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The Power of the Real



Taking advantage of an offer by my friend Peter Roos to tag along on a Keene State College Art Department trip to New York on November 7th was a “no-brainer”. I have done this before, and it is always a convenient and inexpensive opportunity to visit The City! The hardest part of the four hour bus ride from NH was the 5:30 AM starting time. For most, sleep was the solution for the darkest hours of the early morning trip.

The destination on all these trips is always the **Metropolitan Museum of Art** on 5th Avenue at 82nd St., which is a good starting point for any adventure on a day trip to NYC. Characteristically, Peter hands out information to the students on the bus, with highlights of important exhibitions currently on display around Manhattan. For this trip, the **Cubism** show and the **El Greco** paintings at the Metropolitan was his suggestion for his painting students, as well as the Met’s prodigious collections which, of course, are more than anyone could visit in a week.

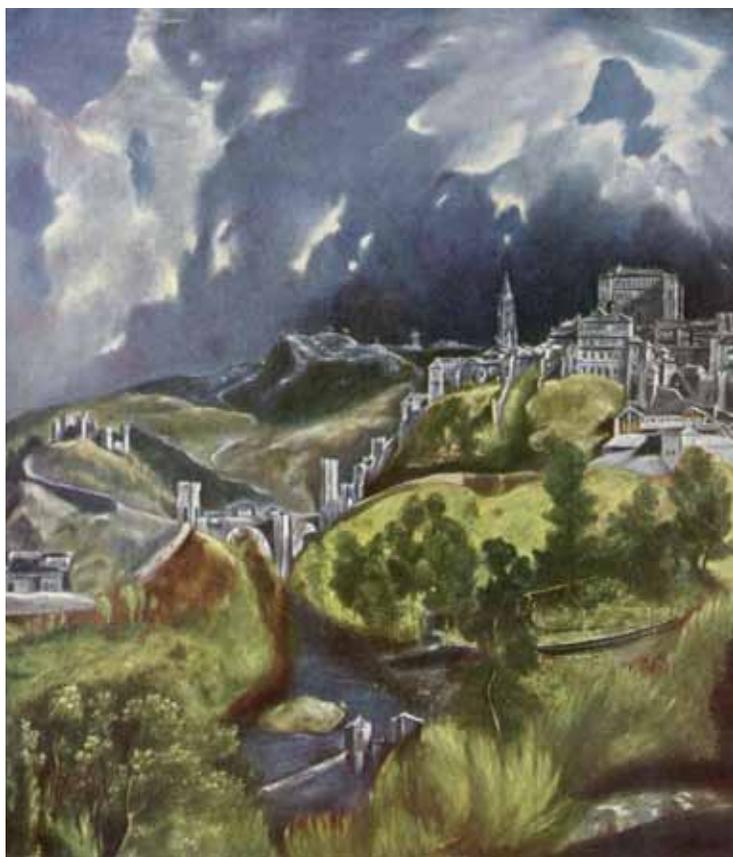
Close to the bus drop-off point, the **Guggenheim Museum** gave it’s space over to **ZERO**, a German conceptual and technology-based movement of the 1950’s; works with movement and lighting features were in abundance. Also close by, the suggestion to visit the **Neue Gallery** for a show of **Portraits by Egon Schiele** intrigued me the most. Meanwhile, in midtown at the **Museum of Modern Art** the big draw was an exhibition of **Henri Matisse’s Paper Cut Outs**; done in his later years which I did not get to see... Lastly, for those willing to cram a trip to Manhattan’s plentiful west side **Chelsea** galleries, there was a plethora of new art to be seen.

The chance to spend time with original works of art by great artists has an effect on you. **The power of the real** (artwork) as opposed to the images of those works in books, or on computers, has so much more to offer the viewer than the reproduction. **THIS IS ALWAYS TRUE...** and is a critical aspect of any artist’s continuing growth, if not inspiration.

Here are a few photos from the trip. By far the most interesting part of the visit, for me, was the Schiele exhibit at the Neue Gallery.

El Greco’s View of Toledo

ZERO Show at the Guggenheim



Egon Schiele portraits and figures



Egon Schiele Self portraits

