



Volume 6. Weimar Germany, 1918/19–1933
Franz Roh, "Post-Expressionist Schema" (1925)

Expressionism

ecstatic objects
many religious themes
the stifled object
rhythmic
arousing
excessive
dynamic
loud
summary
obvious
close-range image
forward moving
large size
monumental
warm
thick coloration
roughened
like uncut stone
work process preserved
leaving traces
expressive deformation of objects
rich in diagonals
often acute-angled
working against edges of image
primitive

Post-Expressionism

plain objects
few religious themes
the explanatory object
representative
engrossing
rather strict, purist
static
quiet
sustained
obvious and enigmatic
close- and long-range image
also flowing backward
large size and many-columned
miniature
cool to cold
thin layer of color
smoothed, dislodged
like polished metal
work process effaced
pure objectification
harmonic cleansing of objects
rectangular to the frame
parallel
fixed within edges of image
civilized

Source of English translation: Franz Roh, "Post-Expressionist Schema" (1925), in *The Weimar Republic Sourcebook*, edited by Anton Kaes, Martin Jay, and Edward Dimendberg. © 1994

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