

18th Century: Rococo in France

The Pursuit of Pleasure and Reward

Key ideas

- Arts are used in service of the nobility to glorify the gallantry and personal accomplishments of aristocratic life.
- Emerging members of the bourgeoisie, opportunists, and adventurers have joined the ranks of the wealthy, and are looking for works of art that reflect their own surroundings and circumstances.
- Age of Enlightenment: reason and common sense can be used to cure societies' ills. Religion, myth, and tradition superseded by spirit of inquiry, belief in progress, and human control over nature.
- Age of political reform: germination of ideas that lead to revolution and overthrow of monarchies; belief in divine right of kings abolished.
- Age of contradiction: faith in rationality alongside art works full of marvelous excesses. The pendulum swings between images of decadence and morality.

Nicolas de Largillière, *Portrait of Catherine Coustard with Her Son Léonor*, 1699-1700, 77.26



Nicolas de Largillière, *Portrait of Léonor Aubry*, 1699



Denis Diderot (1713-1784)

Encyclopedia, written 1751-1777



ENCYCLOPÉDIE,
O U
DICTIONNAIRE RAISONNÉ
DES SCIENCES,
DES ARTS ET DES MÉTIERS,
PAR UNE SOCIÉTÉ DE GENS DE LETTRES.

Mis en ordre & publié par M. *DIDEROT*, de l'Académie Royale des Sciences & des Belles-Lettres de Prusse; & quant à la PARTIE MATHÉMATIQUE, par M. *D'ALEMBERT*, de l'Académie Royale des Sciences de Paris, de celle de Prusse, & de la Société Royale de Londres.

*Tantum series juncturaque pollet,
Tantum de medio sumptis accedit honoris!* HORAT.

TOME PREMIER.



A PARIS,

Chez { *BRIASSON, rue Saint Jacques, à la Science.*
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AVEC APPROBATION ET PRIVILEGE DU ROY.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)
Social Contract, published 1762



DU CONTRAT
SOCIAL;
OU
PRINCIPES
DU DROIT
POLITIQUE.

Par J. J. ROUSSEAU, Citoyen
de Geneve.

Dicamus leges. Federis æquas
Æneid. XI.

*Edition Sans Cartons, à laquelle on a ajouté
une Lettre de l'Auteur au seul Ami qui lui
reste dans le monde.*



A AMSTERDAM,
Chez MARC - MICHEL REY.

M. DCC. LXII.

Baroque garden grotto

rocaille = pebble, rock

coquille = shell



Poussin, *Landscape with Funeral of Phocion*, 1648



Hyacinthe Rigaud, *Louis XV
as a Child*, c. 1715-24
(rules 1723-1774)



Jean-Baptiste Santerre, *Philippe
d'Orléans, Regent of France*
(1715-1723)



Germain Boffrand, Paris, *Hotel de Soubise*, 1737-40



Germain Boffrand, Paris, *Salon de la Princesse*, Hotel de Soubise, 1737-40



Charles LeBrun, Versailles, *Salon de Mars*, c. 1685



Paris, *Hôtel de la Bouëxière*,
built 18th c. (20th c. photograph)



Paris, *Grand Salon* from the *Hôtel de la Bouëxière*, c. 1735



Allegorical portrait head of Africa



Portrait of a squirrel





Trophy panel of the arts



Trophy panel of the hunt





French room 18th-century ball gown



Jean-Antoine Watteau, *Return from Cythera*, c. 1717 (Louvre)



Jean-Antoine Watteau, *Return from Cythera*, c. 1717,
Berlin version



Watteau, *Return from Cythera*, detail



Francois Boucher, *Venus
Consoling Cupid*, 1751



Boucher, *Sleeping Shepherdess*, c. 1750



Boucher, *Venus and Mars Surprised by Vulcan*, c. 1754



Boucher, *Madame de Pompadour*,
1750-55



Alexandre Roslin, *Portrait of Comtesse d'Egmont Pignatelli*, 1763



Alexandre Roslin, *Portrait of Comtesse d'Egmont Pignatelli*, 1763



Boucher, *St. John the Baptist*,
c. 1760, 75.8







Leonardo, *St. John/Bacchus*, 1510-15



Rosa, *St. Humphrey*, 1660





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BRAD PITT BUCKS UP OUR SPIRITS BY MAKING TWO BIG FILMS, KEEPING JENNIFER HAPPY AND SHOWING US HIS ABS

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A MINUTE-BY-MINUTE ACCOUNT OF UNITED FLIGHT 93
BY BRYAN BURROUGH

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Designed by Francois Boucher, Royal Beauvais Manufactory, *The Chinese Fair*, tapestry, c. 1750, 45.14







Johann Georg Platzer, *The Pleasures of the Seasons: Summer*, c. 1730 63.4



Johann Georg Platzer, *The Pleasures of the Seasons: Autumn*, c. 1730, 64.18



Johann Georg Platzer, *The Pleasures of the Seasons: Winter*, c. 1730, 62.7



Jean-Honoré Fragonard,
Happy Accidents of the Swing,
1767



Fragonard, *The Meeting (The Progress of Love)*, c. 1771-73



Fragonard, *The Pursuit (The Progress of Love)*, c. 1771-73



Fragonard, *The Grand Staircase of the Villa d'Este at Tivoli*,
c. 1759, 2001.235





Fragonard, *The Sacrifice of the Rose*, c. 1770, 83.109



Fragonard, *The Sacrifice of the Rose*, c. 1770, 83.109



Gianlorenzo Bernini, *Ecstasy of St. Teresa*, c. 1647-52



Hubert Robert, *The Rustic Bridge*, c.1788





Robert, *View of the Grand Gallery of the Louvre*, 1796

Robert, *Imaginary View of the Grand Gallery of the Louvre in Ruins*, 1796





Versailles, French Garden

Versailles, English Garden





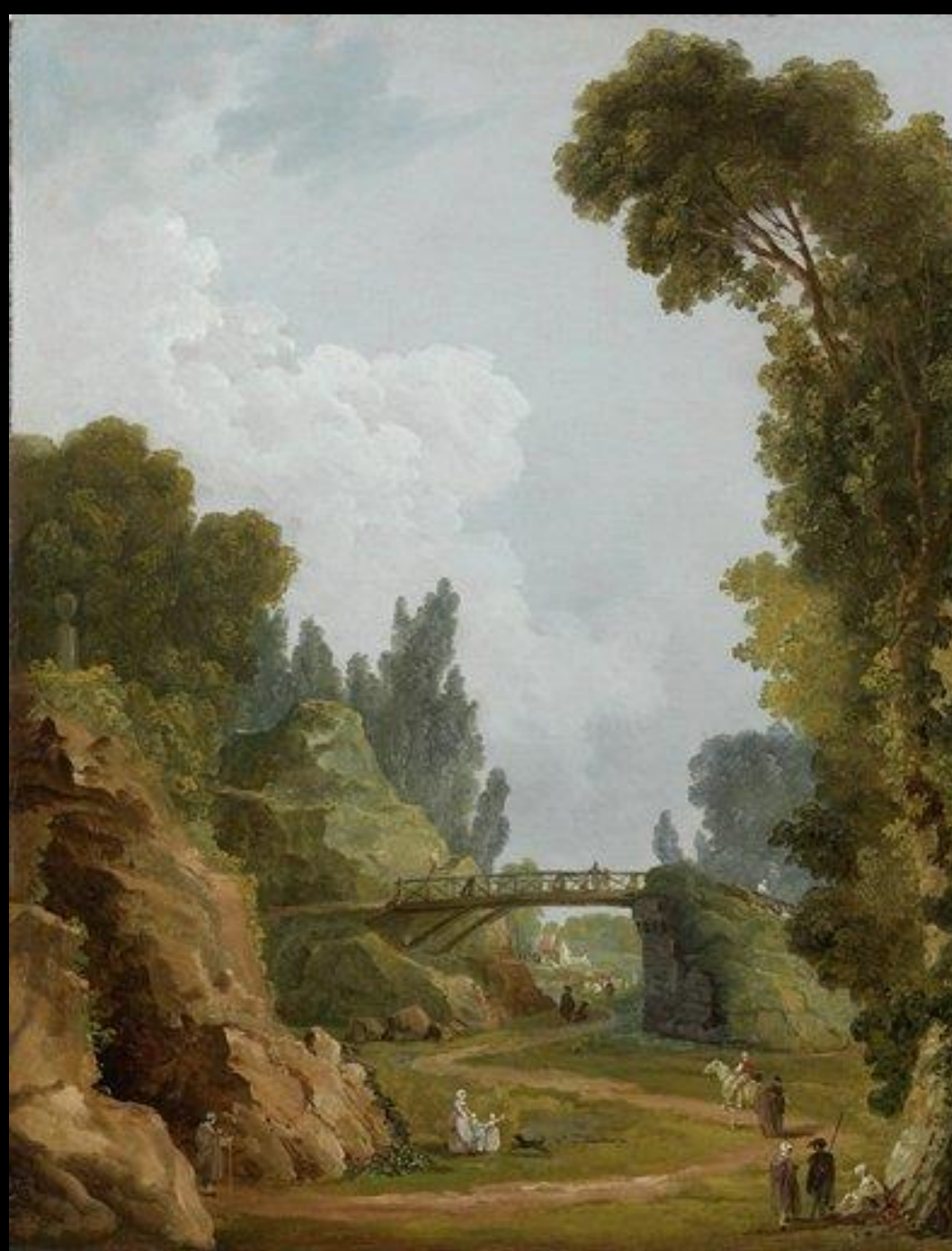
Richard Mique, *Queen's Hamlet, Versailles, 1783*



Robert, *Château and Méréville Park, c. 1780s*



Hubert Robert, *The Rustic Bridge*, c.1788



*Zhou Dunyi Gazing Out
over Lotus, 16th c. (Ming)*



Claude-Joseph Vernet, *Imaginary Landscape, Italian Harbor Scene*, 1746, 66.61.2



Vernet, *River Scene*, 1781





Vernet, *The Shipwreck*, 1772

Vernet, *The Bathers*, 1786



Jean-Baptiste-Siméon Chardin,
Silver Goblet, c. 1730



Chardin, *Bronze Goblet
and Fruit*, n.d.



Chardin, *Grace at Table*, 1740



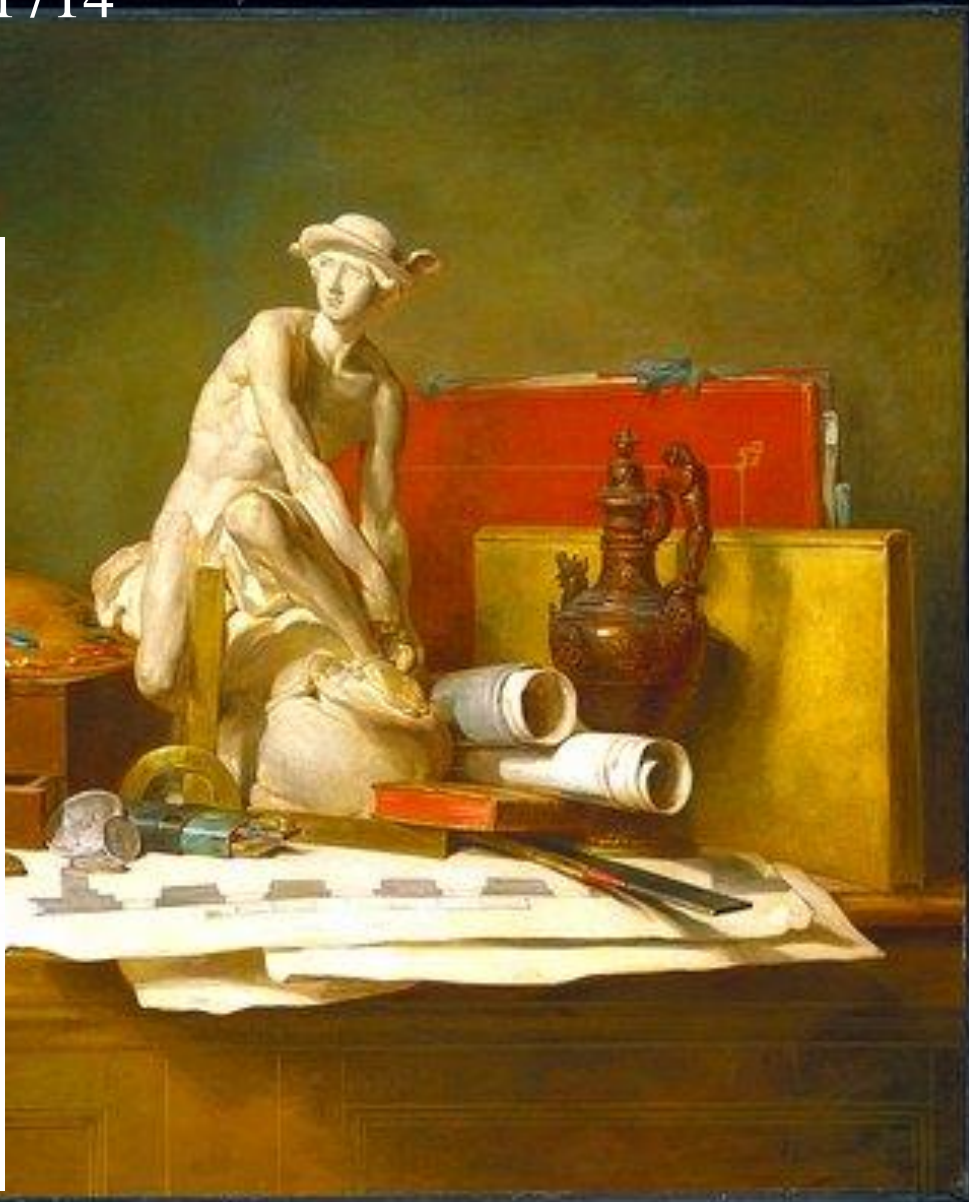
Chardin, *Boy Blowing Bubbles*, 1733



Chardin, *The Attributes of the Arts and the Rewards which are Accorded Them*, c. 1766, 52.15



Jean-Baptiste Pigalle, *Mercury*
Fastening His Sandals, c. 1714



Chardin, *The Attributes of Music*, c.1765



Chardin, *The Attributes of Science*, c.1765

Heading toward
Neoclassicism

Jean-Baptiste Greuze, *Return of the Prodigal Son*, n.d.



Greuze, *Paralytic Helped by his Children*, 1763



Greuze, *Broken Eggs*, c. 1756



Greuze, *Broken Mirror*, c. 1763



Nicolas Poussin, *The Death of Germanicus*, 1627, 58.28



Jacques-Louis David, *The Oath of the Horatii*, 1784-85



Elizabeth Louise Vigée-Lebrun,
Self-Portrait, c. 1790



Vigée-Lebrun, *Self-Portrait with Julie*, 1789



Raphael, *Madonna della Sedia*, 1514-15



Vigée-Lebrun, *Portrait of Marie Antoinette as a Shepherdess*, 1783



Vigée-Lebrun, *Portrait of Marie Antoinette with her Children*, 1787





Vigée-Lebrun, *Duchesse de Polignac Wearing a Straw Hat*, 1782



Vigée-Lebrun, *Portrait of
Countess Maria Theresia
Bucquoi*, 1793, 78.7



Largillière, *Portrait of Catherine Coustard with Her Son Léonor*,
c. 1699-1700



Vigée-Lebrun, *Portrait of Countess Maria Theresia Bucquoi*,
1793



Vigée-Lebrun, *Portrait of Countess
Vavara Golovina*, 1800



Michel Garnier, *The Poorly Defended Rose*,
1789, 64.63.1





Garnier, *The Letter*,
1791, 64.63.2



Pierre-Paul Prud'hon,
*The Union of Love and
Friendship*, c. 1793, 64.50

Leonardo DaVinci, *Virgin, Child, and St. Anne*, c.1510



Correggio, *Jupiter and Io*, c. 1531-32



Prud'hon, *Seated Female Nude*,
c. 1793, 93.26



After Augustin Pajou, *Psyche Abandoned*, c. 1800, 74.24a,b



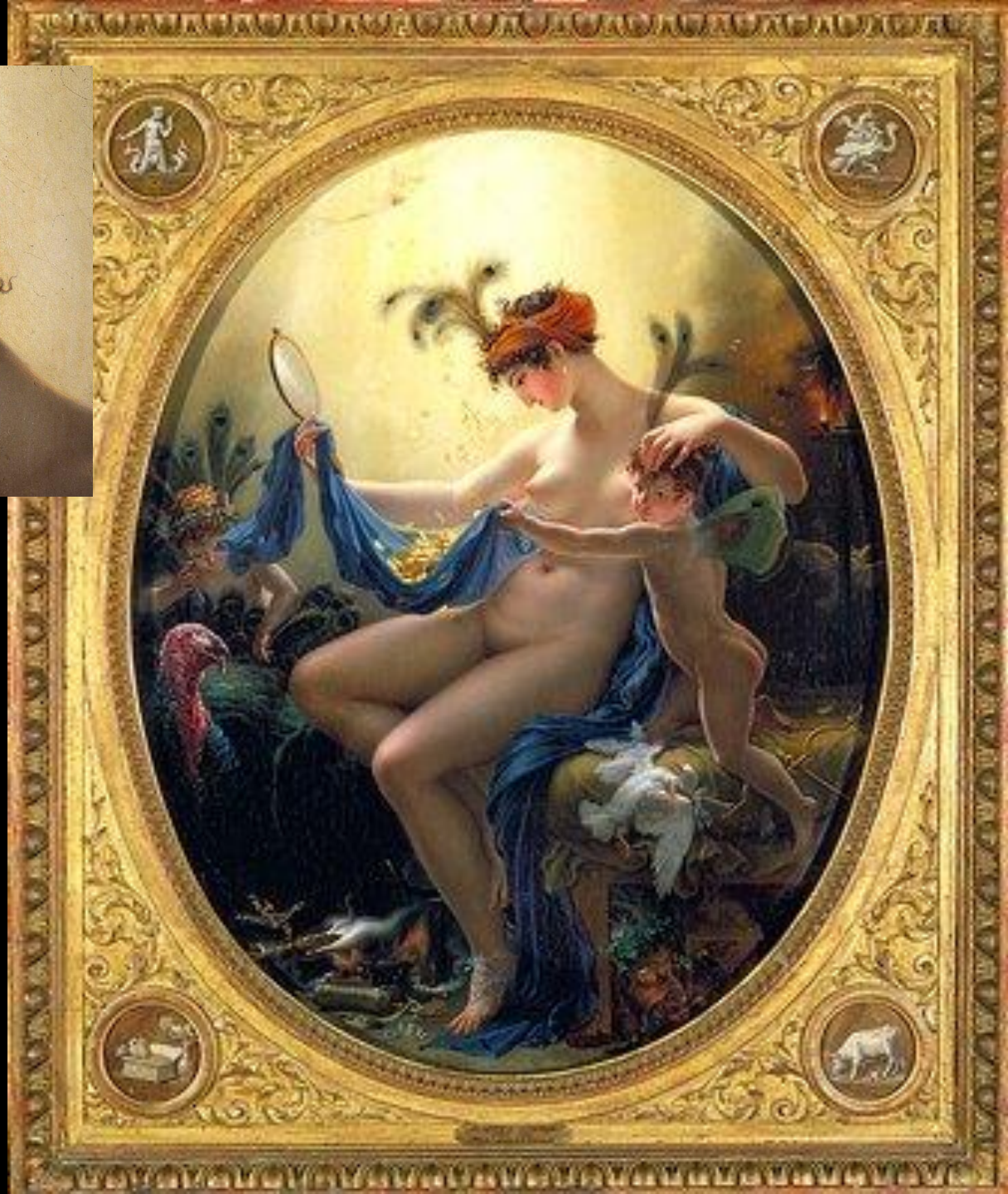




Prud'hon, *Abduction of Psyche*, 1808, 76.78



Anne-Louis Girodet de
Roucy Trioson, *Portrait
of Mlle Lange as Danaë*,
1799, 69.22







DOMINE SPES
ET LARIBUS
SACRUM





Jacques-Louis David,
Napoleon Crossing the Alps,
1800-1801

