

Expressionism

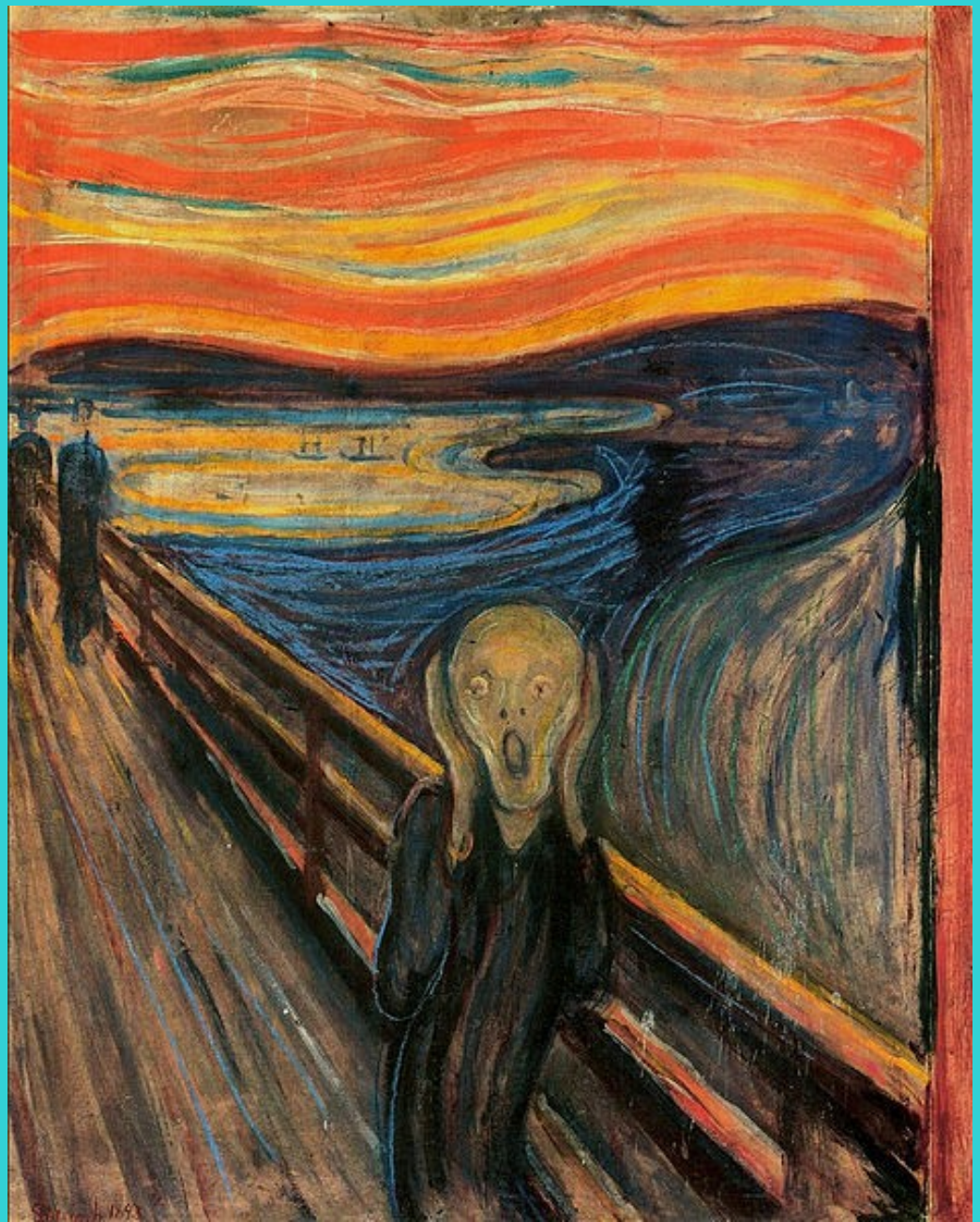
Andrea Ringer

Donna Tjandra

Michelle Gutta

“Expressionism
is to the eye
what a scream
is to hearing.”

~ Pierre
Courthion



Edvard Munch “The Scream”
1893

The Word “Expressionism”

- Describes a wide variety of art
- First used to describe modern art in general
- Fauvism, Cubism, and Futurism were included



The Word “Expressionism”: Sonderbund

- Turning point for the definition was the Sonderbund Exhibition.
 - More association with German art
 - More association with the portrayal of the artist's internal feelings rather than the outside world



The Word “Expressionism”: Later

- As the movement gained popularity:
 - Art critics could not agree on a single definition
 - Expressionist artists rejected their own labels
 - Movement spread geographically and to other art forms as well



The Word “Expressionism”: Now

- In modern context, Expressionism is broadly by the dictionary defined as:
 - “ A style in art, music, or drama in which the artist or writer tries to express the inner world of emotion rather than external reality”

About Expressionism

Originated in Germany

Expressionism started as a response to the anxiety about mans diminishing relationship with the world.

Distorted reality through exaggeration

Spontaneous

Relationship with the environment

About Expressionism

Describe emotions and feelings

Brushwork and color

Spiritual element

More of a state of mind than a unified style

Showed distortion, exaggeration, primitivism,
and fantasy.

About Expressionism

Highly subjective, personal, spontaneous self-expression

Wood Cuts

Color and shape distortion



Frenzi Reclining-
Erich Heckel, 1910

Influenced By...

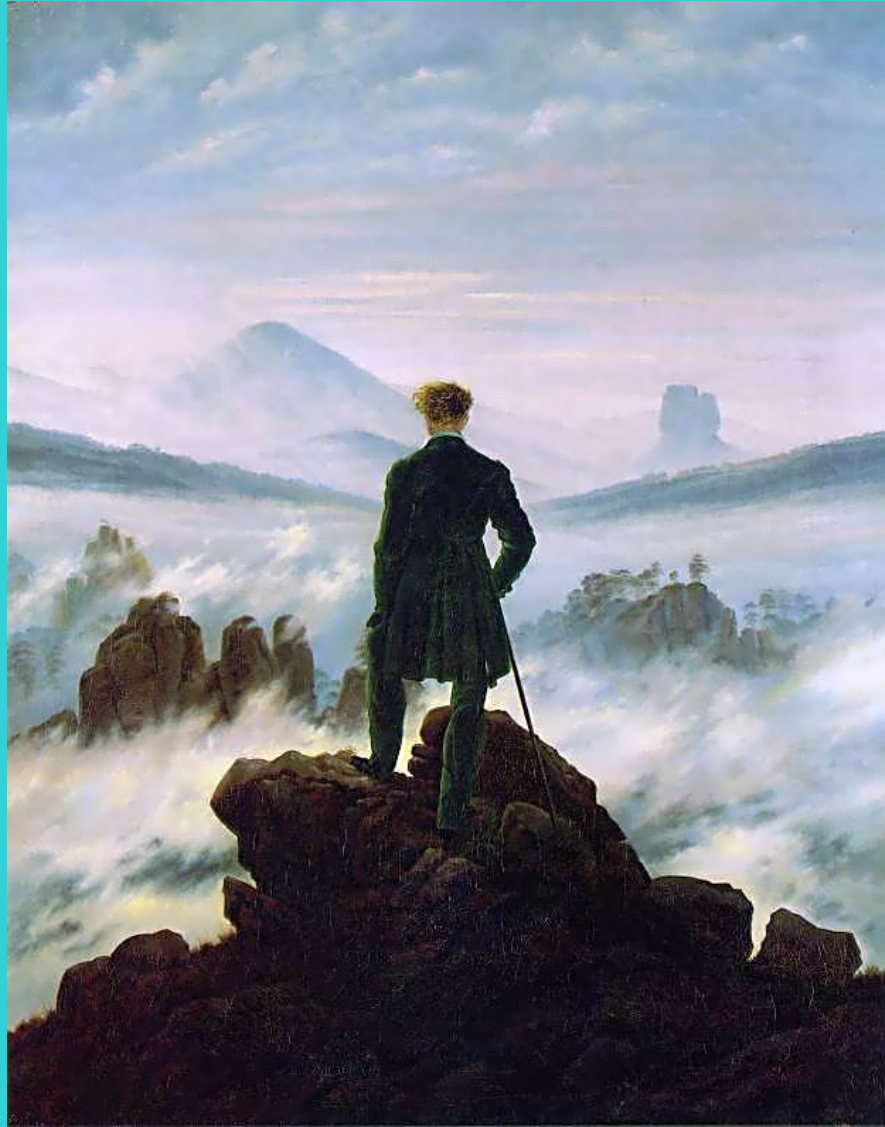
Romanticism

Fauvism

Symbolism

Post-Impressionism

Romanticism



Caspar David Friedrich "Wanderer Above a Sea of Fog"
1818

Fauvism



André Derain "Mountains at Collioure" 1905



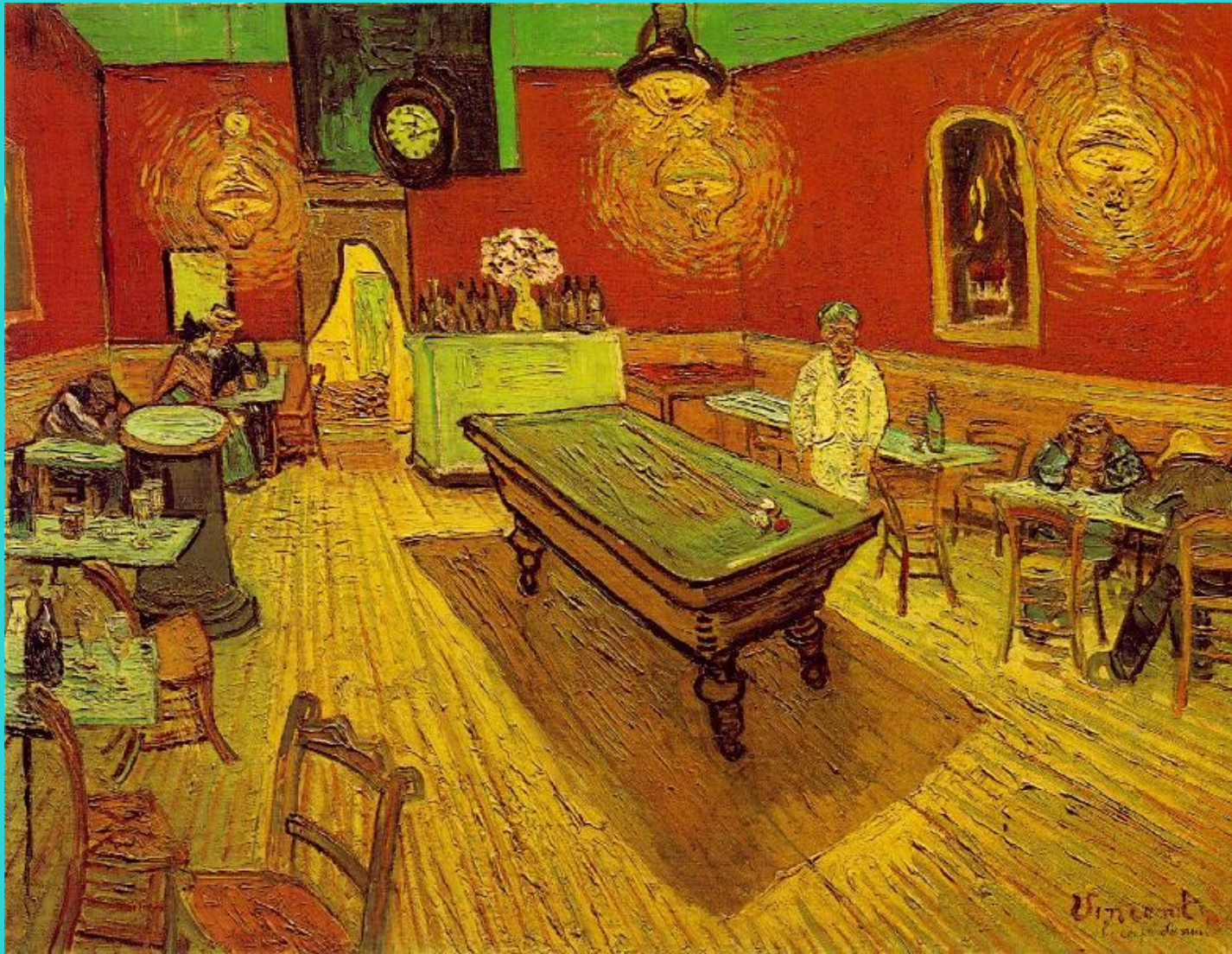
Ernst Ludwig Kirchner
"Davos under Snow" 1923

Symbolism



Paul Gauguin "Where do we come from? What are we?
Where are we going?" 1897

Post-Impressionism



Vincent Van Gogh "The Night Café"
1888

Three Waves of Expressionism

Beginnings of Expressionism (1880 – 1905)

Artists: Van Gogh, Munch

The Bridge (1905 – 1911)

Germany

Started with a group of four artists

After the Bridge (1911 – 1919)

Blue Rider

Continuing influence of Expressionism

Beginnings of Expressionism

- Unification of Germany
- Formation of various art institutes
- Rebellion to the institutes
 - Groups called Secessions were formed

Beginnings: Important Artists

- Vincent Van Gogh
- Paul Gauguin
- Paula Modersohn – Becker
- Edvard Munch

Van Gogh: Starry Night, 1889



Gauguin: What's New? 1892



Modersohn – Becker: Trumpeting Girl, 1903



Edvard Munch

1863 – 1944

From Norway

Deeply affected by the death of his mother and sister when he was young.

Father was a strict Christian

Travelled to Paris, Berlin, and Italy to study art

Major collection of works – *Frieze of Life*

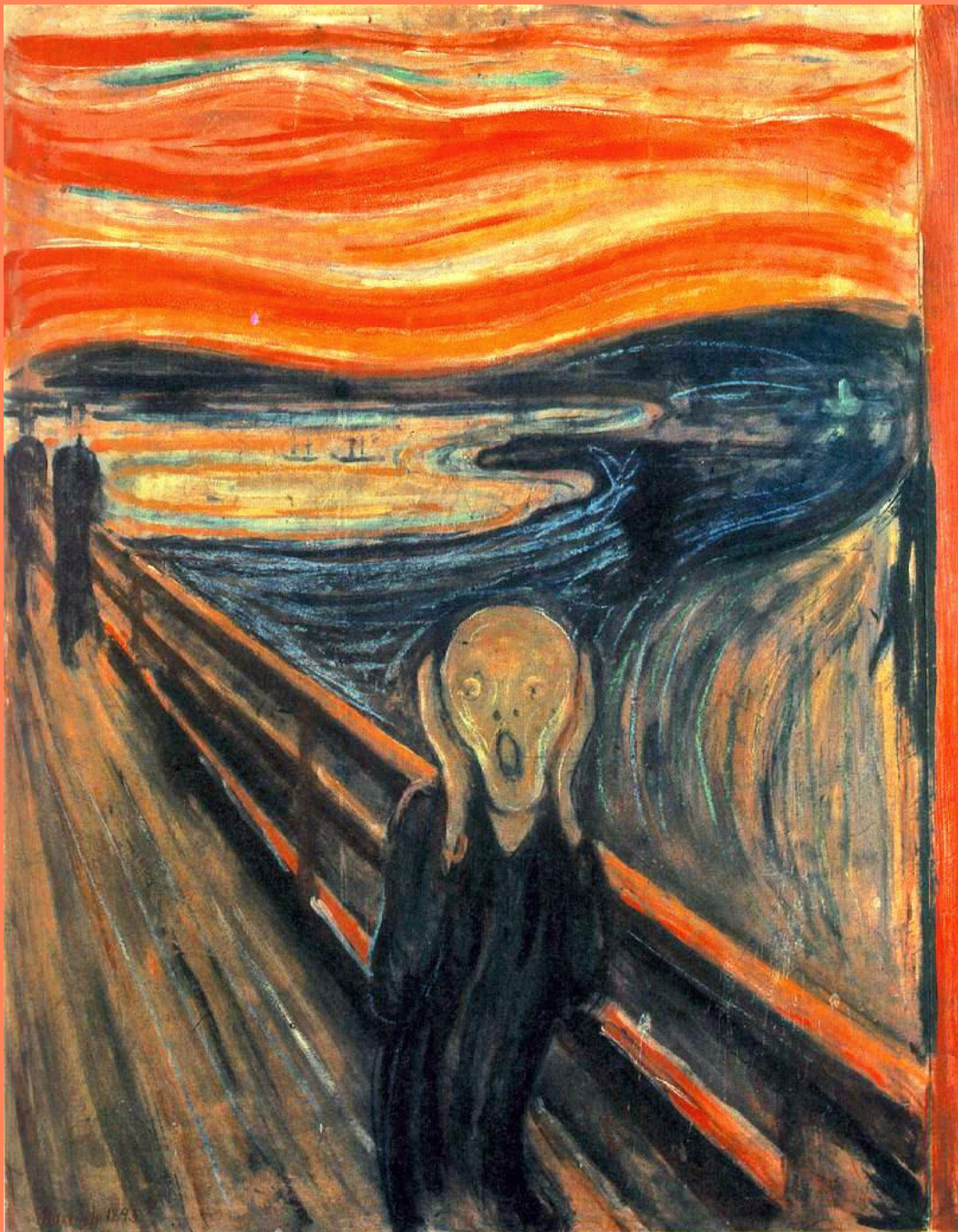
The faces and landscapes of Scandinavia were his main sources of inspiration



Edvard Munch "The Dead Mother" 1899



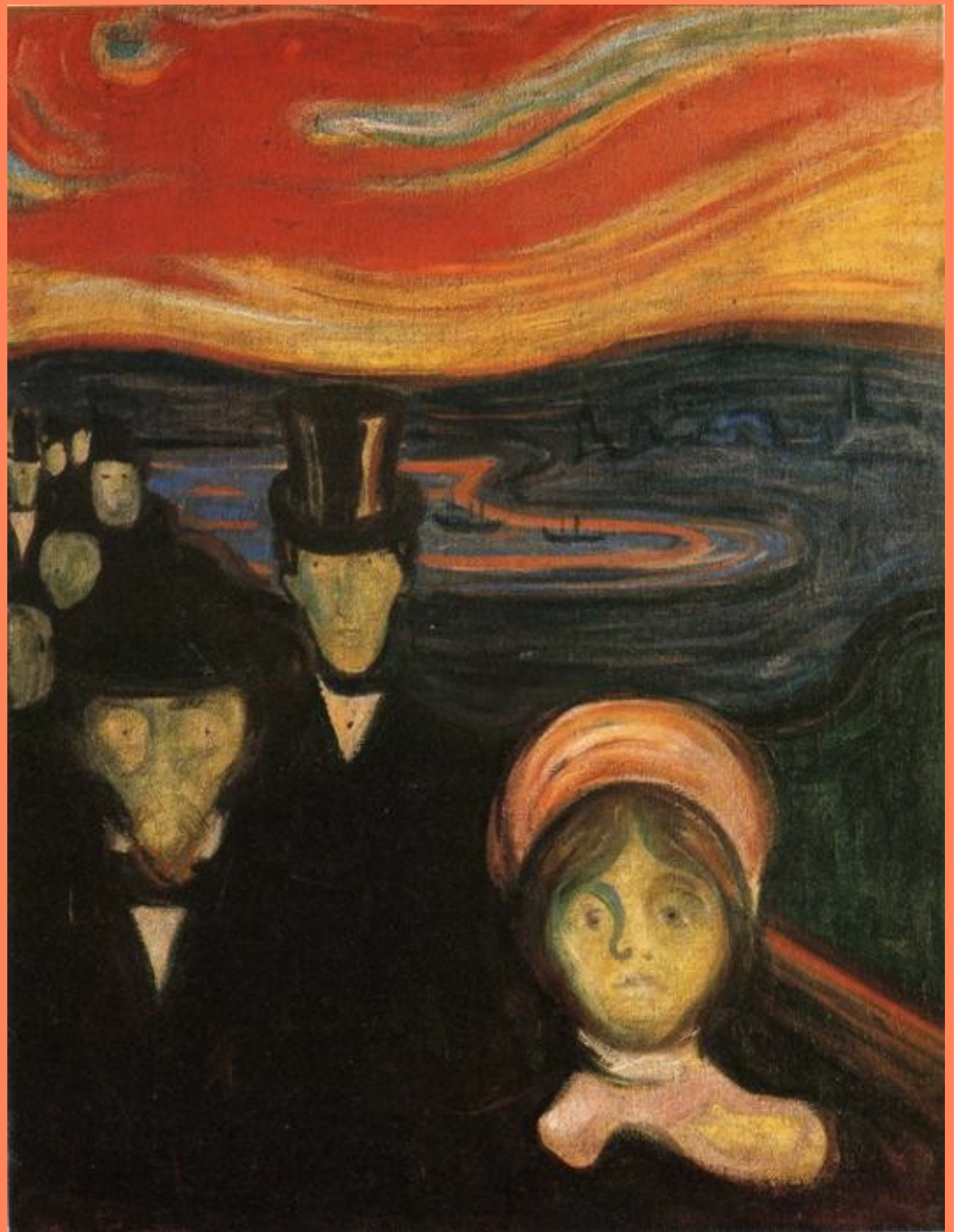
Edvard Munch "Spring Evening on Karl Johan Street" 1892



“I hear
the
scream
of
Nature.”

Edvard Munch “The Scream” 1893

I saw all people
behind their masks –
smiling phlegmatic –
composed faces – I
saw through them
and there was
suffering in them all –
pale corpses – who
without rest ran
around – along a
twisted road at the
end of which was the
grave.



Edvard Munch "Anxiety" 1894



Edvard Munch "The Kiss" 1897

The Bridge

A German group of Expressionists that lasted from 1905-1913.

The spirit of the group was displayed through their works of art

Influenced by van Gogh, Gauguin, Munch, and primitive art.

Name- The Bridge

The Bridge- Members

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner

Erich Heckel

Karl Schmidt- Rottluff

Fritz Bleyl

They were later joined by artists Emil Nolde, Max Pechstein, and Otto Muller.



Crouching Nude- Karl Schmidt-Rottluff 1905



This is a poster done by Fritz Bleyl that was for one of the Groups exhibitions.

The Bridge- Goals

The Bridge wanted to re-infuse German art with spiritual vigor

They wanted to find a revolutionary belief that people would be inspired by.

The Bridge also wanted to make a statement that was intuitive and unskilled.

Pentecost- Nolde, 1909





Standing
Child-
Erich
Heckel,
1911



Self Portrait-
Karl Schmidt-Rottluff



White Tree Trunks-
Emil Nolde

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner: 1880 - 1938

- Most influential of the Bridge
- Studied architecture
 - Spent two semesters studying art
- Self enlisted in WWI in 1914, discharged 1915
- Grew suspicious in later life
- Committed suicide

Kirchner: Influences

- Van Gogh and Munch
- City life
- Landscapes
- Human Body

Kirchner: Woman's Head with Sunflowers. 1906



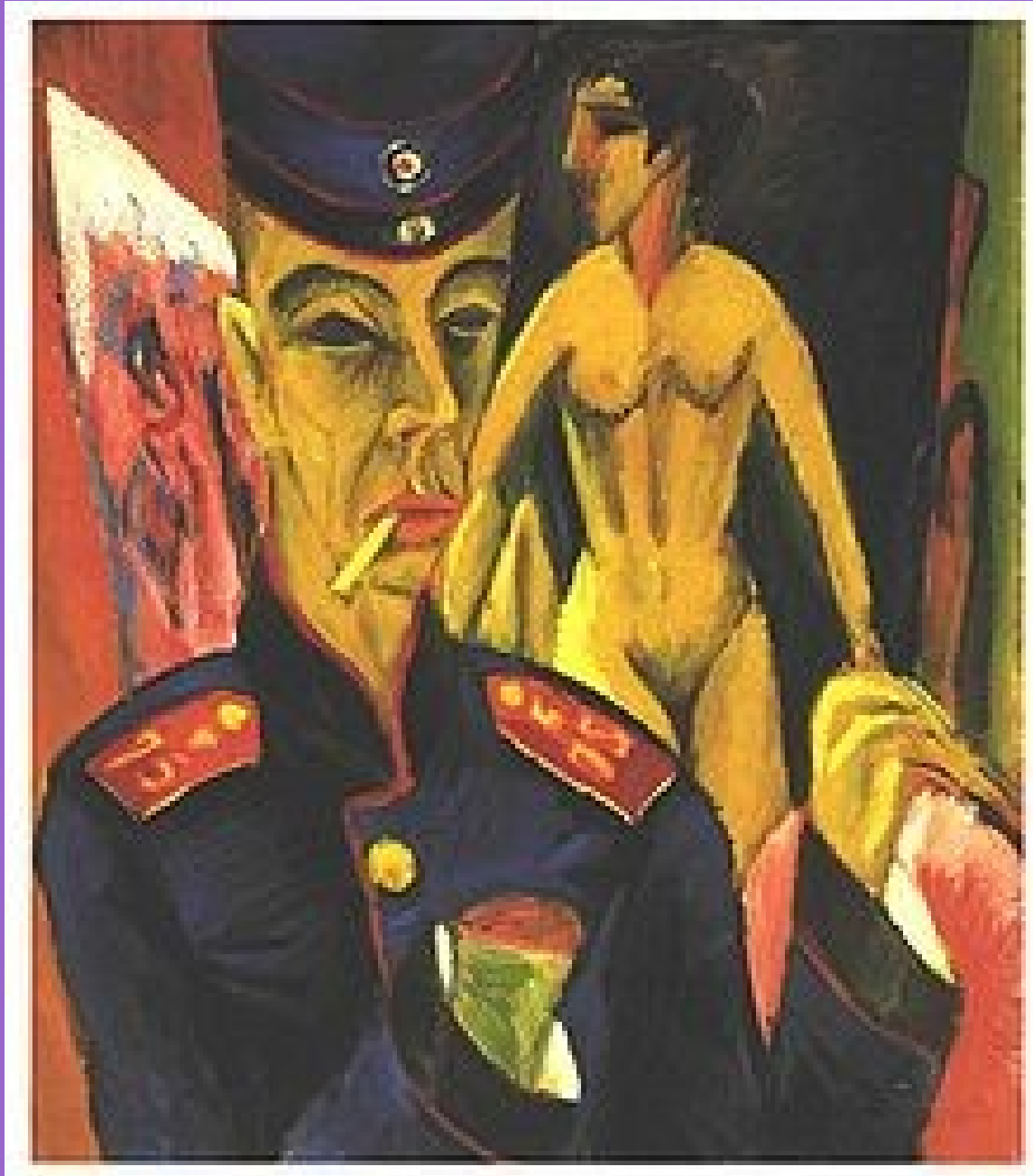
Kirchner: Semi – Nude Woman With Hat, 1911



Kirchner: 5 Women in the Street, 1913



Kirchner: Self Portrait as a Soldier, 1915



Kirchner: Moonlit Winter Night, 1919



Kirchner: Painters of Die Brücke, 1926/27



Kirchner: Three Nudes in the Woods, 1934/35



Blue Rider

1911, after the Bridge

Founded by Kandinsky and Marc

Classified as part of German Expressionism

Different than the Bridge artists

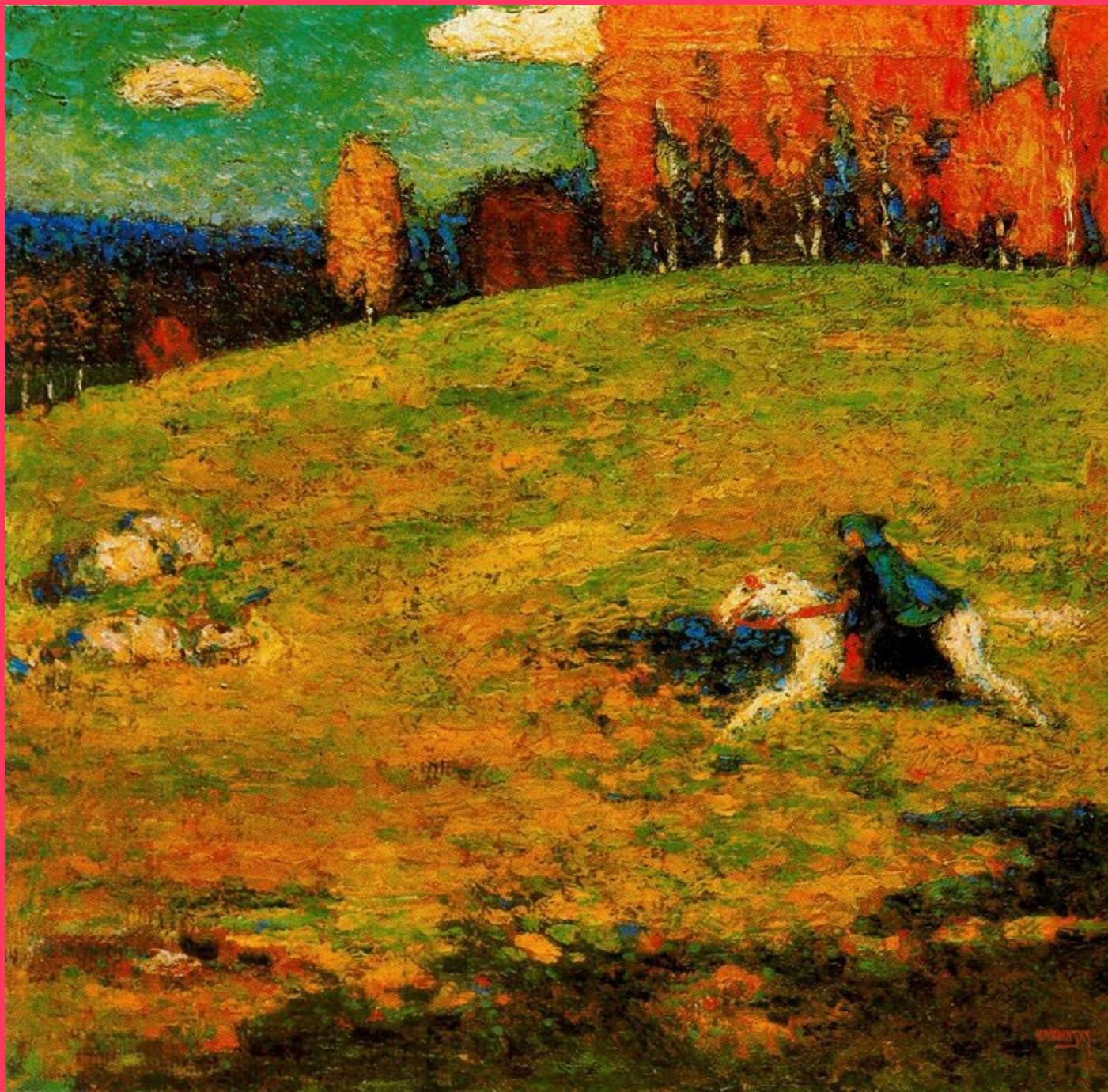
Publication – refused to include Expressionist paintings

Connected art with music

Symbolism of color

Short Lived – Outbreak of WWI

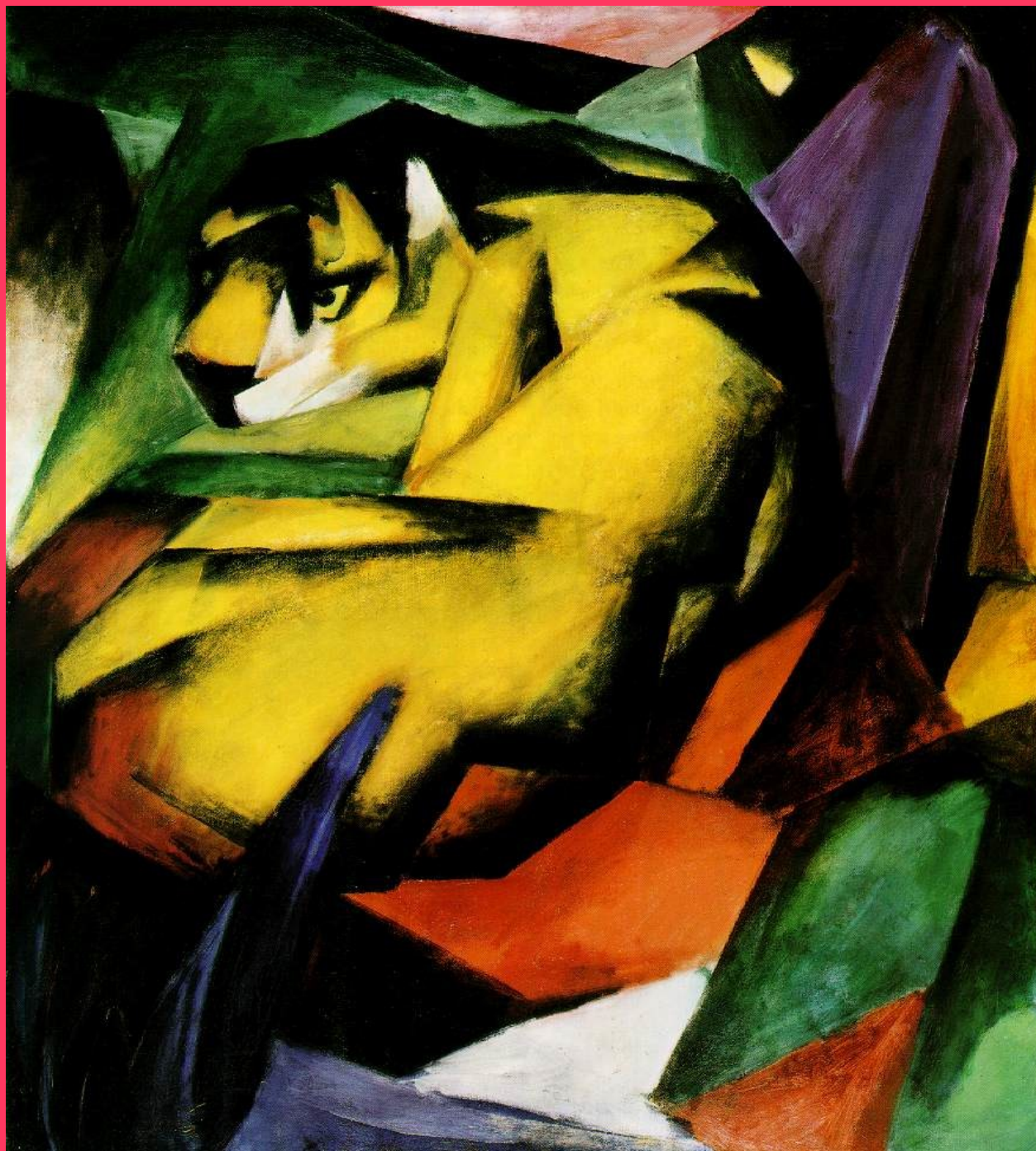
Other Artists: Alexei Von Jawlensky, Franz Marc, August Macke, Paul Klee, Gabriel Muntter



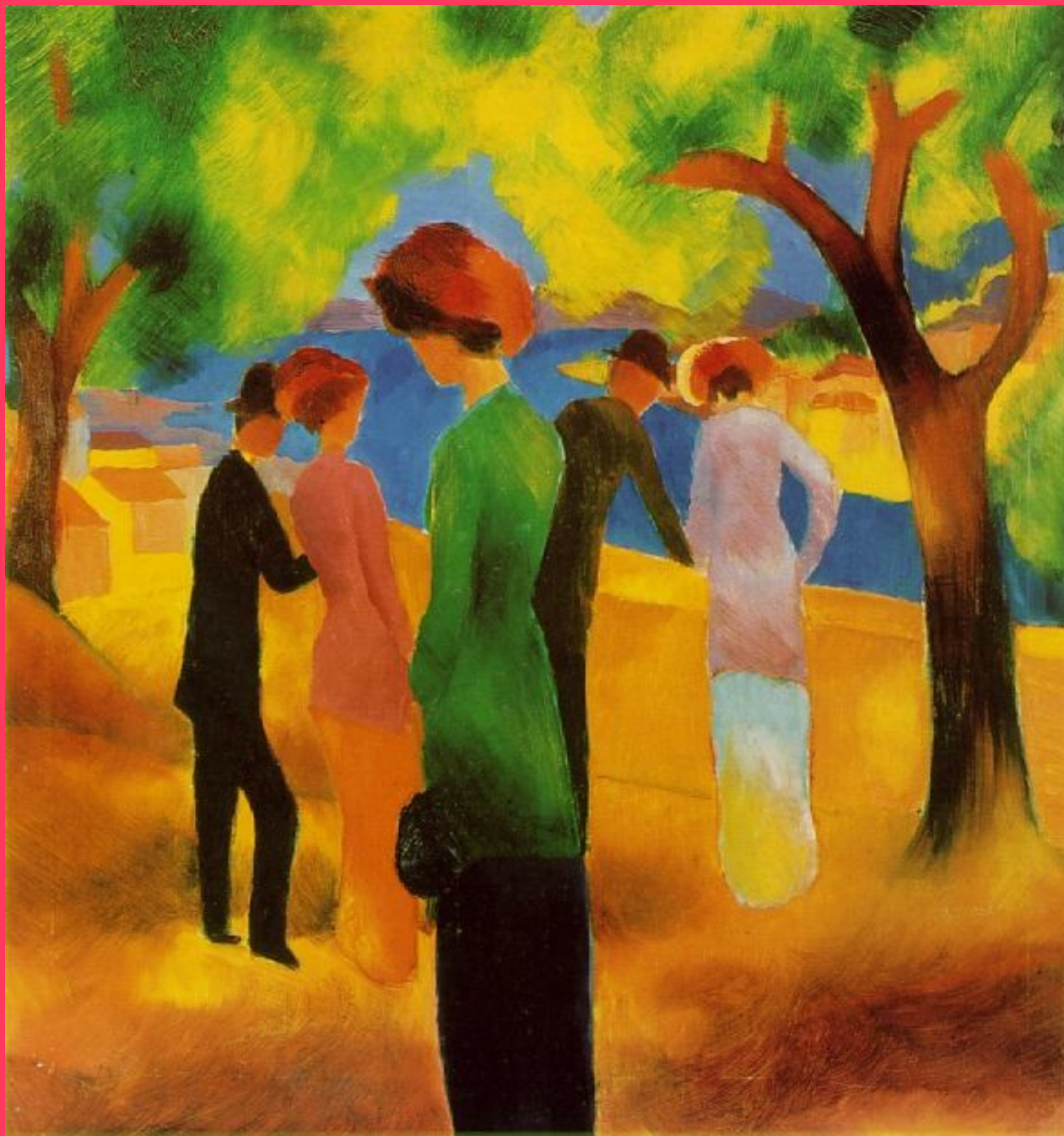
Kandinsky "The Blue Rider" 1903



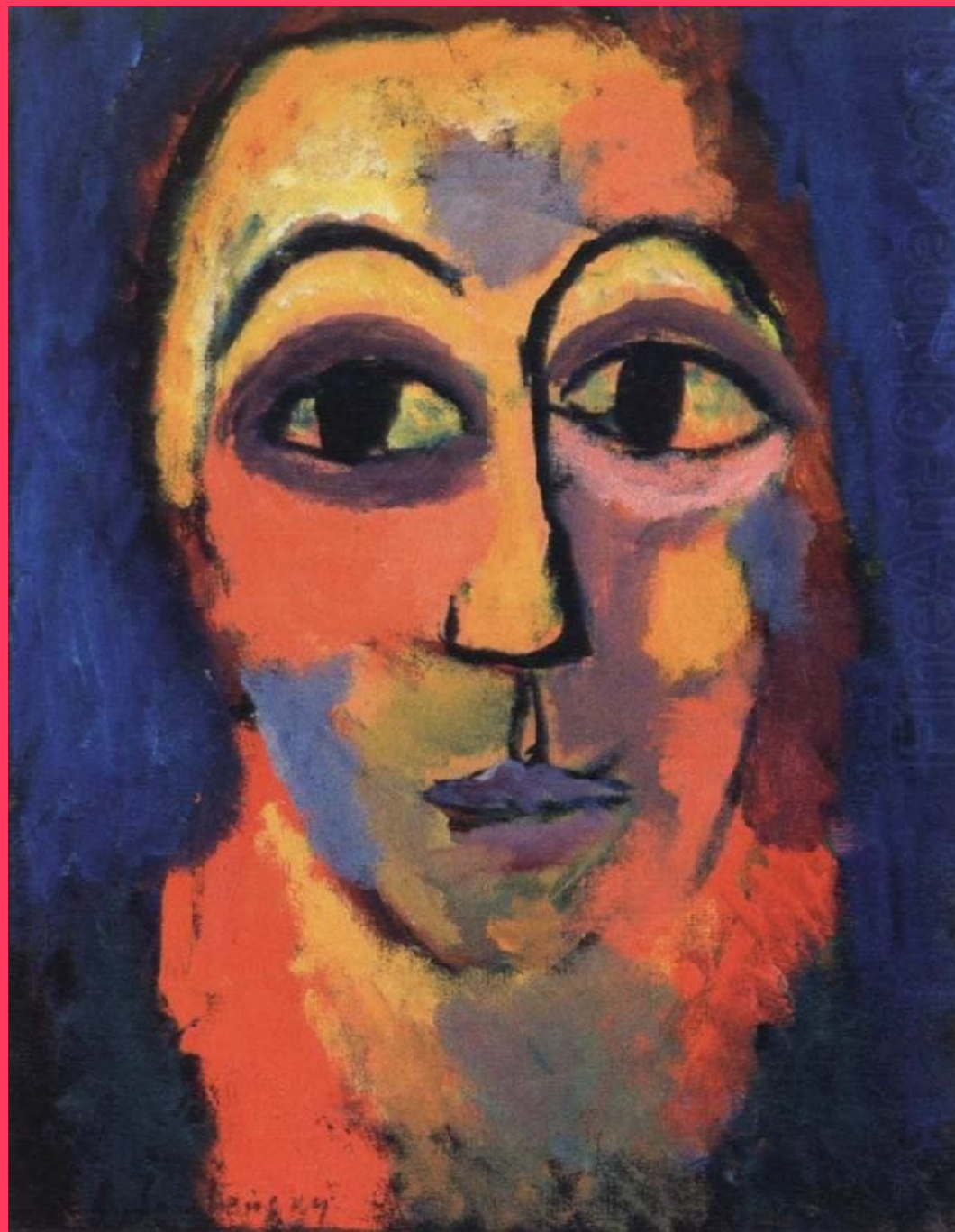
Franz Marc "The Yellow Cow" 1911



Franz Marc "Tiger" 1912



August Macke "Lady in a Green Jacket"
1913



Alexei Jawlensky "Head"
1910

Wassily Kandinsky

A Russian expressionist, who later moved toward abstractionism

Used lots of colors

- fascinated with color

Non-objective

Worked closely with Munich

Houses in Murnau
on Obermarkt-
Kandinsky, 1908





This is the cover of the Blue Rider Almanac, painted by Kandinsky in 1911. It is the beginning of the artists showing “primitives” in their artwork.



Cossacks- 1911

Kandinsky in the Blue Rider

- Munich New Artist's Association- 1911
- 1910-1914
 - Impressions
 - Improvisations
 - Compositions

Composition V- 1911

