

Terra Teacher Lab

Diversity of Place: Natural and Urban Landscapes

June 24, 2009 Presentation by Wendy Greenhouse

Art Terms

- foreground, middle ground, background, distance
- framing elements
- horizon line
- landscape
- sublime
- picturesque
- topographical landscape
- art for art's sake
- abstract
- composition

Influences and Historical Reference Points:

- English and Dutch landscape tradition
- Romanticism
- nationalism
- Manifest Destiny
- Civil War
- Erie Canal (opened 1825)
- National Academy of Design (founded 1826)
- Hudson River School
- Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859)

CLOSE READ



Thomas Cole, *View from Mt. Holyoke, Northampton, Massachusetts, after a Thunderstorm--The Oxbow*, 1826 (51 ½ x 76 in.), Metropolitan Museum of Art, 08.228 (Picturing America)

CHRONOLOGICAL OVERVIEW



William Groombridge, *View of a Manor House on the Harlem River, New York*, 1793, oil on canvas (39 3/4 x 49 in.), Terra Foundation for American Art, 1992.37



Robert Havell after John James Audubon, *Bald Eagle* in *The Birds of America* ("elephant" folio), vol. 1, 1827-28, hand-colored aquatint and etching (print) (sheet: 33 3/16 x 25 1/2 in.), Terra Foundation for American Art, 1984.3.1 (transparency provided)



Thomas Cole, *Landscape with Figures: A Scene from "The Last of the Mohicans"*, 1826
Oil on panel (26 1/8 x 43 1/16 in.)
Terra Foundation for American Art, 1993.2 (transparency provided)



Frederic Edwin Church, *View of Cotopaxi*, 1857, oil on canvas (24 1/2 x 36 1/2 in.), Art Institute of Chicago, 1919.753
(AIC American Art Teachers Manual)



Albert Bierstadt, ***Looking Down Yosemite Valley***, 1865, oil on canvas (64 1/2 x 96 1/2 in.), Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Ala., 1991.879 (Picturing America)



Sanford Gifford, ***Hunter Mountain, Twilight***, oil on canvas (30 5/8 x 54 1/8 in.), Terra Foundation for American Art, 1999.57 (transparency provided)



Alfred Thompson Bricher, ***Lake George from Bolton's Landing***, 1867, oil on canvas (27 x 50 1/4 in.), Terra Foundation for American Art, 1992.17



Fitz Henry Lane, ***Brace's Rock, Brace's Cove***, oil on canvas (10 1/4 x 15 1/4 in.), Terra Foundation for American Art, 1999.83 (transparency provided)



James McNeill Whistler, ***Nocturne, Blue and Gold—Southampton Water***, 1872, oil on canvas (50 1/2 x 76 in.), Art Institute of Chicago, 1900.52 (AIC American Art Teachers Manual)



George Inness, *The Home of the Heron*, 1893, oil on canvas (30 x 45 in.), Art Institute of Chicago, 1911.31 (AIC American Art Teachers Manual)

LESSON PLAN



Thomas Cole, *Distant View of Niagara Falls*, 1830, oil on panel (18 7/8 x 23 7/8 in.), The Art Institute of Chicago, 1946.396 (AIC American Art Teachers Manual)

Reference Materials:

- The Art Institute of Chicago, *American Art Teachers' Manual*, 2008, p. 25
- Terra Foundation for American Art website page, Thomas Cole Biography (www.terraamericanart.org/collection [search on Thomas Cole])
- Metropolitan Museum of Art website, Timeline of Art History, essay on Hudson River School (http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/hurs/hd_hurs.htm)