

Impressionism



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Impressionism is a style of painting which began in France in the late 19th century and is based on the practice of painting out of doors and spontaneously 'on the spot' rather than in a studio from sketches. Main impressionist subjects were landscapes and scenes of everyday life.



Technique

Impressionist painting characteristics include:

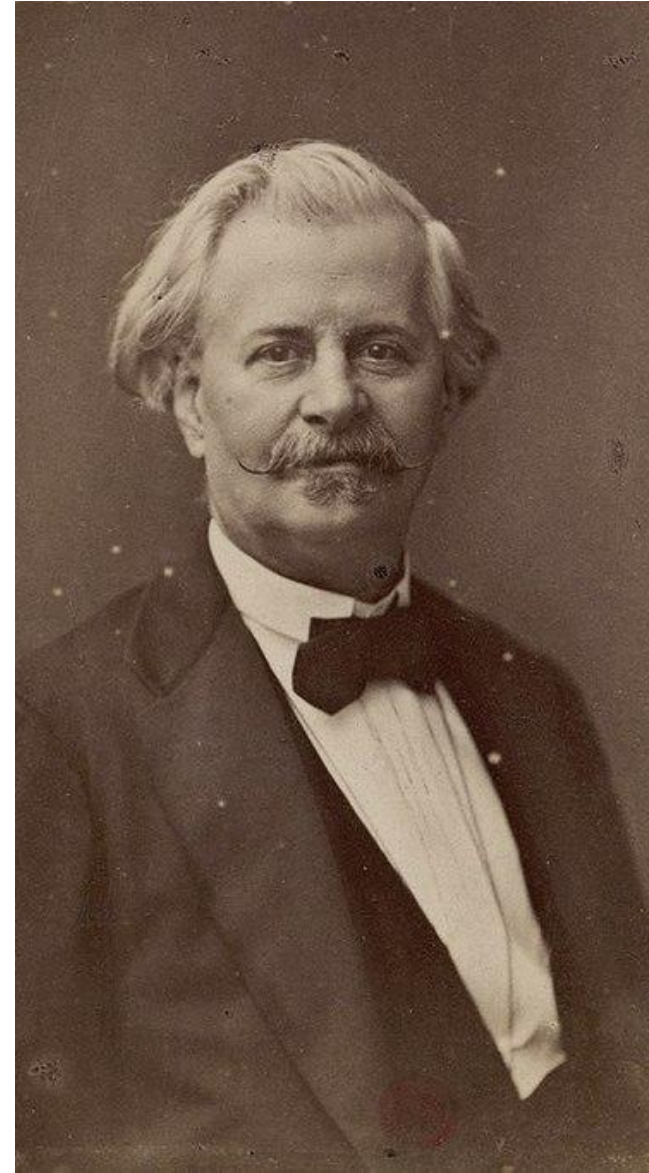
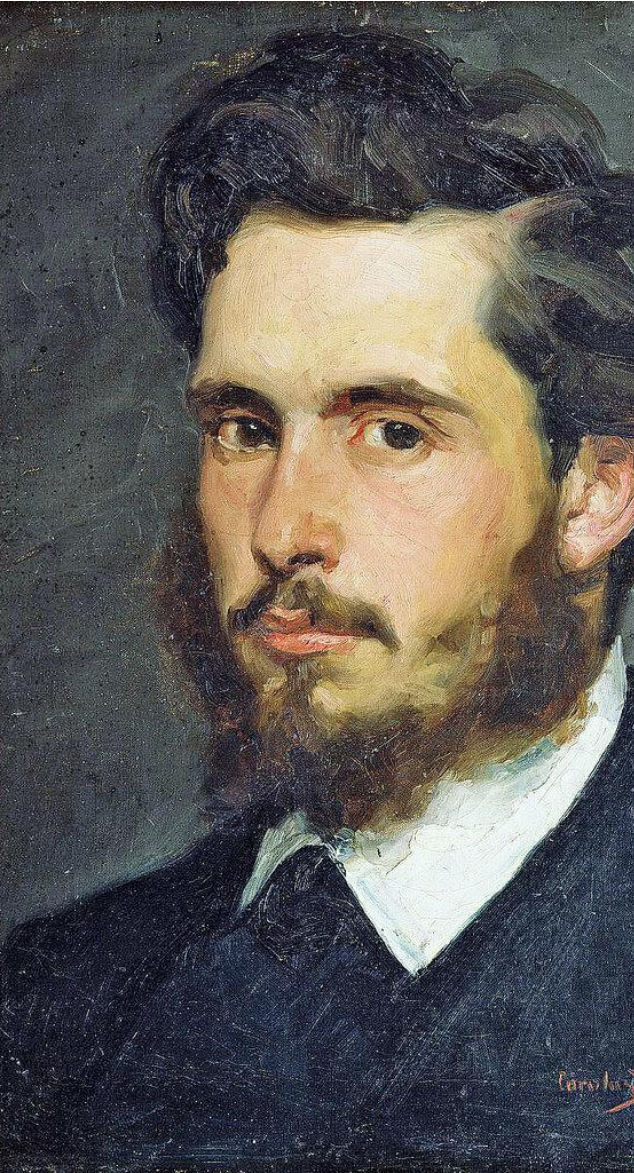
- Relatively small, thin, yet visible brush strokes
- Open composition
- Emphasis on accurate depiction of light in its changing qualities (often accentuating the effects of the passage of time)
- Common, ordinary subject matter
- Inclusion of movement as a crucial element of human perception and experience
- Unusual visual angles



How it started

In 1874, a group of artists called the Anonymous Society of Painters, Sculptors, Printmakers, etc. organized an exhibition in Paris that started the movement called Impressionism. The main man was Claude Monet.

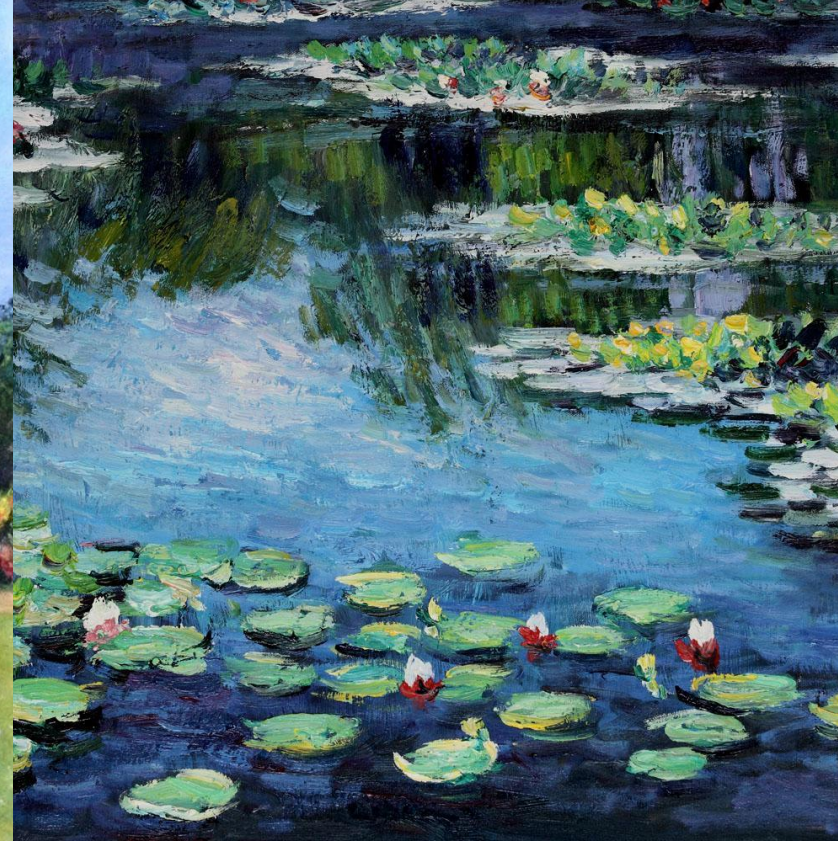
The first impressionistic exhibit had critical reviews from arts critics. Cezanne and Monet received the harshest reviews by art critic Louis Leroy. Le Charivari newspaper published the art critic's review and used the word "Impressionist" from Claude Monet's painting entitled Impression Sunrise (Impression, Soleil Levant) to derisively describe the artists whose works he considered as being no more than unfinished sketches.





Edouard Manet (1832-1883)

Manet was a transitional figure in the Paris art scene of the mid and latter 1800s, grounded as a student in Realism but later embracing Impressionist techniques. Along with "The Luncheon on the Grass," his painting "Olympia" heralded the infancy of modern art. While he felt an affinity to such artists as Morisot and Monet, he maintained his separate identity as an independent painter rather than considering himself a devotee of Impressionism.



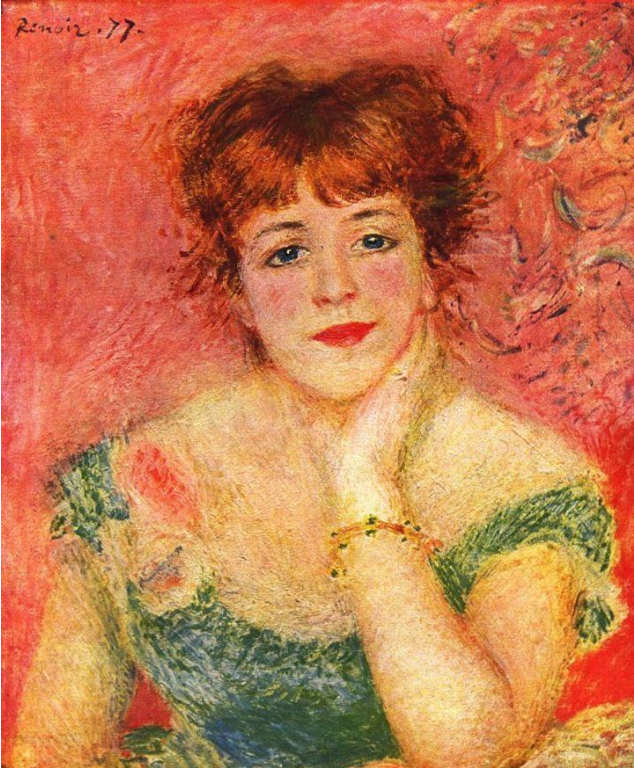
Claude Monet (1840-1926)

The most well-known works of Claude Monet are those he painted later in his life of the lily pond at Giverny. Chief among his contributions is his insight that the amount and quality of light changes the appearance of the same landscape. His early use of decisive brush strokes in such paintings as "Woman with a Parasol," done in 1875, exemplifies the artist's mastery of shadow and light while his vibrant palette shocked the traditionalist art community.



Edgar Degas (1834-1917)

Degas was a classically trained artist who was active in the Anonyme group, helping to organize exhibits and showing his work in all but one of them. However, he considered himself as an independent rather than an Impressionist and differed from his colleagues in preferring to work indoors. Perhaps best known for his paintings of ballet dancers, including "The Dance Class" of the 1870s, Degas was also an accomplished sculptor. His detailed focus on the human figure in the many street scenes he painted set him apart from other masters of the era. He often depicted his subjects in awkward positions that challenged the idealized standards of earlier artists.



Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1841-1919)

Renoir joined his friends in the first Anonyme exhibition with six of his paintings. He entered two of his 1876 works in the third exhibition. These works, "The Swing" and "Dance at Le Moulin de la Gallette" are replete with energy and dappled with light. More of a traditionalist than some of his Impressionist colleagues, Renoir believed that composition and structure were important principles that should not be discarded. He also excelled at painting lively scenes of everyday life, and many of his canvases appeared in the Salon de Paris.

Conclusion

The ethos of Impressionism made an enduring impact on music and literature as well as the visual arts. Musical Impressionism involved creating the impression of atmosphere or mood and became popular in France in the late 19th century. French writers and poets, in turn, represented Impressionism with syntactic variation and fragmentary prose.

Works by Impressionist artists can be found in numerous public institutions around the world, including the Musée Marmottan Monet, Paris; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the National Gallery, London; the Musée d'Orsay, Paris; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; and the State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg.

Useful expressions

1. An enduring impact – прочное влияние
2. The infancy of modern art – зарождение современного искусства
3. Brush strokes – мазки кисти
4. To feel an affinity – почувствовать родство
5. A devotee of Impressionism - приверженец импрессионизма
6. Vibrant palette – яркая палитра
7. Discarded – отвергнутый
8. To work indoors – работать в помещении
9. Awkward positions – неудобные позиции
10. Epitomize – воплощать, олицетворять
11. The effects of natural light – эффекты естественного света
12. Are replete with energy and dappled with light – они полны энергии и испещрены светом
13. Canvas – холст, картина
14. Apparent – очевидный
15. Visual angles – визуальные ракурсы
16. The harshest review – суровый отзыв
17. The group of revelers – группа гуляк
18. The farther shore – дальний берег
19. Indistinct – невнятный, неразличимый

References

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Thanks for
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