

# The Parkville Frame Gallery Newsletter

## 2022 Newsletter #22-2

### Subject: Art Courses

If you have been reading our bi-monthly Newsletters (see our website or flash drive for back issues), you may have decided that you want to learn more about fine art and picture framing. There are a lot of resource materials available to assist us. One such resource is a company called **The Great Courses**. This company offers many excellent college-level courses on the arts, and, their courses go on sale frequently. Their courses are presented by college professors primarily. The courses come in different formats. DVD is my favorite format.



[www.thegreatcourses.com](http://www.thegreatcourses.com)

One course, titled: *30 Masterpieces of the Ancient World* (Course number 7820), is thirty-six, 30-minute lectures presented by Professor Diana K. McDonald, Ph.D.



Professor McDonald takes us back 35,000 years, and into caves located in what is today modern-day France. She shows us some of the earliest drawings ever made by mankind. She then takes us to Mesopotamia (Iraq today), one of the six cradles of human civilization.

There we see *The Uruk Vase* (ca. 3100 to 3000 B.C.E.), and sculpture known as *Ram Caught in a Thicket* (ca. 2550 B.C.E.). We also travel to Mesoamerica, another of the six cradles of human civilization; there we see *Olmec Heads* (ca. 1200 to 400 B.C.E.).



For a fascinating study of some of the great cathedrals of the world, the architecture, the sculpture, the stained glass windows, and their history, I recommend the course titled: *The Cathedral* (course number 7868), twenty-four, 30-minute lectures. Professor William R. Cook, Ph.D., will seize you with his knowledge, presentation style, and enthusiasm -- trust me!

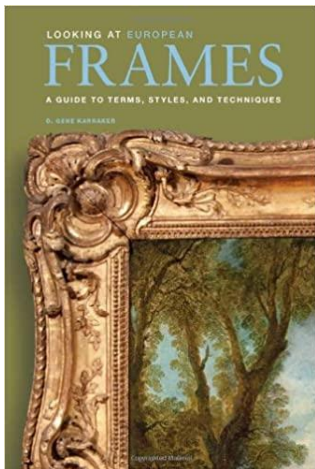


In the course, *Masterworks of American Art* (course number 7158), twenty-four, 30-minute lectures, Professor William Kloss, M.A., explores American art from its beginnings in the colonial past to shortly before the First World War. We learn about famous American artists such as Benjamin West, Winslow Homer, Rembrandt Peale, George Caleb Bingham, and many others. Professor Kloss skillfully presents works by Homer, such as: *Breezing-Up* (1873-1876), and *The Lifeline*, (1884). Professor Kloss also provides a great deal of biographical background about the various artists.

Professor Kloss is also an expert on European art. His course: *A History of European Art* (course #7100), includes forty-eight, 30-minute lectures. His course: *Dutch Masters: the Age of Rembrandt* (course #7180), includes thirty-six, 30-minute lectures, and introduces us to some of the greatest Dutch masters of all time: Jan van Eyck, Rembrandt van Rijn, Johannes Vermeer, and Frans Halls, to name just a few. These are excellent courses.



I suggest that you call The Great Courses (800) 832-2412, and order their free catalog. Don't be put off by their "regular" prices. Buy their courses when they are at "sale price".



In addition to art history courses from The Great Courses, we can also learn about the history of picture framing in the book: *Looking at European Frames, A Guide to Terms, Styles, and Techniques*. This is a good small book available from The Getty (museum) Publications. Glossy paperback, 88 pages, D. Gene Karraker, not expensive (some used editions may be available).

<http://shop.getty.edu/products/looking-at-european-frames-978-0892369812>

In this book you will learn things about picture frames that will help you to see frames and art in a different, and much more fulfilling way.

Many other art books (and Podcasts) are also available online on the Getty Museum website: [www.getty.edu/publications](http://www.getty.edu/publications)

For those of us who are serious about the history of picture framing, there is: *The Frame Blog* <https://theframeblog.com/> I recommend that you explore their archives section.

Finally, make a note that we are planning a free lecture on the history of picture frames.

*The Art Advisor*

*Enjoy fine art - well framed*