

The Rococo Period

- 18th Century
- Primarily French Style
- Louis XV Style
 - After death of Louis XIV court moves back to Paris
- Rocaille
 - "Rock Work"

Reaction against the formal baroque style

- Baroque
 - Connected to religious counter-reformation
 - Flowed out of Baroque
- New taste for more delicate decorations
 - Suitable for smaller more intimate interiors of town houses
 - Not Religious

Characteristics

- Flowing curves
- Delicate colors
- Ornate curls
- Subject matter
 - Secular
 - Erotic
 - No grand heroes, or historical themes
 - Carefree life of the aristocracy

The Happy Accidents of The Swing

Jean-Honore Fragonard

1767

Located at the Wallace Collection, London



Blind Man's Bluff

Jean-Honore Fragonard 1755-56 Located at the Toledo museum of art



The Love Letter

Francois Boucher

1750

Commissioned by Madame de Pompadour



Madame de Pompadour

Francois Boucher

1755

Commissioned by Madame de Pompadour

- Official mistress of Louis XV



The Embarkation for Cythera

Antoine Watteau
1717
Located in the Louvre



La Surprise

Antoine Watteau 1718

Located in the Louvre





Characteristics

- Elaborate curves and scrolls
- Ornaments shaped like shells and plants
- Intricate patterns
- Delicate details
- Complex, asymmetrical shapes
- Light, pastel colors

Tsarskoye Selo – St. Petersburg (1708)





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