When Modern Art Came to Paris: Immigration and Assimilation

During the rise of modern art in Europe, Paris became the primary destination for ambitious artists seeking peer recognition for their work. This slide lecture presents an introduction to the best known among these early modernists who contributed to what we call “French art”: Camille Pissarro (b. St. Thomas, Impressionist); Mary Cassatt (b. US, Impressionist); Henry Ossawa Tanner (b. US, Realist/Post-Impressionist); Vincent van Gogh (b. Holland, Post-Impressionist); Pablo Picasso (b. Spain, Cubist/Surrealist); Amedeo Modigliani (b. Italy, École de Paris); Sonia Delaunay (b. Russian Empire, Cubist/Orphist); Jacques Lipshitz (b. Lithuania, Cubist/Surrealist); Marc Chagall (b. Russian Empire, Cubist/École de Paris), etc.

This lecture offers a new reading of Picasso’s collage Guitar, Sheet Music and Wine Glass, 1912 (proposing a response to xenophobia)

Lecturer: Beth S. Gersh-Nešić, Ph.D., is an art historian and the director of the New York Arts Exchange. She is also a staff writer for Bonjour Paris, where her articles on French art can be found. A list of her books on Picasso and the poet/art critic André Salmon can be found on Amazon,