WOMEN'S STUDIES 300-5
WOMEN IN WESTERN ART FROM MEDIEVAL TO MODERN TIMES

SUMMER 1983  INSTRUCTOR: AVIS LANG ROSENBERG

The course is structured along standard albeit reformist art-historical lines—that is to say, it will stress the concrete achievements and professional output of individual artists—but it will be energetically prefaced and inter-penetrated by the discussion of certain crucial operational and ideological factors which place that very approach in context and in many ways call it into question. Thus on the one hand we will discuss the lives and work of such major figures as Artemisia Gentileschi, Elisabeth Vigee-Lebrun, Mary Cassatt, Kathe Kollwitz, Emily Carr, and Judy Chicago, but we would also discuss such issues as: prevailing conditions vs. exceptions; the contribution made by male support; the changing role of patronage and the concomitant changes in artists' "autonomy" and choice of subject matter and method; the social rewards and hazards of leisured amateurism as opposed to "full-time" commitment; the role of formal training in the forging of a viable career and/or level of accomplishment; changing (and unchanging) attitudes towards and definitions of art and craft.

Required Texts available in the Bookstore


There will also be other readings, and each student will produce a substantial compilation of analyses and discussions of the texts and readings. This "journal" will be worth 60% of the final grade; one exam will be worth 30%; and about 10% will refer to the student's contribution to the classroom experience where this seems appropriate.
Readings (on reserve in Library)


