

Discovering Art History

FOURTH EDITION By Gerald F. Brommer

Discovering Art History is an in-depth, comprehensive approach to art. The program includes an extensive survey of Western art, studies of non-Western art, and an introduction to art appreciation. Engaging studio activities throughout the text are directly connected to chapter content. This outstanding art history program will show students how the visual arts serve to shape and reflect ideas, issues, and themes from the time of the first cave paintings to the twenty-first century.

Features

- Vibrant fine art examples.
- In-depth profiles of artists, artistic periods, and movements.
- Useful maps, timelines, and diagrams.
- Student profiles for peer comparison of studio exercises.
- Visual resources with point-of-use correlations.
- Two studio activities in each chapter.
- Multicultural and interdisciplinary connections.
- Hundreds of additional inquiry and research-related exercises.
- Contextual information to encourage discussion and understanding.
- Higher-order thinking skills that promote critical thinking.



For more information, visit [DavisArt.com/ArtHistory](https://www.davisart.com/arthistory).

Introduce

During the last quarter of the nineteenth century, Impressionism revolutionized the Western European art world. For approximately fifteen glorious years, Impressionists created spontaneous, light-filled compositions that instantaneously caught the pleasures of middle-class life. The Post-Impressionists soon followed, raising more traditional concerns for design and composition. At the same time, various artists outside of France began to paint bolder, more emotionally wrought scenes, paving the way for the later Expressionist movement.

Lessons at a Glance

13.1 Impressionism Impressionism galvanized the Western European art world for fifteen brief but splendid years. The artists' short strokes of brilliant color captured fleeting moments of comfortable living. Although many contemporary critics derided Impressionism's portrayal of a scene's transitory qualities rather than its accurate description, the style's influence reverberated throughout Europe and Russia, and even across the ocean to the United States.

13.2 Post-Impressionism Because Post-Impressionist artists were dissatisfied with Impressionism's casual compositions, they reintroduced form and structure into paintings that sometimes stressed vehement emotions. Post-Impressionism was not an organized and cohesive movement but rather one that encompassed numerous artists who shared common goals. 13.3 Turn-of-the-Century Expressionism While France remained a dominant force in Western art, artists from other European countries began to reflect a pessimistic view about contemporary urban society, eventually paving the way for the later Expressionist movement.

13 Impressionism and Post-Impressionism

A Quick Look

In the second half of the 1800s, a tremendous change in art occurred in France. A whole new style of painting developed, called Impressionism. This new style revolutionized painting all over Europe. Since then, it has become one of the most popular and beloved eras in the history of Western art. Impressionists were interested in color and developed a fascination with the effect of light on color. Their goal was to create a spontaneous rendering, a quick, light-filled, colored impression of what was in front of them.

After about fifteen years, some artists wanted more than these quick impressions. The Post-Impressionists, as they were called, were still interested in light and color but also wanted to incorporate more traditional values of design and composition into their work. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, Paris continued to be the art center of the world. Artists in other countries were also producing excellent work, often different from Parisian styles. These artists frequently focused on the bleak conditions they saw around them. They were at the beginning of the Expressionist movement.

A greater fluidity between styles had started to develop. Artists were becoming more individualistic and styles were beginning to evolve from one to the next more and more rapidly.

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Objectives

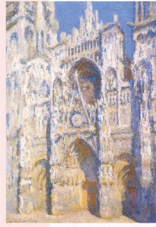
Students should be able to:

Locate the heart of the avant-garde art world in France during the last quarter of the nineteenth century to the early twentieth century.

Understand how the Impressionists used light and color to describe pleasant, transitory scenes of middle-class life.

Learn how the Post-Impressionists introduced composition and design to Impressionist color and light.

Comprehend how artists used personal styles to convey often disquieting emotions and content, laying the foundation for the Expressionist movement.



This Impressionist painter wanted to show viewers how light affected a scene. He also captured the way steam, rain, and light, all affected how things looked. (Turner, 1844, 104.13.10)



Like the Impressionists, Post-Impressionists used color to convey emotions. Van Gogh's use of dark colors and strong lines in this painting shows how he used color to convey a sense of bleakness and despair. (Van Gogh, 1885, 104.13.11)

Timeline of art history from 1800 to 1914, including events like the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and the Impressionist movement.



This Impressionist painter wanted to show viewers how light affected a scene. He also captured the way steam, rain, and light, all affected how things looked. (Turner, 1844, 104.13.10)



Most Impressionist and Post-Impressionist artists were based along the coast of France. (Turner, 1844, 104.13.10)



This Post-Impressionist wanted to convey a sense of bleakness and despair. He used dark colors and strong lines to convey a sense of bleakness and despair. (Van Gogh, 1885, 104.13.11)

Map

Ask in which country the Western European painting styles of the late nineteenth century thrived. Had the art center shifted from the previous era? After students review the map in Chapter 12, have them consider how radical Impression and Post-Impressionism must have looked in Paris, as compared to the more realistic Neoclassic and Romantic art of the earlier age.

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Reteach

Instruct students to write an article as though they were art critics in the late nineteenth century. Have students compare Monet's *Rosain Cathedral: The Portal (in Sun)* (Fig. 13-4) to Rosa Bonheur's *The Horse Fair* (Fig. 12-31). Remind them that they are writing in the late 1880s and have never seen anything remotely like Monet's work.

What are the major differences in the way the two artists have dealt with the composition, color and subject matter? Which painting do they believe more effectively communicates underlying sensations?

Do they prefer the older Realist tradition or the new Impressionist style?

Share with the class that Impressionist artists received little public praise during their lives. Have students conjecture why our appreciation of Impressionism has altered over the years.

Teacher Edition, Chapter 13: Impressionism and Post-Impressionism.

ANCILLARIES

Included with purchase of 30 print Student Books

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Teacher Resource Package (USB drive)
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Teacher Resources (USB drive)

(included with purchase of 30 print Student Books)

Features include customizable assessment tools. Reproducible resources include review questions and chapter tests, self-evaluation tools, regional maps, and professional articles.

ADDITIONAL ANCILLARIES

Digital Fine Art Images

Extend the fine art in each lesson with images from around the globe and across time. With your Davis Art Images Subscription, you can view and download images that have been carefully correlated to every lesson.

History through Art Timeline & Teacher Guide

This timeline (three panels, 60 x 12" each) visually links historical events with works of art. The Teacher Guide explores the historical and cultural clues in each work of art and includes inquiry-based exercises, keywords, studio activities, and reproducible pages for students.

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