

Name: _____

Date: _____

Study Sheet: Museums and the Art Market

For each period, list the types of people or groups for whom art was made:

Ancient Egypt: **Pharaohs**

Ancient Greece and Rome: **Commissioned by state or wealthy individuals**

Early Middle Ages: **The church**

Late Middle Ages: **Newly wealthy merchants and the church**

Renaissance: **Wealthy patrons and the church**

How did the art world change with the establishment of academies, exhibitions, and salons?

There were increased opportunities for artists to learn techniques, show work, and sell work.

In what ways were the exhibitions and salons rigid?

Only works selected to be in the exhibitions and salons could be sold to potential buyers.

What was the nature of these exhibitions and salons?

Presented works of a single artist or a grouping of similar styles.

What art market emerged in reaction to the strict rules of the salons? Who pioneered this market?

Galleries. This market was pioneered by Paul Durand-Ruel. He would buy artwork from a variety of artists and exhibit it in his private galleries in the hopes of selling it to buyers who did not limit themselves to the strict salons.

What are some goals of art museums?

- To educate the public about art
- To make people interested in art
- To provide public access to art
- To create broad collections of art

What do museums provide that smaller galleries and private collections may not offer?

Museums provide comprehensive collections from many regions, time periods, and styles. Museum collections also tend to be permanent and open to the public, while galleries sell artwork and therefore do not have a constant collection.

What are two big issues concerning the art world today? Briefly explain each issue.

Conservation

In order to restore and preserve artwork for future generations, conservators have many techniques to restore works to their original forms and ensure that no harm is done to the art.

But sometimes an artwork is unstable or fragile and cannot be restored without doing more harm than good. For this reason, conservation is sometimes a controversial practice.

Forgery

Forgery is the act of copying someone else's work and passing it off or selling it as one's own. Art forgery has been a problem for centuries.

Many techniques have been developed to detect forgeries, and laws have been established to discourage and punish the practice of forgery of all kinds of art.