

## Modernism/Postmodernism

Some general distinctions between the two thought/art movements

Remember: post modernism does not necessarily reject modernism – all art movements and paradigms build upon the art movements and paradigms that preceded them.

<u>Modernism</u>	<u>Postmodernism</u>
Began in late 19 <sup>th</sup> century	Began in 1970's
Nature good – culture bad	Embraces nature and culture – culture is what makes us who we are (but can be very critical of culture)
Denial of past art and history itself	Freely embraces and uses past art and history
Technology and progress generally seen as positive	Technology and progress often viewed skeptically
Mostly white males acknowledged	Pluralistic – women artists and artists of multiple ethnicities become more recognized (feminism, post-colonialism)
Originality/personal style honored	Originality seen as an illusion, will freely appropriate (borrow) from other artists or cultures
Where does knowledge come from? The answer: within	Where does knowledge come from? The answer: contextual (society, etc.) No one lives in a vacuum
Art education: teacher is “guide on the side”	Art education: teacher actually teaches, art can be taught
Modernism is a kind of grand meta-narrative	Mistrusts and is critical toward grand meta-narratives (the “isms”)