**Lesson #29**

**Guided Reading**

**Rococo Art**

**Rococo Art-** an art form which placed emphasis on the life of the aristocracy in the 18th century

* **Aristocracy-** nobility, wealthy upper class commonly known as aristocrats and the rulers of the absolute monarchy
* **Absolute Monarchy-** government of Kings and Queens, however the King holds absolute power, meaning he makes all of the decisions or has the final ruling.
* **Characteristics of Rococo Art-**
* Pastel colors
* Images of wealthy people
* Usually see people at leisure
* Scenes of Romance and Love
* Images of wealthy people at their “Chateaus”
  + **Chateaus-** a manor or country home of the nobles in France; very much like a vacation home outside the city
* **Fete galante painting-** paintings that depict an outdoor scene of people having a party (outdoor parties)

**Baroque v. Rococo Art**

* Baroque=
  + Drama
  + Light v. dark
  + Movement
* Rococo=
  + Playful
  + Whimsical use of line and color
  + Pastel colors and looks soft

**Antoine Watteau-** @ 1684-1721

* Considered the greatest painter during the Rococo Art Period
* Court painter for King Louis XV (15th)
* At first, his artwork wasn’t popular, however it later spread to all of Europe
  + Only became popular near the end of his life



**Embarkation for Cythera**

**By:** Watteau

**Created**: 1717-1719

**Story**: Aristocrats are leaving a mythical land of romance and love that is believed to be the birthplace of Venus the goddess of love.

**Jean-Honore Fragonard-** @1732-1806

* Was a court painter before the French Revolution
* After the Revolution, he escaped to South France to continue to paint
* Because he was creating artwork during a time of war, his artwork was never popular or wasn’t able to work for the courts
* He only became famous after his death
* Greatly influenced the Impressionist painters

 

**“The Swing”** **Self-Portrait of Fragonard**

* Unified the artwork through axis and contour lines
* Example: the clouds, ropes on the swing, the man’s arm are all drawing your eye back to the center of the painting.

**Jean-Baptiste Simeon Chardin-** @ 1699-1779

* Even though Chardin lived during the time of the Rococo Art Period, he went against the painting style and subject matter
  + Painted commoners or maids/servants
  + Painted a scene of everyday life or common situations
  + Also painted still-life



**Back from the Market**

**By:** Chardin

**Created:** 1739

**Story:** The scene depicts an image of a middleclass lady who has just arrived back home from the market.

**Reasoning:** Chardin didn’t want to paint the life of the aristocracy because he found beauty in the middle class peoples as well as everyday life and activities people performed.