

Max Liebermann: Modern Art and Modern Germany

By Marion F. Deshmukh



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Max Liebermann: Modern Art and Modern Germany is the first English-language examination of this German impressionist painter whose long life and career spanned nine decades. Through a close reading of key paintings and by a discussion of his many cultural networks across Germany and throughout Europe, this study by Marion Deshmukh illuminates Liebermann's importance as a pioneer of German modernism. Critics and admirers alike saw his art as representing aesthetic European modernism at its best. His subjects included dispassionate depictions of the rural Dutch countryside, his colorful garden at the Wannsee, and his many portraits of Germany's cultural, political, and military elites. Liebermann was the largest collector of French Impressionism in Germany - and his cosmopolitan outlook and his art created strong antipathies towards both by political and cultural conservatives throughout his life.



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Editorial Review

Review

'Marion Deshmukh has deftly interwoven a comprehensive study of Liebermann's life, art, and critical reception within a context of the cultural and political history of Wilhelmine and Weimar Germany. Deshmukh has used Liebermann's "bourgeois modernism" to reassess the unique and conflicted nature of modernism in Germany. Her book is now the definitive English-language source of information on the painter and will no doubt remain so for years to come.' Marsha Morton, Pratt Institute, USA 'At long last, a monograph in English on Max Liebermann, one of Germany's most important cultural figures of the modern era. Meticulously researched, this study is especially welcome for the way in which it weaves together and illuminates Liebermann's life, art and times in ways that enormously enrich our understanding of how culture intersected with politics in a period of fraught and conflicting ideologies.' Maria Makela, California College of the Arts, USA

About the Author

Marion F. Deshmukh is the Robert T. Hawkes Professor Emerita of History at George Mason University, USA who specialized in modern German and European cultural and visual history.

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