

Art 1 Honors

Modern to Contemporary Art

Name _____

Due Date _____

You earned _____ out of 10 possible points

Reading Response #1

America Emerges

How was American art perceived in the years leading up to and crossing WWI and WWII? What were American artists striving to achieve at this time? In general, what kind of works were they producing?

What events and circumstances triggered a shift in power in the art world from Europe to America during the 1940s? After WWII, how did American artists and critics perceive European art?

What influence did European exiles like Marcel Duchamp have in the emergence and nurturing of an artistic community and sense of avant-gardist experimentation in New York during the 1930s and 40s?

In the Gorky reading, the artist is described as turning “to modernism as a discipline of form that he would wield to find himself – indeed a way of overcoming what his wife Mougouch termed ‘the stigma of refugee.’” In general, explain and consider this seemingly common theme amongst emergent American artists just after WWII. In what manner do this week’s reading’s portrayals of American art makers at this time either fit this description of Gorky or counter it. In other words, what were American artists described as being in search of, and why?