

LIB 2205ID/ARCH 2205ID Learning Places: Understanding the City

Wednesday Oct. 4th, 2017, Room A543

Special Lecture:

The Brooklyn Bridge, Machine Aesthetic and Early American Modernism



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I. The Brooklyn Bridge and the Machine Aesthetic

Walker Evans (1903–1975), *Brooklyn Bridge, New York*, 6.3/4x4.13/16", gelatin silver print, 1929, printed ca. 1970, The Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Walker Evans (1903–1975), *Brooklyn Bridge, New York*, 1.1/2x2.1/2", gelatin silver print, 1929, printed ca. 1970, The Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Walker Evans (1903–1975), *Brooklyn Bridge, New York*, 8.13/16x5.3/8", gelatin silver print, 1929, The Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Walker Evans (1903–1975) , *Elevated Train Tracks and Street Below, Brooklyn Bridge, New York City*, 1.9/16x2.1/4", gelatin silver print, 1928-30, The Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Characteristics and qualities of Machine Aesthetic as seen in the Brooklyn Bridge:

1. Material: steel, cable, stone, concrete ...
2. Structure: mechanical, modular, premade ...
3. Surface: undecorated, raw, colorless, plain ...
4. Form: angular, regular, geometrical, flat ...
5. Emotion: cold, rational, boring ...



Bernice Abbott (1898-1991), *Brooklyn Bridge, Water and Dock Street, Brooklyn*, gelatin silver print, 18x14.3/8", 1936, Smithsonian American Art Museum.



II. The Brooklyn Bridge as Symbol and Source of Inspiration for Modernist Art in America

John Marin (1870–1953), *Brooklyn Bridge*, watercolor and charcoal on paper, 18.5/8x15.5/8", ca. 1912, The Metropolitan Museum of Art. (Influence on Abstract Expressionism)



Albert Gleizes (1881-1953), *Brooklyn Bridge*, oil and gouache on canvas, 40.1/8x40.1/8", 1915, Guggenheim Museum. (Cubism)



Albert Gleizes (1881-1953), *On Brooklyn Bridge*, oil on canvas, 63.3/4x51", 1917, Guggenheim Museum.



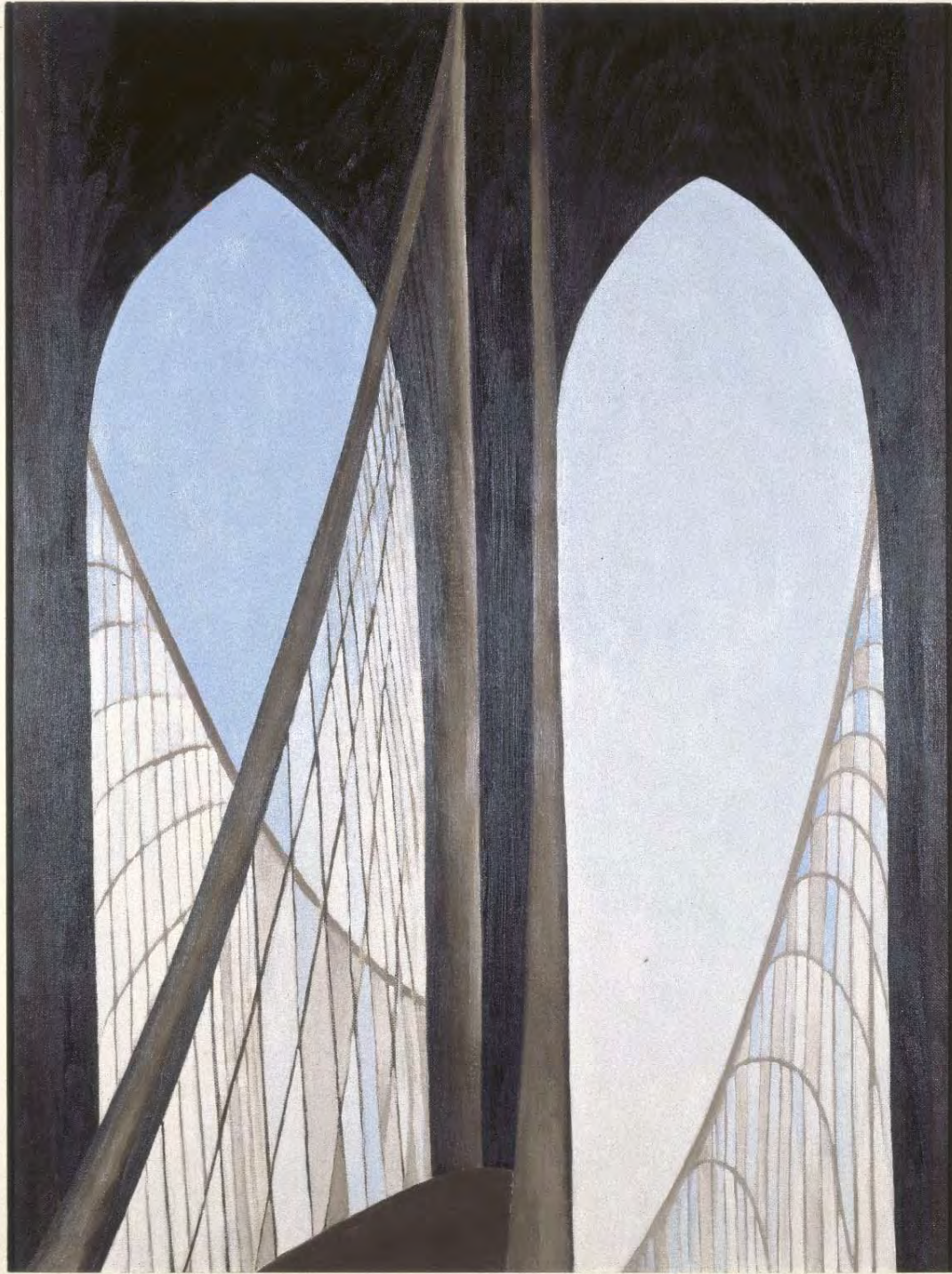
Joseph Stella (1877-1946), *Brooklyn Bridge*, oil on canvas, 215.3 x 194.6 cm, 1919–20, Yale University Art Gallery. (Futurism)



Joseph Stella (1877-1946), *Voice of the City of New York Interpreted*, oil and tempera on canvas, 99.3/4 x 270", 1920-22, Newark Museum.



Joseph Stella (1877-1946), *The Brooklyn Bridge: Variation on an Old Theme*, oil on canvas, 215.3 x 194.6 cm, 1939, Whitney Museum.



Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986), *Brooklyn Bridge*, oil on masonite, 47.15/16x35.7/8", 1949, Brooklyn Museum.



David Hockney (1937-), *The Brooklyn Bridge, Nov. 28th, 1982*,
photographic collage, 42.15/16 x 22.
13/16", 1982, private collection.