

IMPRESSIONISM...

The *other* French Revolution

New advancements that contributed to Impressionism...



Impressionism

- attempt to avoid the realistic depiction of photographs and capture the emotional spontaneity
 - Primarily done through bright colors and broad, thick brushstrokes
 - Favored lighting over detail, looking for the unfinished look
 - Spontaneous creativity unbound by social conventions
- Started by a group of artists whose work was rejected by The Salon (*the annual government-sponsored art exhibition in Paris*)
- first Impressionist exhibit was in Paris in 1874



The Salon style of academic painting

- Painted like the Old Masters
 - Primarily painted historical scenes or portraits
 - Portrayed the wealthy aristocrats
 - Were staged sittings
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- William Adolphe Bouguereau, "The Rest" (1879)

Impressionism

- How the Impressionists differed?
 - Their work was not staged; spontaneous
 - Painted ordinary people, usually their friends and family
 - Not connected to patrons; painted for themselves
 - Painted nature scenes
 - Not as defined
 - Experimented with new colors and brushstrokes
- How were the Impressionists were viewed?
 - Work was disliked and offensive
 - Considered lazy as it looked like they didn't finish their paintings
 - Too connected to nature, which was considered a boring and uninteresting subject
 - Not real painters as you could still see the brushstrokes





**William Adolphe Bouguereau,
"The Rest" (1879)**



**Pierre Auguste Renoir, "The
Apple Seller" (1890)**

Impressionism

- In 1874 French art critic Louis Leroy coined the term “impressionist” in a satirical review of a private exhibition of paintings by a group called The Anonymous Society of Painters, Sculptors, Engravers, etc.
 - Leroy was prompted to use this term in part by a modest harbor scene, *Impression, Sunrise* (1873) by Monet
 - The term “impressionist” struck Leroy as an appropriate description of the loose, inexact manner of painting



Impressionism

- Group consisted of:
 - Edouard Manet (1832-1883) -- French
 - Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1841-1919) -- French
 - Claude Monet (1840-1926) -- French
 - Edgar Degas (1834-1917) -- French
 - Camille Pissarro (1830-1903) -- French
 - Berthe Morisot (1841-1895) -- French
- The group started to meet in 1866 in cafes throughout Paris
 - Paris at this time was art capital of the world

Edouard Manet (1832-1883)



- Manet firmly believed that only modern life, no matter how ordinary, was an acceptable subject for art
- He also believed that modern life must be depicted directly and truthfully, without sentiment or idealization

Self Portrait

- Manet submitted *The Absinthe Drinker* to The Salon in 1858, which promptly rejected it because its subject matter and style was vulgar
- Absinthe was a wildly popular drink with artists and authors in France at this time
 - Dangerously addictive, producing hallucinations
 - the word comes from the Greek *apsinthion*, which means undrinkable
 - the essential ingredient is a medicinal herb called wormwood
 - Called the cocaine of the late 1800s
 - Became illegal in 1915 because it was thought to be wrecking French society
 - Also banned in America in 1912 because of health concerns





The Funeral



A Bar at the Folies-Bergere



*Portrait of Emile
Zola*



*Claude
Monet
Painting
on His
Boat*



Woman Reading



The Barricade

- Repression of the Parisian rebels of the Paris Commune, by France's national guards in 1871



Basket of Fruit

Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1840-1926)



- “I haven’t any rules or methods.”
- Renoir preferred to paint people rather than landscapes, his favorite subjects were women and children
- intense observation of the outdoor world



- *Country Footpath in the Summer*



Woman with a Parasol and Small Child on a Sunlit Hillside



- *Banks of the Seine at Champrosay*



Banks of the Seine at Asnières



- “The Apple Seller” (1890)

Dance at Bougival



Dance at Bougival

- embodies the Impressionist commitment to painting scenes of everyday modern life
- Showcases Renoir's perennial good humor and love of life
- Renoir makes it so that the audience, like the man in the painting, focus solely on the woman

Claude Monet (1840-1926)





- *Impression, Sunrise*



- ***The White Water Lilies***



Water-Lilies



Meadow with Poplars

Poppy Field





*The Walk.
Lady with
a Parasol*



The Rouen Cathedral

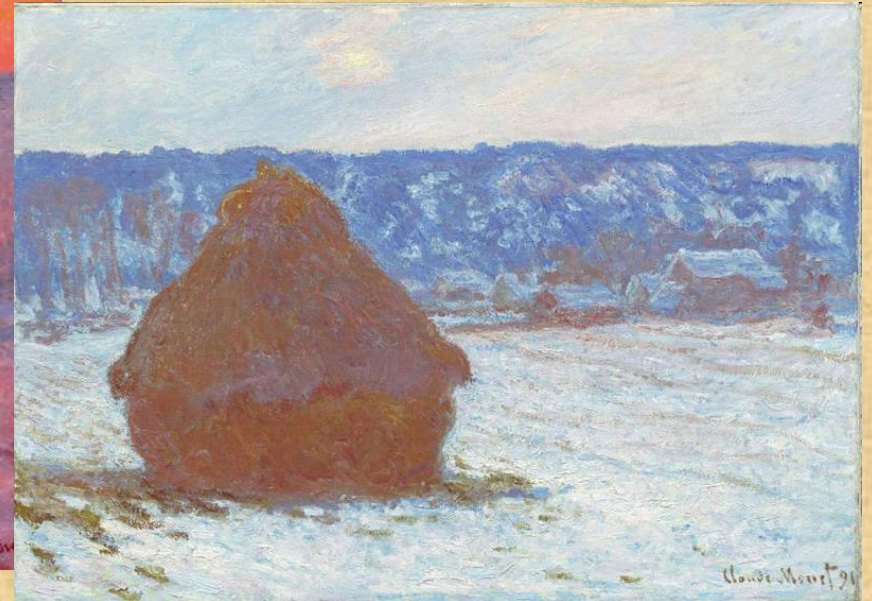
- Monet painted more than 30 canvases of the façade of the Rouen Cathedral in Rouen, France
 - One of his many “time series”
 - Study in different light and seasons
 - The Impressionists were fascinated by the changing effects of light and color at different times of day and in different weather and seasons



Houses of Parliament “time series”



Grainstack “time series”



Waterloo Bridge “time series”



Edgar Degas (1834-1917)



- Like Manet, he was more attracted to city life
- Degas often painted fashionable upper-class entertainments



L'absinthe



- *Ballet Rehearsal on the Set*



The Dance Class

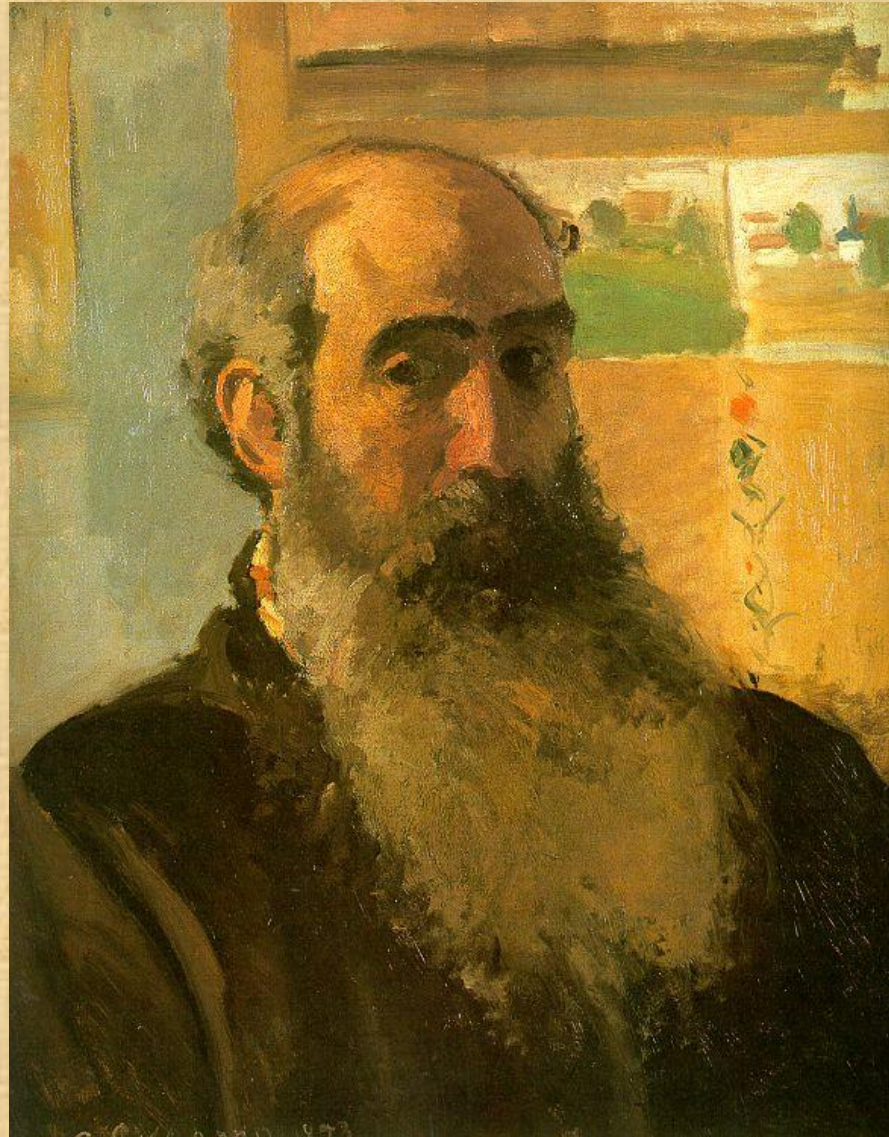
- 24 women – ballerinas and their mothers – wait while a dancer executes an *attitude* for her examination
- Jules Perrot, one of the best known dancers and ballet masters in Europe, conducts the class

The Little 14-Year-Old Dancer

- Bronze sculpture with a cotton skirt and a satin hair ribbon
- The model was a ballet student in the Paris Opera named Marie van Goethem



Camille Pissarro (1830-1903)



- *Self-Portrait*



Two Young Peasant Women

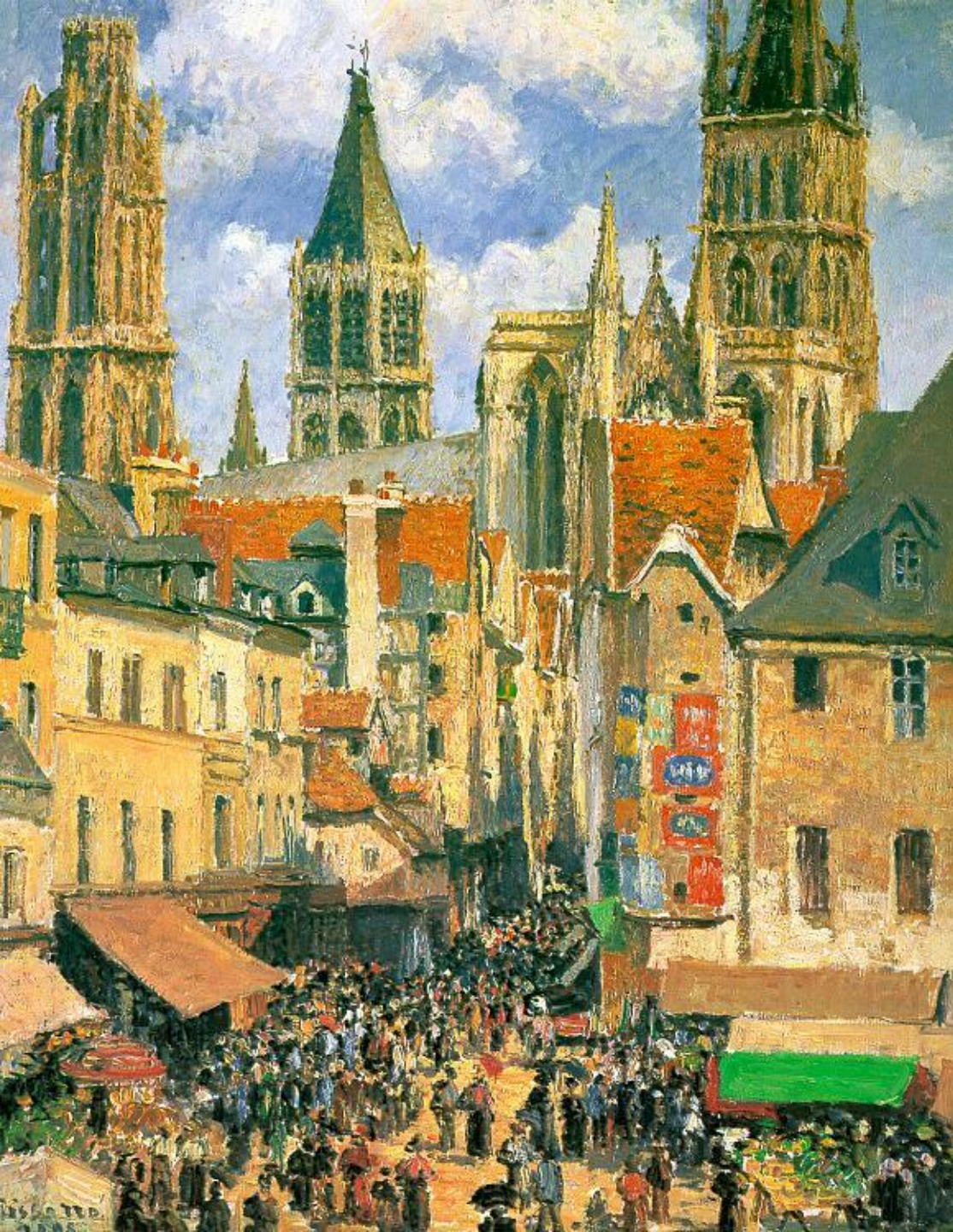
- These young laborers dominate the landscape setting
- An avowed anarchist, Pissarro wanted to preserve the values of agrarian society that were being threatened by the rapid industrialization of France

Haystacks, Morning





- *Boulevard Montmartre*



*The Old Market Town
at Rouen*

Berthe Morisot (1841-1895)

- French painter
- sister-in-law of Manet (*married his brother*)
- In 1864, she exhibited for the first time in Paris Salon
 - in 1874, she joined the Impressionists in the first of their own exhibitions
 - included Cézanne, Degas, Monet, Pissarro, and Renoir
- One of the few female Impressionist painters
- Focused on domestic life
 - Refused to paint nudes



- Édouard Manet, "*Berthe Morisot with a Bouquet of Violets*"

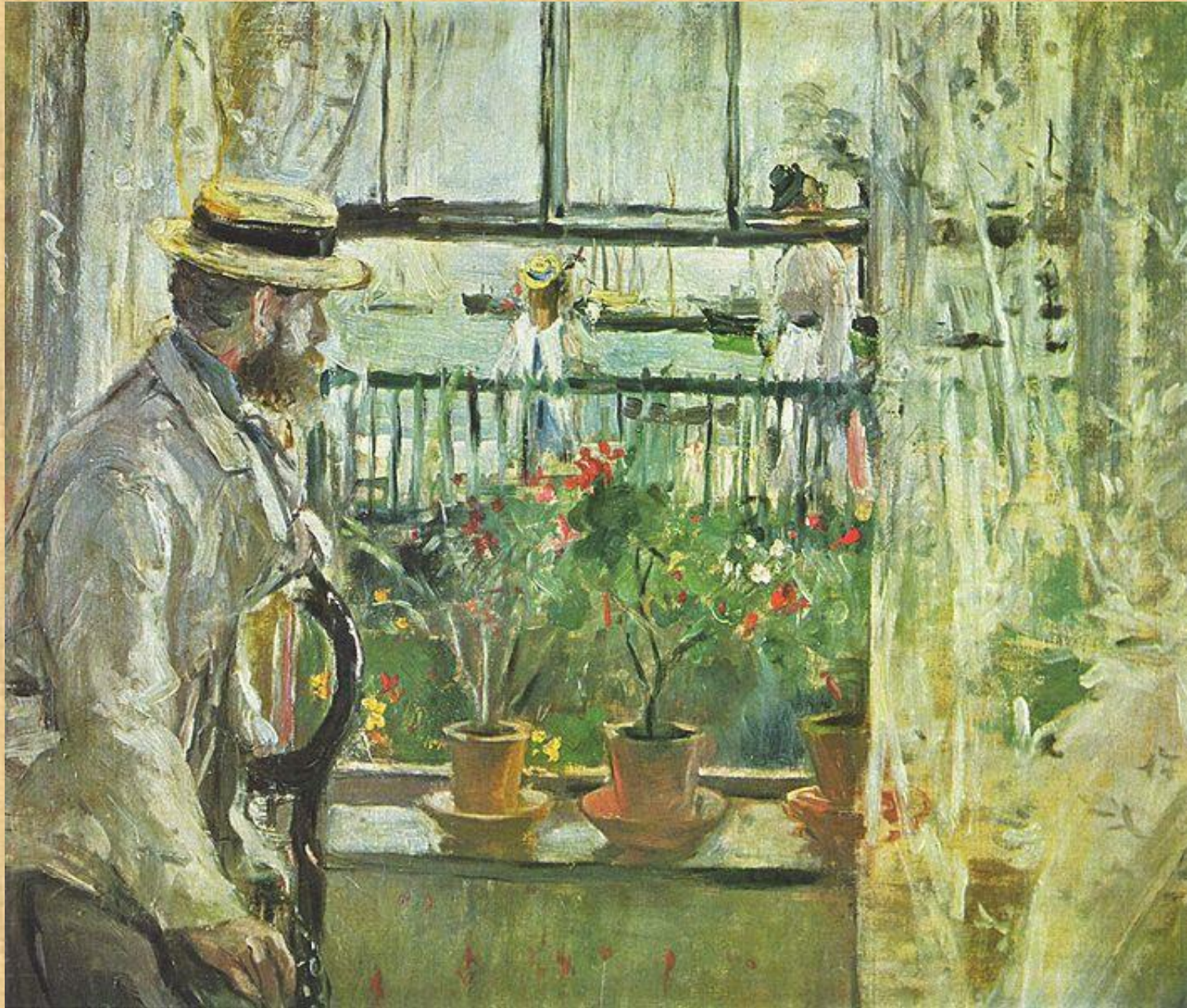
“Hanging Laundry out to Dry”





“On the
Balcony”

“Eugene Manet on the Isle of Wight”



“Summer Day”





“After Lunch”

*sold for \$10.9 million in 2013, the most expensive work ever sold by a female artist at auction

Mary Cassat (1844-1926)

- An American painter who lived most of her adult life in France
 - Moved to Paris in 1866
 - Became friends with Degas and exhibited with the Impressionists
- created images of the social and private lives of women, with particular emphasis on the intimate bonds between mothers and children





Degas'
*"Portrait of
Miss Cassatt"*

“Reine Lefebvre and Margot before a Window”



“The Boating Party”





“Summertime”

Post-Impressionism

- movement in French painting that emphasized the artist's personal response to a subject
- whereas impressionist painters concentrated on the depiction of a subject's immediate appearance, post-impressionists focused on emotional or spiritual meanings of the subject
- use of strong, unnatural colors and exaggeration or slight distortion of forms
- began in 1886

Post-Impressionism

- Includes:
 - Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) -- Dutch
 - Paul Gauguin (1848-1903) -- French
 - Paul Cézanne (1839-1906) – French
 - Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864-1901) – French
 - Georges Seurat (1859-1891) -- French

Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890)



Self-Portrait

Vincent van Gogh

- was a salesman in an art gallery, a French tutor, a theological student, and an evangelist before becoming an artist
- wanted to experience poverty, so he gave away all of his possessions to the poor and lived in extreme poverty
 - lived with prostitutes, drank absinthe, lived in excess
- Had numerous stays in an asylum for madness (most people today think his condition was that of a manic depressive or even bipolar)
- didn't start painting seriously until 1880 – taught himself to draw and paint
- met Paul Cezanne in Paris, who commented, "Sir, you paint like a madman."



- *Self-Portrait*



- *Café Terrace at Night*



- *Starry Night*



- *Sunflowers*



- ***Bedroom at Arles***

- hoped to start a colony of “Impressionists of the South” in Arles in southern France, but only Gauguin was willing to join him in 1888 (lived together for 2 months there)

Vincent van Gogh at Arles

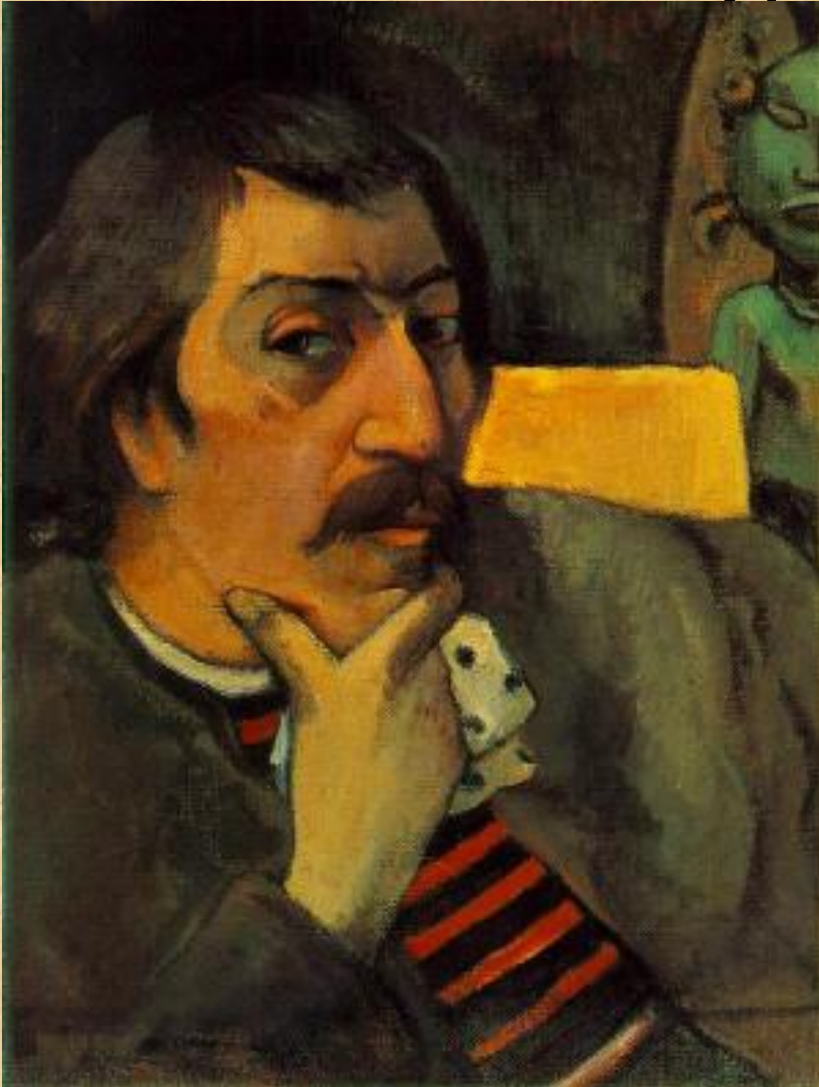
- December 23, 1888
 - after drinking at a café in Arles, van Gogh threw his glass of absinthe at Gauguin, then later attacked Gauguin with a razor blade in the street
 - the same night, he went to a brothel and gave a prostitute part of his ear, saying she should “guard this object carefully”
- Gauguin many times awoke to find van Gogh staring at him in bed
- when Gauguin wanted to leave Arles, van Gogh started waving the razor blade around wildly saying that he’d do damage to himself if he left
- Gauguin left and van Gogh refused to eat because he felt his food was poisoned (admitted to a mental hospital and diagnosed with epilepsy)
 - drank turpentine, ate paint, and drank incessantly
- Eventually spent a year in a mental hospital as a result
- shot himself in the chest on July 27, 1890, and died two days later of infection
- sold only 1 painting during his lifetime





Self-portrait With Bandage and Pipe

Paul Gauguin (1848-1903)



- refused to study painting, preferring instead to learn from other painters
- drew with Pissarro, van Gogh, and Cézanne who became close friends of his

Self Portrait



- *Van Gogh Painting Sunflowers*



*The Yellow
Christ*



- Gauguin turned against “everything that is artificial and conventional” in Europe and sailed to Tahiti

Tahitian Woman with Children



Women of Tahiti

Paul Cézanne (1839-1906)



- *Self-Portrait*



*The House of Dr.
Gachet in Auvers*



Card Players



Still Life



- *Green Apples*

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (*“too-loo la-trek”*) - (1864-1901)

- stayed in the Montmartre section of Paris, the center of the cabaret entertainment and bohemian life that he loved
- Physically disfigured because of breaking both legs and them not healing correctly, he found comfort in brothels around prostitutes





1891 poster *La Goulue*
for the Moulin Rouge
by Lautrec

At the Moulin Rouge



- the Moulin Rouge opened in 1889
- Toulouse-Lautrec is in the background
- English singer May Milton is on the right



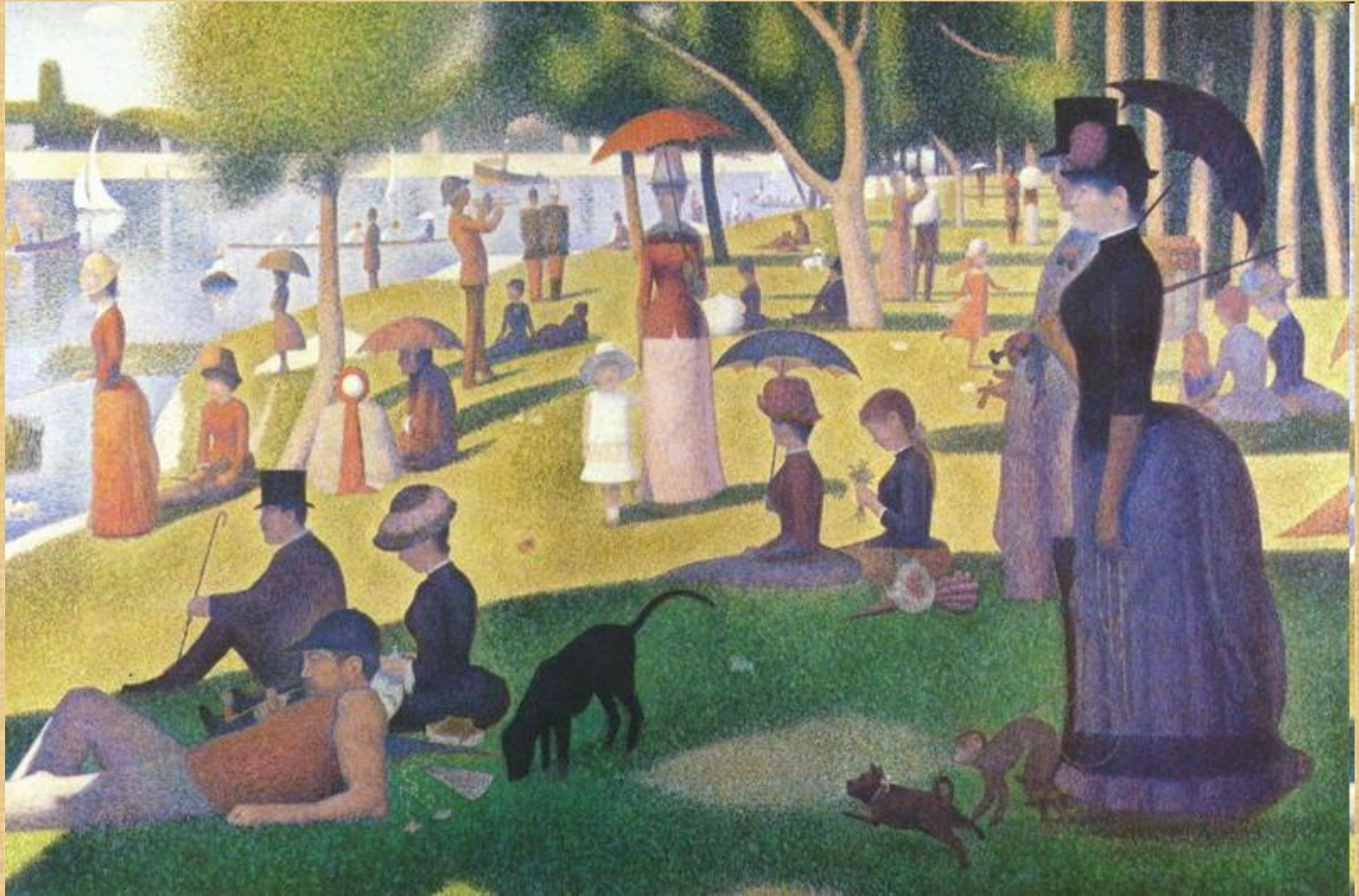
*La Goulue
Arriving at the
Moulin Rouge
with Two
Women*

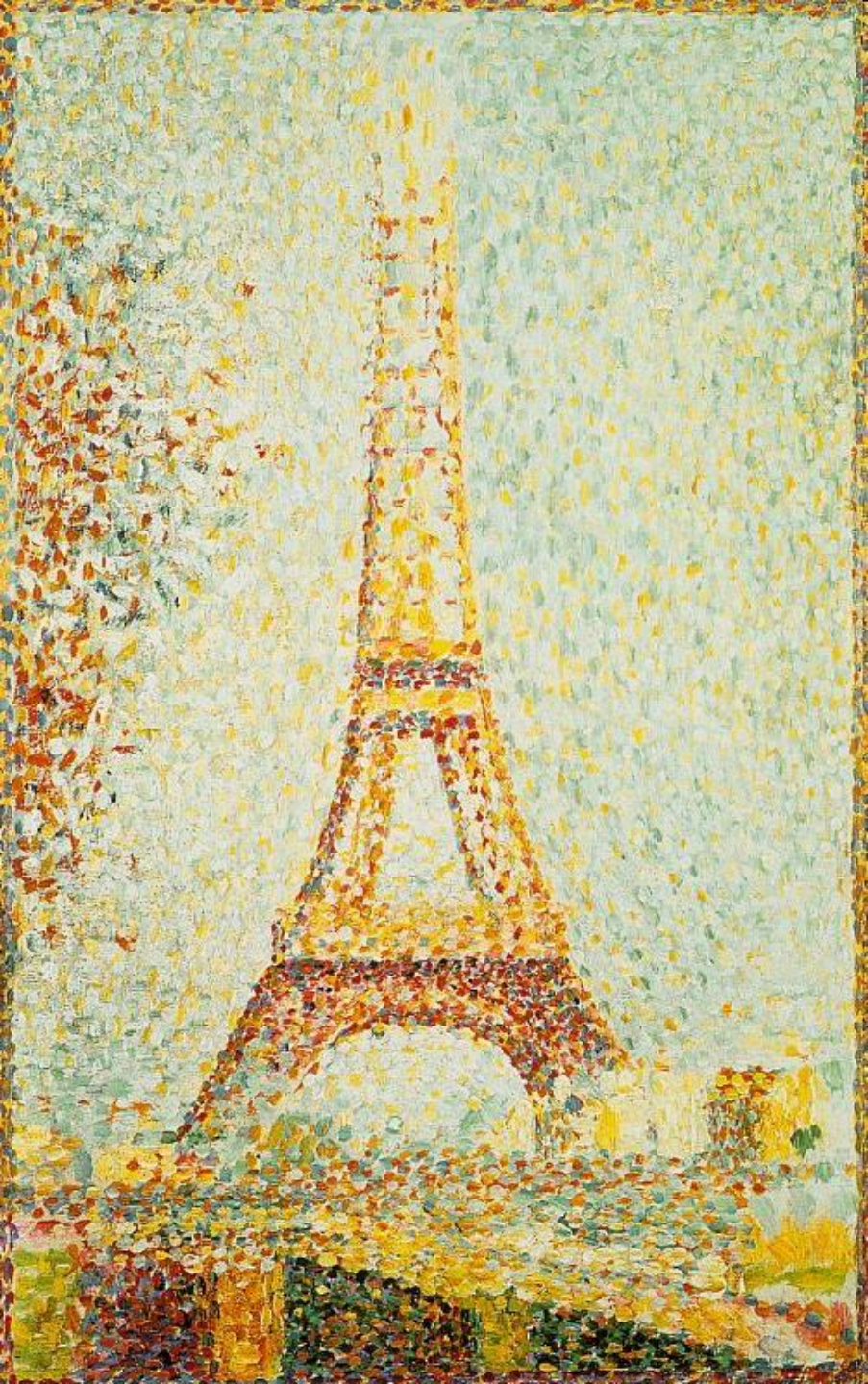
Georges Seurat (1859-1891)

- Worked mainly with Pointillism (small dots used instead of brushstrokes)



A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte





Art Nouveau

Art Nouveau

- French for 'new art'
- climaxed in the years 1892 to 1902
- an international style of art, architecture and design
 - Described as dynamic, undulating, and flowing
- forward-looking artists and designers seceded from the mainstream salon exhibitions to exhibit on their own work in more congenial surroundings
- Replaced by modernism and Art Deco (design movement)

Gustav Klimt (1862-1918)

- Austrian
- one of the most prominent members of the Vienna Art Nouveau (Vienna Secession) movement
- primary subject is the female body





The Tree of Life



The Kiss



Portrait of
Baroness
Elisabeth
Bacchofenecht



Portrait of
Friederike
Maria



- *Adele Bloch-Bauer I*
- sold for \$135 million in 2006

Auguste Rodin

- 1840-1917
- Frenchman who primarily did bronze sculptures
- modeled the human body with realism and celebrated individual character and physicality
 - expressive interpretation of the human body
- "It is [Michelangelo] who has freed me from academic sculpture."





The Gates of Hell

- depicts a scene from "The Inferno", the first section of *The Divine Comedy* by Dante
- Some of the original sculptures were enlarged and became works of art of their own
 - Including *The Thinker*, which characterizes Dante



The Thinker





Bust of Victor Hugo



Monument to Balzac

