Impressionist and Post-Impressionist Painting in France

Dr. Nancy G. Heller

Wednesday, August 30, 2023 to Wednesday, September 27, 2023
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

GENERAL STUDIES:
- Norma Broude, Impressionism: A Feminist Reading (Avalon, 1991)
- John Rewald, The History of Impressionism (Abrams, 1993)
- MaryAnne Stevens, et al, After Impressionism: Inventing Modern Art (National Gallery [London], 2023)

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS (in the order in which they were discussed):
- Beth Archer Brombert, Edouard Manet: Rebel in a Frock Coat (University of Chicago, 1996)
- Marianne Mathieu (ed.), Julie Manet: An Impressionist Heritage (Éditions Hazan, 2022)
- "", "", Berthe Morisot: Shaping Impressionism (Dulwich Picture Gallery, 2023)
- Christoph Heinrich, Claude Monet: Truth of Nature (Prestel, 2019)
- Ross King, Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Waterlilies (Bloomsbury, 2016)
- Daniel Wildenstein, Monet: The Triumph of Impressionism (Taschen, 2022)
- John House and Martha Lucy, Renoir in the Barnes Foundation (Yale, 2012)
- Jean Renoir, et al, Renoir, My Father (NYRB Classics, 2001)
- Jean Sutherland Boggs, Degas (National Gallery of Canada, 1988)
- Nancy Mowll Mathews, Mary Cassatt: A Life (Yale, 1998)
- Dita Amory, Madame Cézanne (Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2014)
- James H. Rubin, Paul Cézanne: A – Z (Hatje Cantz, 2022)

[N.B.: There are also many children’s books about these artists, plus historical novels and volumes focused on everything from Monet’s Giverny gardens to artist-related recipes. In addition, there is a significant bibliography about non-French Impressionists such as the Anglo-American painter John Singer Sargent and the Spaniard Joaquín Sorolla. Other books survey Pennsylvania Impressionists, Canadian Impressionists, etc.]

RELATED TOPICS (books and articles):
Denise Murrell, *Posing Modernity: The Black Model from Manet and Matisse to Today* (Yale, 2018)

OTHER RESOURCES:
There are many documentary films and t.v. movies about these artists. Noteworthy feature films include:
*Cézanne and I*—about the relationship between French writer Émile Zola and the painter (2016, directed by Danièle Thompson);
*Gauguin: Voyage to Tahiti*, starring Vincent Cassel (2017, directed by Édouard Deluc)
*Lust for Life*—a drama about Van Gogh, starring Kirk Douglas (1956, directed by Vincente Minnelli);
*Vincent and Theo*—about the Van Gogh brothers’ relationship, starring Tim Roth as Vincent and Paul Rhys as Theo (1990, directed by Robert Altman); and
*Loving Vincent*—an experimental feature, based on animations of Van Gogh’s paintings (2017, directed by Dorota Kobiela and Hugh Welchman).
There is also a 1986 film of the original Broadway (1983) cast, featuring Mandy Patinkin and Bernadette Peters, performing Stephen Sondheim & James Lapine’s award-winning musical *Sunday in the Park With George*, inspired by Georges Seurat’s famous painting *La Grande Jatte*. (See IMDB for more information.)

PRINCIPAL TERMS, NAMES, CONCEPTS:
“painterly” paintings (with thick pigment and unblended brushstrokes)
painting *en plein air* (outdoors)
Impressionism vs. impressionism (a specific movement/place/time, vs. stylistic qualities)
Diego Velázquez (1599-1660)
Victorine Meurent (Manet’s favorite model)
*fête champêtre* (a garden party/picnic)
Le Salon (prestigious, annual Parisian art exhibition)
Le Salon des Refusés (1863)
Berthe Morisot (1841-1895)
Monet’s early teachers: Eugène Boudin, Charles Gleyre
Monet’s wives: Camille Doncieux, Alice Hoschedé
Paul Durand-Ruel (influential art dealer)
Impressionist group exhibitions: 1874, ’76, ’77, ’79, ’80, ’81, ’82, & ’86
Japonisme
influence of photography
Seward Johnson’s “Grounds for Sculpture” (Hamilton, NJ)
Giverny (where Monet lived, and painted, during his last years)
Monet’s late series (1890s+): Rouen Cathedral, poplar trees, haystacks, waterlilies
Lilla Cabot Perry (American painter, Monet’s neighbor)
Ai Weiwei (Chinese dissident artist; in 2022 re-made Monet’s Waterlilies out of LEGO)
the “Japanese” bridge at Giverny
Limoges porcelain
art students copying Old Master art at the Louvre
École des Beaux-Arts (Paris, prestigious government-sponsored art school)
Charles Gleyre (Renoir’s early teacher)
Renoir and women, “the male gaze,” his late nudes
Lise Tréhot (a favorite early model of Renoir’s)
Aline Charigot (Renoir’s first wife)
Pierre Renoir (the artist’s elder son; became a successful actor)
Jean Renoir (his second son; became a pioneering filmmaker)
Claude “Coco” Renoir (the Renoirs’ third son; became a part-time actor and ceramicist)
Gabrielle Renard (Aline’s cousin, the family’s nanny, and another of Renoir’s favorite models)
Montmartre (the “bohemian” part of Paris where many now-famous 19th-century artists lived)
La Maison Fournaise, the restaurant in Châtou, site of Renoir’s Boating Party painting
Duncan Phillips (founder of the Phillips Collection; important collector of modern art)
Dr. Albert C. Barnes (established the Barnes Museum; another prominent collector)
The concept of “Beauty”; changing art-historical tastes; individual artists’ goals (cf. Matisse)
Richard Guino (French artist who assisted Renoir with his sculpture)
Cagnes-sur-Mer (coastal village in the south of France where Renoir lived, 1907+)
J.A D. Ingres, 19th-century French Neoclassical painter; inspired Degas
Hiroshige, 19th-century Japanese master of color woodblock prints; inspired the Impressionists
“les petits rats,” nickname for members of the corps, Paris Opéra Ballet, painted by Degas
The Dreyfus Affair
Marie van Goethem (model for Degas’ “Little Dancer” sculpture)
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia (established in 1805)
Jean-Léon Gerôme, 19th-century French academic painter; early teacher of Mary Cassatt
Franco-Prussian War (1870-71)
Mary Cassatt’s lost mural for the World’s Columbian Exposition/Chicago World’s Fair of 1893
Le Château Beaufresne, Mary Cassatt’s home in Le Mesnil-Théribus (France)
Post-Impressionism
Conté crayons
Pointillism (a.k.a. Neo-Impressionism, Divisionism)
Eugène Chevreul, color theorist; influenced Seurat
“Sunday in the Park with George,” 1984 hit/award-winning Broadway musical by Stephen Sondheim, based on the Seurat painting
Madeleine Knobloch, Seurat’s girlfriend/model
The Moulin Rouge, Paris cabaret and birthplace of the cancan
Aix-en-Provence, Provençal culture
Émile Zola, noted 19th-century French writer and close friend of Cézanne’s
Le Collège Bourbon, the local lycée (high school) attended by Cézanne and Zola
L’Académie Suisse, Parisian art school where Cézanne received his early training
Hortense Fiquet, Cézanne’s wife and muse
répoussoir elements in a painting
“cancel culture” & Gauguin
French Polynesia: Tahiti and the island of Hiva Oa, where Gauguin died
Tehamaha (Gauguin’s 13-year-old Tahitian wife)
Mette Gad (Gauguin’s Danish wife)
Point-Aven, Brittany (where Gauguin spent time in 1888)
Arles (southern France, where Gauguin lived briefly with Van Gogh)
Theo van Gogh (Vincent’s brother, an art dealer)
“The Yellow House” where van Gogh lived, in Arles
Jacques Brel (popular Belgian singer, buried on the same Polynesian island as Gauguin)
1906 Salon d’Automne, Paris (Gauguin retrospective; very influential)
Kehinde Wiley (b. 1977), African-American artist “inspired by” Gauguin’s art
St. Paul de Mausole (mental hospital) at St. Rémy in Provence, France
village of Auvers-sur-Oise, where van Gogh spent his final months
Dr. Paul Gachet, van Gogh’s physician, late in life

**PRINCIPAL ARTWORKS DISCUSSED:**

Édouard Manet, *Mlle. V. in the Costume of an Espada*, 1862, Metropolitan Museum of Art (NYC)
Manet, *Le Déjeuner sur l’Herbe*, 1863, Musée d’Orsay (Paris)
Manet, *Olympia*, 1863, Musée d’Orsay
Claude Monet, *Sailboats/Regatta at Argenteuil*, 1872, Musée d’Orsay
Monet, *Boulevard des Capucines*, 1873, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (Kansas City, Missouri)
Monet, *Woman with a Parasol/Mme. Monet and Her Son*, 1875, National Gallery of Art (DC)
Pierre-Auguste Renoir, *Nude in the Sunlight*, 1875, Musée d’Orsay
Renoir, *A Dance at the Moulin de la Galette*, 1876, Musée d’Orsay
Renoir, *Mme. Charpentier and Her Children*, 1878, Metropolitan Museum of Art (NYC)
Renoir, *Girls at the Piano*, 1892, Metropolitan Museum
Renoir, *The Large Bathers*, 1887, Philadelphia Museum of Art (PA)
Berthe Morisot, *The Cradle*, 1872, Musée d’Orsay
Eva Gonzalès, *Morning Awakening*, 1876, Kunsthalle, Bremen (Germany)
Marie Bracquemond, *Sur la Terrasse à Sèvres*, 1880, Le Musée du petit palais, Geneva (Switzerland)
Suzanne Valadon, *The Blue Room*, 1923, Le Musée National d’Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou (Paris)
Edgar Degas, *Self-Portrait* (doffing his hat), 1862, Calouste Gulbenkian Museum, Lisbon (Portugal)
Degas, *Hortense Valpinçon*, c.1871, Minneapolis Institute of Arts (Minnesota)
Degas, *Place de la Concorde*, 1876, Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg (Russia)
Degas, *The Rehearsal*, c.1874, The Burrell Collection, Glasgow (Scotland)
Degas, *Orchestra at the Paris Opéra*, c.1869-1872, Musée d’Orsay
Degas, *The Little Dancer, 14 Years Old* [sculpture], 1881, National Gallery (Washington, DC)
Mary Cassatt, *Lydia in a Loge, with a Pearl Necklace*, 1879, Philadelphia Museum of Art (PA)
Cassatt, *Lady at the Tea Table (Mrs. Riddle)*, 1885, Metropolitan Museum of Art (NYC)
Cassatt, *Little Girl in a Blue Armchair*, 1878, National Gallery (DC)
Cassatt, *Breakfast in Bed*, 1897, Huntington Art Museum, San Marino (CA)
Cassatt, *The Letter*, 1891, from her series of prints (various collections)
Georges Seurat, *Portrait of Aman-Jean*, 1882-83 (Conté crayon drawing), Met.
Seurat, *Bathers at Asnières*, 1884 (Barnes Museum (Philadelphia, PA))
Seurat, *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte*, 1884-86 (Art Institute of Chicago)
Seurat, *Le Chahut* (The Cancan), 1889-90, Kröller-Müller Museum (Otterlo, Netherlands)
Paul Cézanne, *The Artist’s Father Reading a Newspaper*, 1866 (National Gallery of Art, DC)
Cézanne’s series: portraits of his Uncle Dominique; portraits of his wife; still-lifes with apples; Mont Sainte-Victoire; men playing cards.
Paul Gauguin, *The Vision After the Sermon (Jacob Wrestling with the Angel)*, 1888, Scottish National Galleries (Edinburgh)
Gauguin, *Self-Portrait with a Halo*, 1889 (National Gallery of Art, DC)
Gauguin’s many colorful paintings of Polynesian people and landscapes
Gauguin, *Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going?*, 1897-98 (Museum of Fine Arts, Boston)
Van Gogh’s series of *Self-Portraits*, sunflowers, irises (in various locations)
Van Gogh, *The Night Café*, 1888, Yale University Art Gallery (New Haven, CT)
Van Gogh, *Bedroom in Arles*, 1888 (Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam)
Van Gogh, *Wheatfield with Crows*, July 1890 (Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam)
Van Gogh, *Tree Roots*, July 1890 (Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam)

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