

German Art & Politics: 19th & 20th Centuries



Marion Deshmukh

mdeshmuk@gmu.edu

Department of History & Art History

George Mason University

Some names of prominent German artists mentioned today:

- Friedrich
- Runge
- Menzel
- Liebermann
- Corinth
- Slevogt
- Kollwitz
- Kirchner
- Nolde
- Kandinsky
- Gropius
- Mies van der Rohe
- Beuys
- Richter
- Kiefer
- Immendorf
- Baselitz
-and a few others!

Romanticism

Caspar David Friedrich in Historical and Cultural Context



Friedrich, *Self-Portrait*, 1810



Rules of Classicism



Runge, *Achilles and Skamandros*, 1801

Goethe



Art Academies, 18th & 19th Centuries



Düsseldorf Art Academy, 1830s



Students in Düsseldorf Art Academy, 1830s



Ideas of Classicism verses Romanticism

- **Classicism**: focus on the general, not the individual
- Rigid rules of composition
- Glorified ancient Greece and Rome
- Patronage by church and aristocracy
- Classical training in state-sponsored art academies

Ideas of Classicism verses Romanticism

- **Romanticism**: rebelled against rules of composition
- Glorified ideas of spirituality of the Middle Ages
- Advocated subjectivity, stressing the individual verses the general; the unique verses the typical.
- Believed in idea of “Bildung,” self-realization and development

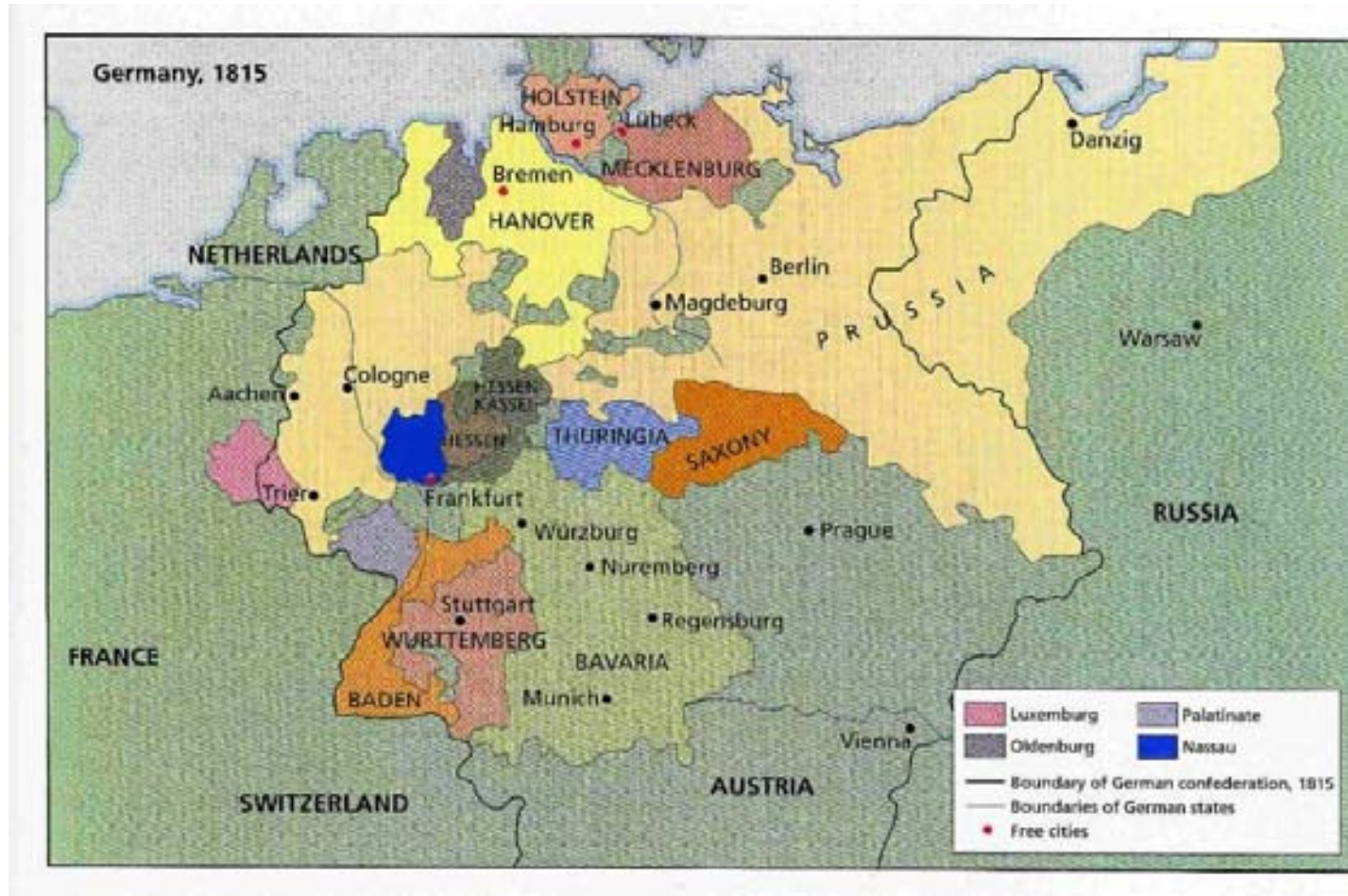
Napoleon



Cologne Cathedral



Map of Germany



Munich



Munich, Ludwigstrasse



Dresden



Düsseldorf Art Academy, 1830s



Friedrich, *Large Enclosure near
Dresden, 1836*



Friedrich, *Solitary Tree*, 1822

