 1685 - 1750

1732 - 1809 1756 - 1791

1770 - 1820

VIVALDI BACH

HAYDN MOZART

BEETHOVEN

Classical Music Characteristics

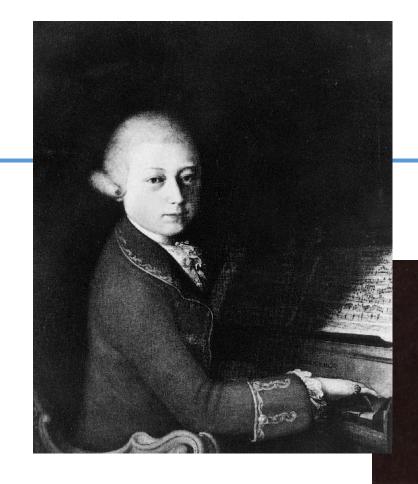
- 1. Contrast of mood
- 2. Varieties of **Rhythm**
- 3. Use of Homophonic **Texture** (one main melody accompanied by chords)
- 1. Tuneful, 'sing-able' Melodies
- 2. Use of **Dynamics**

Classical Music Musicians

Mozart (Wolfgang Amadeus)

- 1756 1791
- A child prodigy that was known for his "pure" classical style.
- He produced over 600 pieces
- Traits of his music include: balance, clarity and order

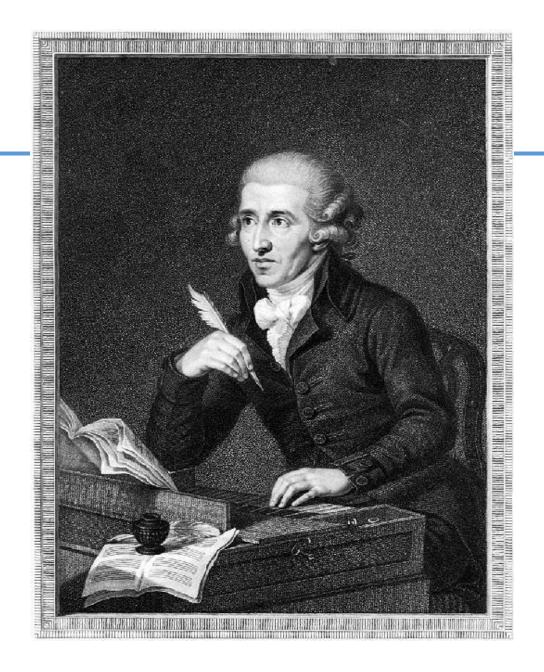
Requiem in D minor



Classical Music Musicians

JOSEPH HAYDN

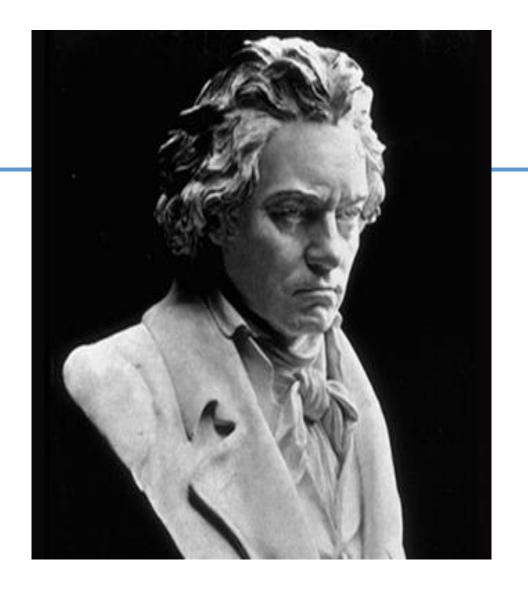
- 1732 1809
- Innovator who liked to experiment hated the general rules of composition
- Helped to develop the **Symphony** (orchestral composition, usually 4 movements that typically last 20 45 minutes.) and the **String Quartet** (composition for 2 violins, 1 viola, and 1 cello.)
- Many of his pieces had "nick names" (Symphony No. 100 – "Military", Symphony No. 101 – "Clock", Symphony No. 94 – "Surprise")



Classical Music Musicians

Beethoven

- 1770 1827
- German musician and composer that fused the classical and romantic periods
- Early in career: Classical
- Later in career: Romantic
- Went from late 18th to early 19th century
- Haydn taught Beethoven composition
- Dynamics: extremes of *piano* & *forte*
- Writes a lot in minor keys
- Wide, leaping arpeggio scales and ascending & descending runs of notes
- Tonally, he can sound "off"



Symphony No. 9

Neoclassical Theatre

Satire-

- A technique used to criticize an event, individual, a group, idea, attitude, institution or social practice in a clever way.
- Usually is witty and very funny
- Has a hint of sarcasm or irony
- Purpose = to ridicule or criticize in a manner that is often quite merciless, ideally in the hope of shaming the target into reform
- Used as a popular weapon to promote change within society
- **Voltaire** (1694-1778)- famous French Enlightenment writer that was known for his witty satirical writings.

Dr. Seuss as a Political Satirist

