

ITINERARY
Impressionism's Roots in Normandy & Beyond
Week One: Normandy
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Smithsonian Associates – May 29, 2024

I. SETTING THE SCENE

- a. Paris Salon
- b. First Impressionist Exhibition: April 15, 1874 – Société Anonyme des Artistes, Peintres, Sculpteurs, Graveurs, etc. (Anonymous Society of Artists, Painters, Sculptors, Engravers, etc.)
 - i. Nadar's studio
 - ii. Non-"Impressionist" works, including a bust of Ingres by Auguste-Louis-Marie Ottin and "Cesar, Portrait of a Dog," by Ludovic Napoleon Lepic
 - iii. "The Dancer" by Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1874)
 - iv. "The Parisian" by Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1874)
 - v. "Orchard in Bloom Louveciennes" by Camille Pissarro (1872)
 - vi. "Autumn Banks of the Seine by Bougival" by Alfred Sisley (1873)
 - vii. "Impression, Sunrise" by Claude Monet (1872)
- c. 10 Principles of Impressionism
 - i. Bold brush strokes
 - ii. No black
 - iii. No mixing of paint
 - iv. Lighting
 - v. Photography influence
 - vi. Painting outdoors
 - vii. Japanese print influence
 - viii. Everyday life
 - ix. Landscapes
 - x. Small paintings

II. BARBIZON

- a. Influence of John Constable
- b. Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot: "Fontainebleau Oak Trees at Bas-Bréau" (1832–33) / "Ville d'Avray" (1865)
- c. Charles-François Daubigny
- d. Jean-François Millet
- e. Théodore Rousseau
- f. Observational studies of nature / portrayal of nature as the centerpiece of the painting rather than background
- g. Sites to Visit in the Village

- i. La Maison et Atelier de Jean-François Millet (House and Studio of Jean-François Millet)
- ii. Musée Départemental des Peintres de Barbizon (Departmental Museum of the Barbizon Painters)
- iii. La Forêt de Fontainebleau (Fontainebleau Forest)

III. SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGES THAT INFLUENCED THE IMPRESSIONISTS

- a. France's defeat in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870–71 and Paris Commune of 1871
- b. Invention of the railroads
- c. Modernization in general (Baron von Haussmann)
- d. Invention of photography
- e. Invention of paint tubes

IV. HONFLEUR

- a. Eugène Boudin and Claude Monet
- b. Exploration of light, painting outdoors
- c. Sites to Visit
 - i. Vieux Bassin (Old Port)
 - ii. Vieux Ville (Old Town)
 - iii. St. Catherine's
 - iv. La Ferme Saint-Siméon
 - v. Musée Eugène Boudin (Eugène Boudin Museum)

V. LE HAVRE

- a. Claude Monet (again)
 - i. "Impression, Sunrise" (1872) / reception at Impressionist Exhibition of 1874
- b. Camille Pissarro in Le Havre
- c. Sites to Visit
 - i. Musée d'Art Moderne André Malraux (Muma) (Museum of Modern Art André Malraux): Eugène Boudin, Renoir, Monet, Henri-Edmund Cross

VI. SAINT-ADRESSE

- a. Claude Monet (again) / "Garden of Saint-Adresse" (1867)

VII. CÔTE D'ALABÂTRE (ALABASTER COAST)

- a. Étretat: Porte d'Aval / The Needle
 - i. Artists: Monet, Boudin, Corot, Courbet, etc.
 - ii. Falaise (or Cap) d'Amont / Chapelle Notre-Dame de la Garde
 - iii. Jardin d'Étretat
- b. Fécamp
 - i. Artists: Monet, Berthe Morisot, etc.
 - ii. Paint with [Sophie J](#)

- iii. Les Pêcheries, Musée de Fécamp (Fisheries Museum)

VIII. TROUVILLE

- a. Beach resort beginning in 1860s / wooden boardwalk
- b. Artists: Courbet, Boudin, Monet, Caillebotte, Manet, Degas, etc.
- c. Sites to Visit
 - i. The beach: “Queen of Beaches”
 - ii. Covered fish market
 - iii. Historic casino

IX. DEAUVILLE

- a. Ritzier beach resort established in late 1850s
- b. Artists: Monet, Morison, Boudin, Caillebotte, etc.
- c. Sites to Visit
 - i. Beach and seafront / boardwalk
 - ii. Deauville–La Touques Racecourse
 - iii. Casino Barrière de Deauville
 - iv. Les Franciscaines cultural center

X. ROUEN

- a. Vieux Rouen (Old Rouen)
 - i. Artists: Pissarro, Gauguin, Sisley ... and Monet!
 - ii. Sites to Visit
 - 1. Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Rouen
 - a. English king Richard the Lionheart
 - b. Rollo of the Vikings
 - c. Monet: “Everything changes, even stone.” / “To me, the motif itself is an insignificant factor. What I want to reproduce is what exists between the motif and me.”
 - 2. The room where Monet painted the cathedral series
 - 3. Pissarro’s bridges (destroyed)
 - 4. Musée des Beaux-Arts
 - a. “Seated Gladiator” by Jean-Germain Drouais (1780s)
 - b. Blanche Hoschedé Monet
 - c. Robert Pinchon
 - d. Gustave Caillebotte: “In a Café” (1888)
 - e. Monet: “Seine at Vetheuil” (1879)
 - f. David Hockney: Normandism

XI. “Paris 1874: The Impressionist Moment”

- a. National Gallery: September 8, 2024–January 19, 2025

NEXT WEDNESDAY: Impressionism’s Roots in Normandy & Beyond: Île-de-France