

Unit 4: Rococo

On the heels of the Baroque, a new style (the Rococo) emerged—a style that was at once more intimate and more ostentatious than the Baroque. The heart of this movement was in France, where it was produced for the personal enjoyment of the most elite patrons, although it did spread to other parts of Europe and to the American colonies. Generally speaking, Rococo art is sumptuous and decadent. Eschewing the religious and genre scenes of the Baroque, Rococo art favored subjects involving pleasure and fantasy. Although this style did enjoy popularity outside of France, it is most associated with the elite circles of the French aristocracy and was soon replaced with a more sober artistic aesthetic.

Unit 4 Time Advisory

This unit will take you approximately 19 hours to complete.

- Subunit 4.1: 2 hours
- Subunit 4.2: 2 hours
- Subunit 4.3: 2 hours
- Subunit 4.4: 2 hours
- Subunit 4.5: 1 hour
- Museum Visit: 5 hours
- Writing Assignment: 5 hours

Unit 4 Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

- Explain the reasons for the emergence of a new, post-Baroque style in Western European art that coincides with a shift in cultural values and mores.
- Describe the ways in which the Rococo style met the demands of its patrons.
- Discuss the ways in which Rococo art diverged from Baroque art.
- Identify the major works of art and artists of Rococo art.