

ENLIGHTENMENT IDEAS SPREAD

Challenge of New Ideas

- Worldwide, people read about the new Enlightenment ideas and agreed that there needed to be reform
- Censorship:
 - Governments and the Church censored or restricted access to many Enlightenment ideas (book burnings, jailing authors, etc)
 - Philosophes often hid their writings as works of fiction to avoid censorship

Salons

- Gatherings of writers, thinkers, artists, musicians, etc. to socialize and exchange ideas
- Middle class and nobility often met together



Enlightened Despots

- Monarchs who accepted the ideas of the Enlightenment – absolute rulers who used their power to bring reform and change
- Most Important:
 - Frederick the Great – Prussia
 - Catherine the Great – Russia
 - Joseph II – Hapsburg Empire

Frederick the Great (Prussia)

- Admired Voltaire
- Built a Prussian academy of science
- Public works and agricultural improvements
- Tolerated different religions
- Made government more efficient
- Still very ruthless and powerful, though



Catherine the Great (Russia)

- Shared ideas with philosophers
- Made some reforms to law and government
 - Granted nobles some rights
 - Critical against the idea of serfdom (but she didn't abolish it)
- Refused to give up power



Joseph II (Hapsburg)

- Tolerated Protestants and Jews
- Ended censorship
- Wanted to bring Catholic Church under royal control
- Built hospitals
- Abolished serfdom (but was returned after his death)



Artistic, Musical, & Writing Styles

● ART

- Classical styles (Greek and Roman)
- Baroque – grand, complex, ornate styles
- Rococo – elegant, less complicated, more personal styles

● MUSIC

- Ballet and Opera became popular
- Musicians Bach, Handel, and Mozart

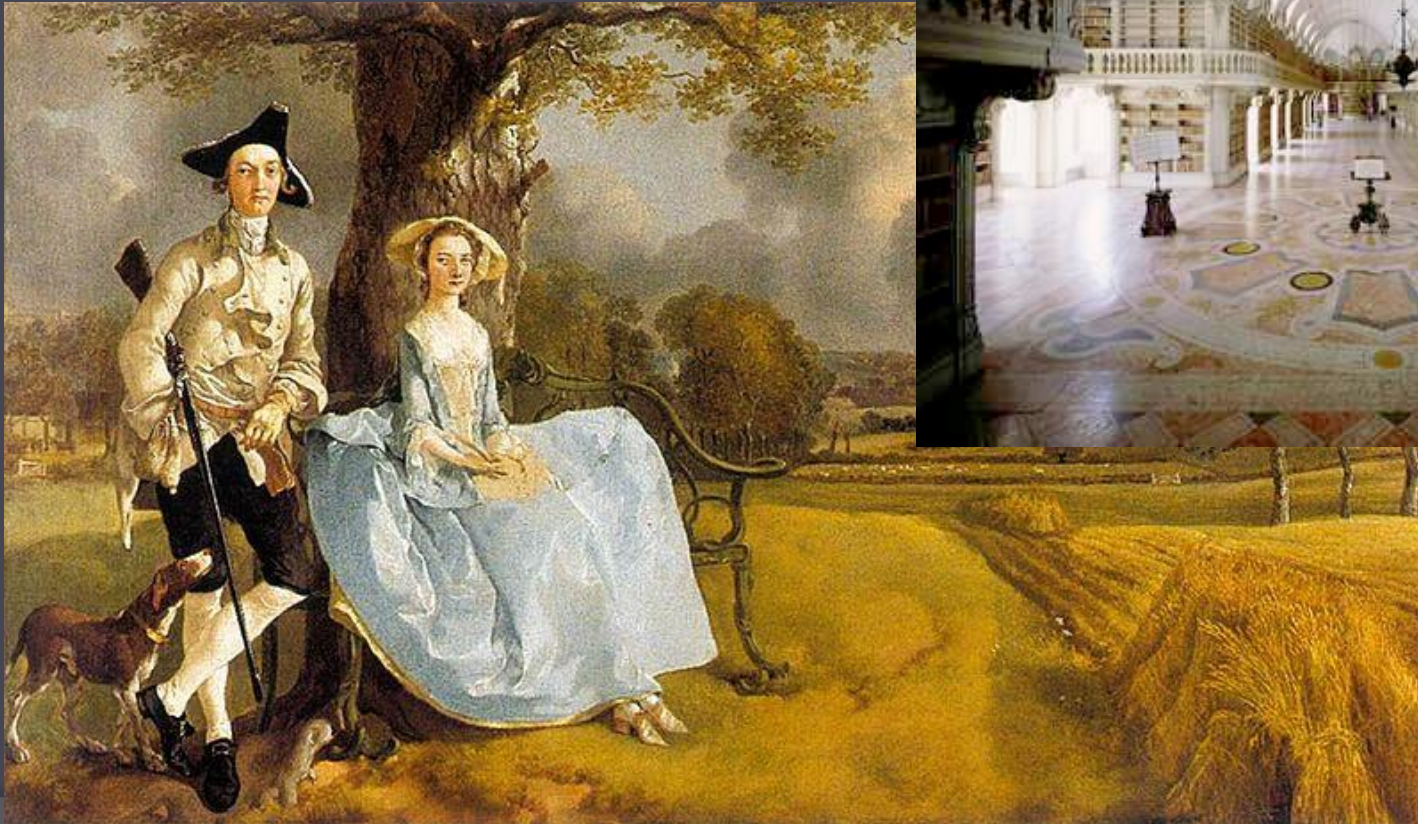
● WRITING

- Fiction novels were more common

Baroque Art & Architecture



Rococo Art & Architecture



Lives of the Peasants

Peasants in Western Europe	Peasants in Eastern Europe
Villages generally prosperous	Villages less prosperous
Serfdom had disappeared – peasants worked their own land or rented land from the wealthy	Continued serfdom – owed labor services to a lord, could be bought or sold
Peasants had to work for the government certain times fixing roads and bridges, hunting for the nobility, etc	