

# ART HISTORY - EXPRESSIONISM



## ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE

- Expressionism emerged in various cities across Germany as a response to a widespread anxiety about humanity's relationship with the world.
- In part a reaction against Impressionism and academic art, Expressionism was inspired most heavily by the Symbolist currents in late-19th-century art.
- Expressionist artists often employed swirling, swaying, and exaggeratedly executed brushstrokes in the depiction of their subjects.
- Expressionism announced new standards in the judgment of art. Art now came from within the artist, rather than from a depiction of the external visual world.

**'ART IS NOTHING BUT THE  
EXPRESSION OF OUR  
DREAMS.'**

Franz Marc

# KEY ARTISTS AND IDEAS



Egon Schiele



Franz Marc



Käthe Kollwitz

## EGON SCHIELE

Egon Schiele was one of the leading figures of Austrian Expressionism. His portraits and self-portraits, searing explorations of their sitters' psyches and sexuality, are among the most remarkable of the 20th century.

## FRANZ MARC

He is most famous for his images of brightly colored animals, especially horses, which he used to convey profound messages about humanity, the natural world, and the fate of mankind.

## KÄTHE KOLLWITZ

While her interest in printmaking and sometimes her subject matter coincided with the Expressionist painters in Germany, she remained independent from them, charting her own path in the burgeoning world of modern art.

## CONTEMPORARY ARTIST - STELLA KAPEZENOU

- Athens-based Greek artist Stella Kapezanou is internationally recognised for her bright figurative paintings which bring together the banal and the exotic.
- Stella's vibrant canvases of eccentric characters and settings offer a cheerful yet relevant commentary on the western consumer dream and materialist culture.
- Her portraits endeavour to capture the soul and emotion of personalities normally judged solely on their external appearance.

