This is a chapter in piero scaruffi’s “A Visual History of the Visual Arts”: http://www.scaruffi.com/art/history
The Modernist Age

• Art in the USA
  – Alfred Stieglitz’s art gallery 291 (1906)
  – The “Armory Show” (1913) publicizes the European avantgarde
  – Synchromism (1913) is the first movement of abstract painting
  – Gallery of Living Art at NYU (1927) is exclusively devoted to contemporary art
  – Museum of Modern Art (1929)
  – Exodus of talents from Germany after Nazism disbands the Bauhaus (1933)
  – Surrealists relocate to New York after Nazi occupation of Paris (1941)
The Modernist Age

• Art in the USA
  - European teachers of the 1930s: Hans Hofmann (UC Berkeley, New York, Provincetown), Josef Albers (Black Mountain College in North Carolina), Moholy-Nagy (Chicago), etc
The Modernist Age

- Georgia O’Keeffe (1887, USA)
  - “An artist that has no progenitors” (Hal Foster)
  - Influence of photography
  - Magnificence of nature
  - Musical quality

- “The Sheldon with Sunspots” (1926)
- “New York Street with Moon” (1925)
- “Black Iris III” (1926)
The Modernist Age

• Georgia O’Keeffe

“Blue Morning Glories II” (1935)

“The Lawrence Tree” (1929)
The Modernist Age

• Mark Tobey (1890, USA)
  – Bahai religion, Zen Buddhism, Chinese painting
  contrasting urban life

“Boogie” (1936)

“Pattern of Conflict” (1944)

“World Egg” (1944)
The Modernist Age

• Precisionism
  – Futurism + Cubism + monumental celebration of the city (“cubist realism”)
  – Painting of industrial architecture (factories, bridges, etc)
  – Mass production as a national epic
  – “Spiritual control over the machine” (Paul Strand)
  – Similar to New Objectivity, opposite to Constructivism
  – Classicizing the machine
The Victorian Age

- Precisionism
  - Joseph Stella (1877, USA)

“The Voice of the City of New York Interpreted” (1922)
The Modernist Age

- Precisionism
  - Charles Sheeler (1883)
    - “American Landscape” (1930)
    - “Classic Landscape” (1931)
The Modernist Age

• Realism in the USA
  – Edward Hopper (1882)

“Automat” (1927)

“Chop Suey” (1929)
The Modernist Age

• Realism in the USA
  – Edward Hopper (1882)

“Nighthawks” (1942)
The Modernist Age

- Realism in the USA
  - Grant Wood (1891)

“American Gothic” (1930)

"Parson Weems' Fable" (1939)
The Modernist Age

• Realism in the USA
  – Isabel Bishop (1902)

“Tidying Up” (1941)
The Modernist Age

- Realism in the USA
  - Alice Neel (1900)

- "Dominican Boys on 108th Street" (1955)
- "Two Girls in Spanish Harlem" (1941)
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