

Gustav Klimt

July 14, 1862 – February 6, 1918

Gustav Klimt was born in Baumgarten, a small village near Vienna, in 1862. His mother and father were both artistic. His father was a gold engraver and both Gustav's brothers also had artistic talent. His younger brother Ernst was a historical painter.

Klimt, his younger brother Ernst, and their friend Franz Matsch created a collaborative group they named Company of Artists that did many commissions of art work beginning in 1877. Klimt earned fame for his murals and ceiling paintings. He even received the Golden Order of Merit in 1888!

In 1892, both Ernst and Klimt's father died. This tragic turn of his life is what led him to alter his painting style so drastically. During the same time, Klimt met his life partner Emilie Louise Flöge, a fashion designer.

Klimt was a founding member of the Vienna Secession group, a group of artists with styles that were considered too different for the more classic art galleries. He remained a member until 1908. Klimt began his "Gold Phase" which contain some of his most famous works such as "The Kiss".

Klimt was very devoted to his art and avoided the cafe crowds and other artists. He spent most of his later years at home with his art and his family. He never created a self-portrait and gave this as the reason -

"I have never painted a self-portrait. I am less interested in myself as a subject for a painting than I am in other people, above all women... There is nothing special about me. I am a painter who paints day after day from morning to night... Who ever wants to know something about me... ought to look carefully at my pictures."

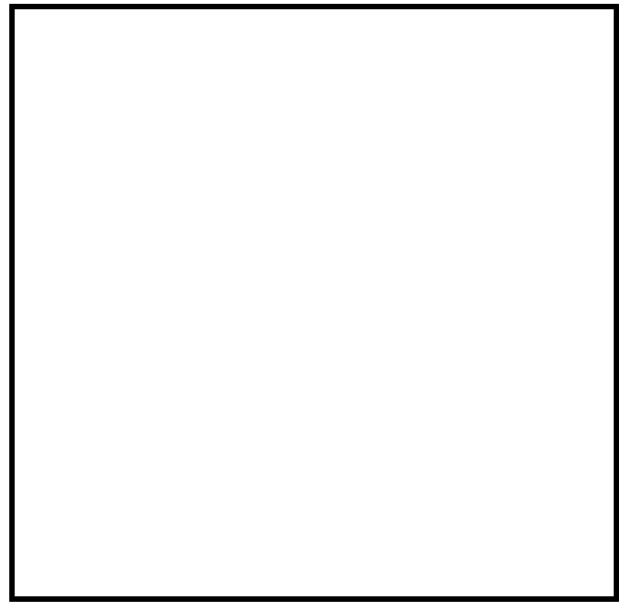
Artist Study

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

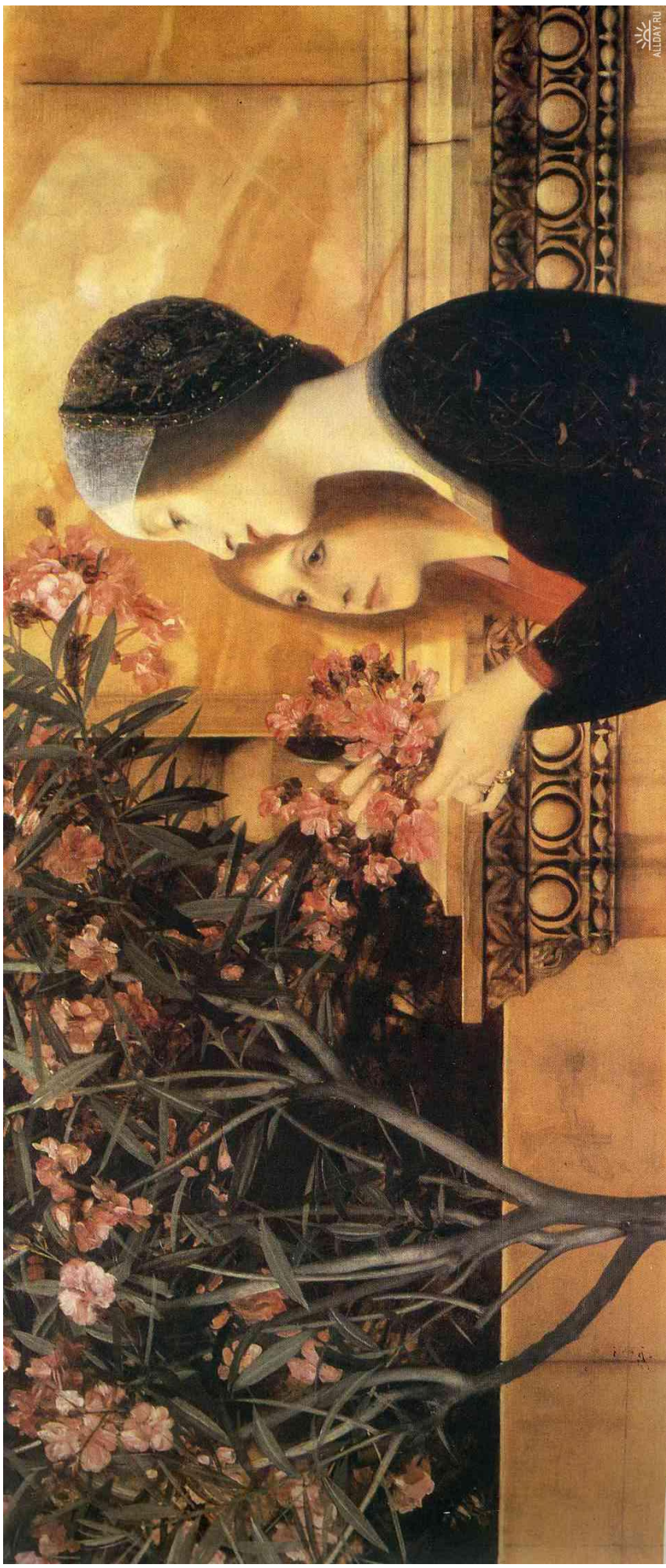
Artist Fun Facts: _____



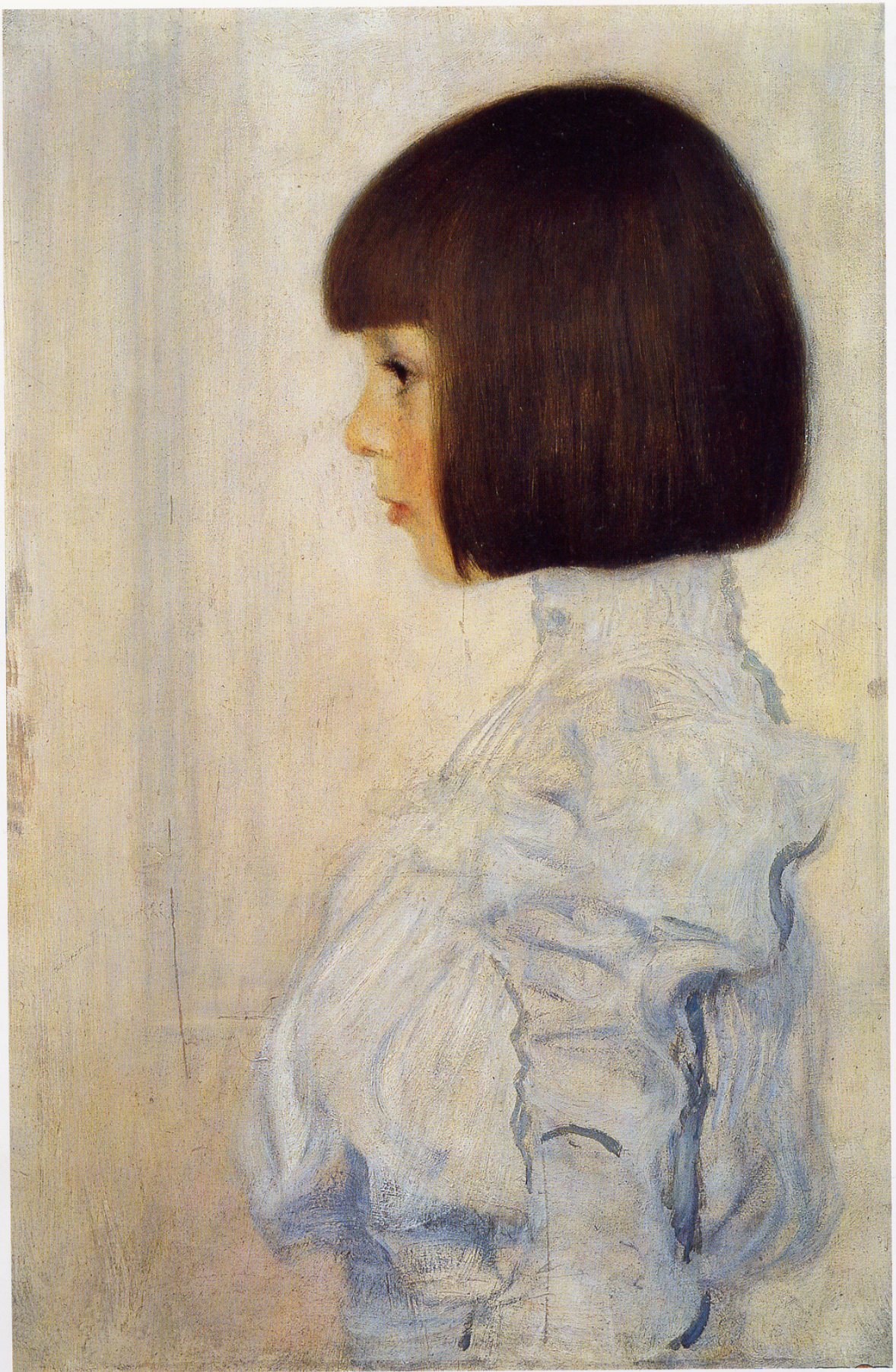
Art Mediums Used: _____

Famous Artworks: _____

Further Study:



Two Girls With An Oleander, 1890



Portrait of Helene Klimt, 1898



Schubert at the Piano II, 1899



The Kiss, 1908

Picture Study

Title: _____

Date Created: _____

Art Mediums Used: _____

Further Study: _____

Use the box to draw a picture inspired by this artwork.

