

ART & DISEASE





Introduction

- Art is supposed to be beautiful, right?
- Answer – not always
- The classically inspired side is but the Gothic influence allows artists to express themselves and to explore the dark side
- Even artists working within the classical confines have found death and disease to be suitable subject matter



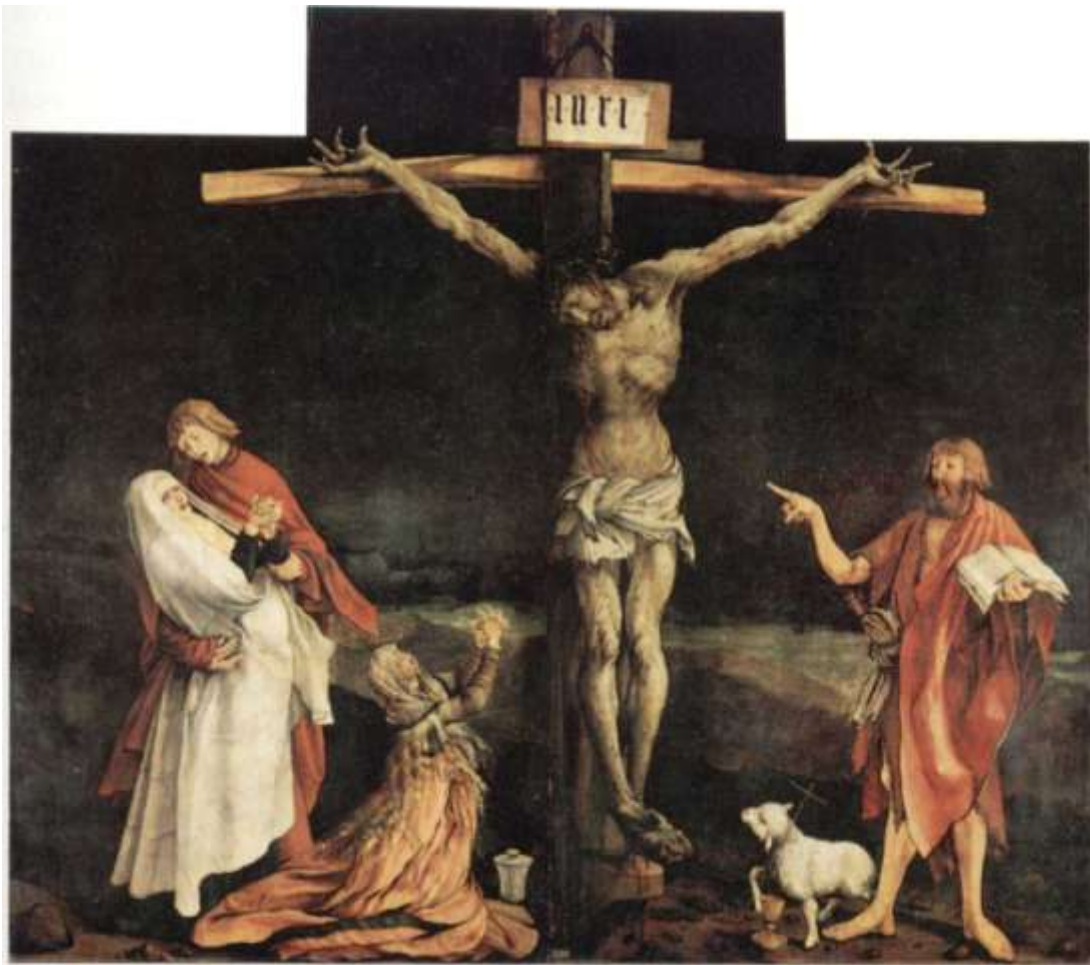
Artists to consider

- Masaccio – St Peter Healing the Sick with his Shadow
- Grunewald – Crucifixion
- Van Brussel – Still Life with Fruit, Flowers and Insects
- Bacon – Painting (1946)

Masaccio – St Peter Healing the Sick with His Shadow



Grunewald - Crucifixion



Jesus
suffering
from
leprosy.

Why?

Van Brussel– Still Life with Fruit, Flowers and Insects



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Bacon – Painting (1946)



Fascinated
by mouth
diseases



Sam Taylor-Wood

- Still Life
- Installation on DVD of fruit decaying
- No image available so you need to go to the Tate Modern and see it
- It's in the Still Life section!



Conclusion

- Be careful not to go down a blood and guts and gore avenue – keep it subtle
- Think about the idea of disease being the opposite to the idealisation and beauty of the classical approach
- We are human – we will decay and die – these artists are reminding us of our mortality
- Think of dirt and its associations with disease as a basis for your final piece presentation