

OLLI at DU On Campus Syllabus – Spring 2024

Austrian Art and Music: 1888-1938

Thursday Afternoons Online; Eight weeks

Instructor: Linda Susak and Susan Lauscher

RECOMMENDED BOOKS OR MATERIALS: None

- **Session #1** – Exploration of the Zeitgeist of Vienna around 1900; the Hapsburg Empire, character of the city, Kaiser Franz Josef I and Sissi; Gustav Klimt and the Secession of artists from the histrionic painting of the day; Ver Sacrum; the Secession building; the XIVth Exhibition of the Vienna Secession with the Beethoven Frieze; Ode to Joy.
- **Session #2** – Susan Lauscher explores the life and music of Gustav Mahler and plays selections from various pieces.

April 14: concert of the Colorado Symphony, Mahler Symphony No. 3 at 1 pm
at Boettcher Hall (group tickets \$10)

- **Session #3** – Continuation of the art and artists of the Vienna Secession: Gustav Klimt; the history of the Portrait of Adele Block-Bauer and Die Neue Galerie; Koloman Moser; Carl Moll; Otto Wagner, Joseph Maria Olbrich; Josef Hoffmann; Alfred Roller.
- **Session #4** – Visit to the Kirkland Museum of Fine and Decorative Arts, 1201 Bannock Street, Denver 80204. If possible, we will have a docent explain the objects from Vienna Secession and Wiener Werkstätte. \$9 discounted tickets.
- **Session #5** – Austrian Expressionism; What is Expressionism?; Richard Gerstl and Arnold Schönberg and the affair of Mathilde Schönberg; other artists of Austrian Expressionism: Albert Paris Gütersloh, Max Oppenheimer, and Alfred Kubin.
- **Session #6** – Susan will discuss the Viennese classical music “scene” during the 1888 -1938 time period, explore the lives and music of Arnold Schönberg and his successors, Alban Berg and Anton Webern, and play selections from their works.
- **Session #7** – Continuation of discussion of Austrian Expressionism in the visual arts: Oskar Kokoschka, his affair with Alma Mahler; Egon Schiele, his life and works; Adolf Hitler's rejection by the Academy; Nazi-looted art.
- **Session #8** – Continuation of discussion of Egon Schiele's life: his imprisonment, military service, and death; Arthur Roessler and Schiele's patrons; Rudolf Leopold and The Leopold Museum; his collecting preferences, death and legacy.

Alma Mahler's life post Gustav; life and effect of Franz Werfel; his The Song of Bernadette; if

time, clips from the film and the Oscar-winning music of Alfred Newman for his "Apparition of the Virgin".

Question for discussion: How could such different art and music follow one upon another? What does this say about art and music in general and their relationship to the spirit of the time?