A Current Study and Comparison of Realism and Romanticism in Europe

- Shreya Thakar
- Dr. David Baronov
- St. John Fisher College
- The Master of Science in International Relations Program
- April 20th 2013
Romanticism

- Romanticism - a movement which revolted against the aristocracy and previously held conservative beliefs.

Realism

- Realism - a movement which attempted to depict art truthfully, without exoticism or supernatural elements.

Jean-François Millet, *The Potato Harvest*, 1855.
The Politics of Romanticism

Jacques Louis-David, *Napoleon At the Saint-Bernard Pass*, 1801
Chronological Order of Power

- Napoleon Bonaparte - House of Bonaparte
- Louis XVIII (18th) - House of Bourbon
- Charles X (10th) – House of Bourbon
- Louis Philippe I – House of Orléans (liberal branch of Bourbon), July Monarchy
- The formation of the Second Republic
- Bonaparte III - House of Bonaparte
Neo-Classicism and Romanticism

Antoine-Jean Gros (Pupil of Jacques Louis-David), *Bonaparte Visiting the Plague House at Jaffa*, 1804.
Neo-Classicism and Romanticism

Romanticism

Realism

Realism

Similarities & Differences

• Differences:
  – Romanticism focused on Orientalism & Exoticism
  – Social Alliance:
    • Romantics sided with the upper-middle class and aristocracy
    • Realists sided with the working class

• Similarities:
  – Both Borrowed artistic techniques from previous movements
  – Both helped to publicize political content through the avenue of art
  – Both movements relied on a group of peers for approval:
    • Romantics depended on École des Beaux-Arts (School of Fine Arts)
    • Realists depended on the approval of The Salon
Romanticism and Naturalism

Realism and Impressionism

References

  66(385):159-168.
  1996.