

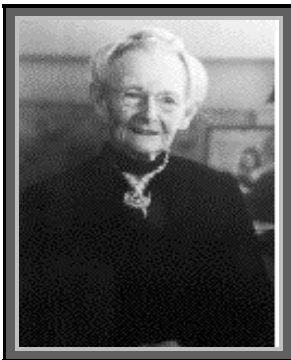
# “Democracy and Art”

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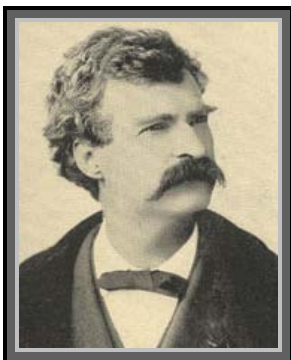
**Spring 2003**

**Wednesdays 6:00 - 8:45 p.m., Bauer 33**

**Professor Bayles**



Through a wide range of readings, films, and other media, “Democracy and Art” will explore the following questions: What is artistic excellence? Is it compatible with democratic ideals of social equality and justice? Are modern media and cultural diversity good or bad for the arts? What is taste? On what basis do we judge a work (a film, novel, song, painting, video game, poem) good or bad? Are some arts more democratic than others? How does American popular culture compare with the ideologically-based “people’s art” of 20<sup>th</sup>-century totalitarian regimes? Is there such a thing as a “democratic aesthetic”?



*Counts for credits in  
Government, History, & Literature.*

