# The Dramatic Baroque Era

The ideal beauty for both upperclass men and women were shown plentiful in the fashion with a lot of round shapes. They wore bows and everything had to stand out.

The baroque era started in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century and ended on the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The era was a very dramatic time with tons of motion. The shapes were very much irregular an there were dark and warm colors used to dominate the art form.

# Holland the place for sanctuary

Holland during this time was a place for everyones opinion, especially for people with different religion where they could exisist. Because of the freedom many refugies whit money travelled there an were very prosperous.

There was arguments between the church and scientists about what was right and people were forced to leave there homes and then went to Holland.

A painter was someone with great status and was to be looked up to. Many paintings were bought by travelers and others with money.

#### Signs of Baroque painting



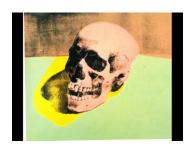
(Descent from the Cross)

This painting is painted by Pieter Paul Rubens, oil on wood. Dramatic, abstract and with a veriety of motion. The contrast between light, dark and color is shown well. The drama is played out with Christs lifeless body being carried off the cross and the seriousness shown in the faceoff the spectators around him. You can't tell if it's day brak or dawn, you can only see that it's dark and cloudy sky.



(Christ Crucified)

Painted by Diego
Velàzquez, oil on canvas.
It's very calm and yet
dramatic. It is painted
symmetrical with Jesus in
the middle. The top part
of the cross goes out on
the sides of painting. He
has composed face and it
makes you think that he
is at peace. The drama is
shown by the light and
dark clair-obscure (the
contrast).



Andy Warhol, a modern version of a still life with a skull. This is a screen print on paper and the skull is looking to the left towards us. Is the death coming for us?



## **Analysis**

Vanitas still life with skull, book and roses. 1670 – 1732 oil on wood by David de Heem.

The painting contains like it's says in the title. A skull, a book and roses. It also contains a goblet, a hexagon coin, paper and a candle stick. The skull is turned to the left, turned towards the roses and it has some kind of straws wrapped around its forehead. The straws could be the crown of thorns around Jesus head. The book is on the right hand side of the skull and it's half opened. The goblet is filled with what could be white wine.

**Skull:** Stands for death and ending.

**Rose:** Represents the wisdom and rebirth,

reincarnation of the soul. **Book:** Stands for the wanting and seeking of the knowledge. The half opened book could mean that the knowledge about life is about to be

revealed.

**Pink:** Symbolizes naivety and innocence.

**Hexagon:** Stands for something opposite or reverse.

**Wine:** Stands for the liquid of life.

**Goblet:** Stands for what's inside of something which means it is inexhaustible.

Interpertation: I think that de Heem wants to show that even if somebody or something dies, doesn't mean everything dies with it. The skull represents Jesus and the book could be the Holy bible or it could also be a book about

science and showing both sides of something.
Perhaps the goblet is meant to say that life is unfailing. My own thoughts are that the painting says that religion fades away a little and that people own thoughts becomes more important during this era.

### **Baroque painters**



Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, Italian painter 1571 – 1610



Rembrandt Hermenszoon van Rijn, Dutch painter 1609 – 1669



Diego Rodriguez de Silva y Velázquez, Spanish painter 1599 - 1660