Allegorical Liberty, "Citizen Kings," and Republican Rule

- 1784 David's Oath of the Horatii
- 1789 the actual tennis court oath forming the (revolutionary) constitution, the "First Republic"
- 1791 David's attempt to paint The Oath at the Tennis Court (Sermon au jeu de paume)
- 1792 Danton and Assembly pass decree outlining the emblems on the first Liberty seal (Phrygian cap, pike, fascia, tiller)
- 1790s-1800-masonic "logo" for Liberty worked out (rays of light emanating from head)
- 1814 Bourbon restoration (Napoleon abdicates, Louis XVIII and then Charles X in power)

Hersent's <u>Louis XVI distributing alms</u>, 1817
Vemet's <u>Defense of Paris 1814</u>, 1820

- 1830 "Glorious" 3-day revolution ushers in Duke d'Orleans, Louis-Phillippe, the "citizen-king"
 press freedom established, Charles Philipon founds <u>La Caricature</u> 1830 (through 1835), imprisoned 1832, founds <u>Le Charivari</u> from prison, 1832 (through 1893)
 Delacroix's <u>Liberty Leading the People</u>, 1832
- 1830s-40s Daumier's devastating caricatures, various curtailments of press, censors - 1835, anti-caricature censorship laws
- 1847 Vernet's Louis Phillippe (and his 5 sons)
- 1848 "February Revolution" in France, Louis-Phillippe deposed, the "Second Republic" until coup by Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte (Napoleon III) "elected" to head Second Empire
 - Daumier's <u>The Uprising</u>; <u>La Republique</u> (as "Caritas" charity figure)
 - Second Liberty seal (in place of Phrygian cap, enlightenment star)
- 1851 Napoleon III declares himself emperor
- 1870 Franco-Prussian war (19 July 1870 10 May 1871); Germany unified under Wilhelm, Napoleon III loses power and the Empire ends
- 1871 "Commune" insurrection, the toppling of the Vendome Column [Courbet], and constitutional government-the "Third Republic"
- 1886 exportable emblem: Bertoldi's Liberty Enlightening the People

MIT 4.602, Modern Art and Mass Culture (HASS-D)

POST-REVOLUTIONARY FRANCE:

Lecture 4: Caricature and the safehouse of "high" art

The newspaper instructs us in the apparently irreducible fragmentation of daily experience, and by its normalization prepares us to live it.

R. Terdiman, "Newspaper Culture." in Discourse/Counter Discourse, 1985, p. 125.

- Q: does art turn political questions into social ones? ("who will lead us" becomes "what *kind* of people will lead us?" *Socialism* is born)
- I. Reprise: allegorical Liberty versus Republican rule-the power of imagery
 - A. 1785 through Revolution
 - 1. how David preceded the revolution and mapped its embodied visual forms
 - 2. 1792 seal: Liberty is female, neo-classical, a goddess of the people
 - B. Images of the Bourbon Restoration (return to monarchy): 1814-1830
 - C. Glorious Revolution / "Orleans Restoration:"1830-1848, from Delacroix's *Liberty* to Daumier's *Republique;* ("freedom" versus *l'état*)
 - 1. *l'état*: The State is seen by conservatives as embodied by a royal leader (Horace Vernet paintings of Louis-Philippe,1820s-1840s)
 - 2. Liberty is embodied as Republic: allegorized as seated queen or judge, no longer military/royal but nurturant/enlightening (second Liberty seal 1848)

II. Newspaper Culture/ Popular Culture/ Visual Culture- a brief span

A. Before the September press laws of 1835, a free press for the first time.

Prospectus for *La Caricature*, 1830: "*Caricature has become a power*;" "*Engravings or lithographed images act immediately upon the imagination of the people...*"

1. The visual seen as an incitement, not a "representation"

- 3. Daumier's "types:" the banker, the drunkard, the printer, the suffragist
- B. New practices of reading journalism or scanning public images
- C. Delineating post-revolutionary class (middle class rule) through visual culture:
 - 1. information: organizing the mass, educating a voting populace
 - 2. the image of the bourgeois consumer of non-religious imagery
 - 3. new division between Romanticist liberals, and neo-classicist conservatives (between Delacroix and Ingres)

D."Mass" culture emerging at the same time as personalist philosophy-*King of France* vs. *King of the French*

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III. Cities and Revolution

A. Paris, center and periphery

- 1. hotbed of professionalistn, capitalism, liberal writers, anti-clericalism, 4^{th} estate
- 2. Revolutionary peripheries: source of most insurrection was actually the artisan classes and *techniciens* rather than an uprooted mass of rural/urban poor;
- B. Fears of concentration of "masses:" July Monarchy repressions curtails press, rights of association, despite fact that "masses" were not meeting or reading
- C. Birth of the modem state: railroads, banking, industry-striving capitalists "surrounded by a hundred factories" and their underpaid workers (images verso)

Images (selected) for Lecture 4

King of France versus King of the French

Louis Hersent Louis XVI distributing alms, 1817 Horace Vernet <u>The Defense of Paris 1814</u>, 1820 Vernet, <u>The Artist's Studio</u> 1820-21 Vernet <u>Portrait of Louis-Philippe at the Grand Gate</u> (with his 5 sons) 1846-47, exhibited in the 1847 Salon

Charivari!

founder of *Charivari*, Charles Philipon, sketch for <u>La Metamorphose du roi Louis-Philippe en poire</u>, 1831 Honoré Daumier, <u>"headpiece" for *Le Charivari*</u>, 1833. Jean Grandville, <u>Human and Animal Heads</u> ca. 1836 Daumier, <u>The Tailor, The Student, The Drunkard, The Banker</u>, etc. 1834-35 Daumier <u>Les Bas Bleus</u>... (bluestocking suffragists) 1844 Daumier, <u>Third Class Railway Carriage</u>, (two versions) oil on panel, 1865; oil on canvas, 1862 Daumier, <u>rue Transnonain, le 15 Avril 1834</u> from the publication *Association Mensuelle*. Aug/Sep. 1834. Daumier <u>Gargantua</u>, 1831 Daumier <u>Le cauchemar (the nightmare)</u>, 1832 Daumier <u>The Past, Present, and Future</u>, 1834 Daumier, <u>The Legislative "Belly"</u> 1834 Daumier, <u>Les Avocats (The Lawvers)</u>, 1860

Newspaper Culture

La Caricature (Nov. 1830-1835) Le Charivari (Philipon founds from prison in late 1832, runs 'til 93) <u>Association Mensuelle</u> (1833? -1834) <u>Figaro</u> (images of text only from 1875) <u>Le Journal</u> (images of increasing visuality from 1912)

useful websites:

www.daumier.org www.greatcaricatures.com 4.602 Modern Art and Mass Culture Spring 2012

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