Apr 8th, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Complex Simplicity: An Analysis of Claude Monet's London Series

Chrissy Paarlberg
Illinois Wesleyan University

Michael Weis, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc

http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2006/oralpres4/3
COMPLEX SIMPLICITY: AN ANALYSIS OF CLAUDE MONET’S LONDON SERIES

Chrissy Paarlberg and Michael Weis*
International Studies Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

Claude Monet painted his London Series at the turn of the 20th century. He painted only three views of London but created over a hundred canvases. This motif not only combined his efforts and styles to-date but also opened the door for an explosive concept: looking at each passing moment in and of itself. These paintings show his struggle to paint life as a constantly changing element. More importantly, this series exhibits Monet’s impressionistic synthesis and functions as the culmination of Monet’s work and even Impressionism. Without the London Series this synthesis would not have evolved into one of the most important and amazing series of the modern era of art, a series that screams with complex simplicity.