



Speaker: The war had not been as devastating for America, who entered into the war at the very end and did not suffer the devastating consequences of destruction, in both life and property. Therefore, American modernism was quite different than the European movement. One of the most influential artists in American history, whose lifelong passion for painting spans a good deal of the 20th century is Georgia O'Keeffe. When she was just a young woman, she sent some watercolors and drawings to influential gallery owner and photographer, Alfred Stieglitz. He immediately exhibited them.

Later on, they married. Georgia O'Keeffe is known for her representations of flowers and animal bones. In her early works, her flowers are these large scale abstractions of flowers. Her shading exquisitely blends the colors together, creating a very "Feel me" and sensuous form. Many have proclaimed that her works are extremely sexual and that her flowers are a symbolic representation of human female genitalia. This, she has strongly denied and, like Freud, has said, "Sometimes, a cigar is just a cigar." With O'Keeffe, a flower is just a flower.

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