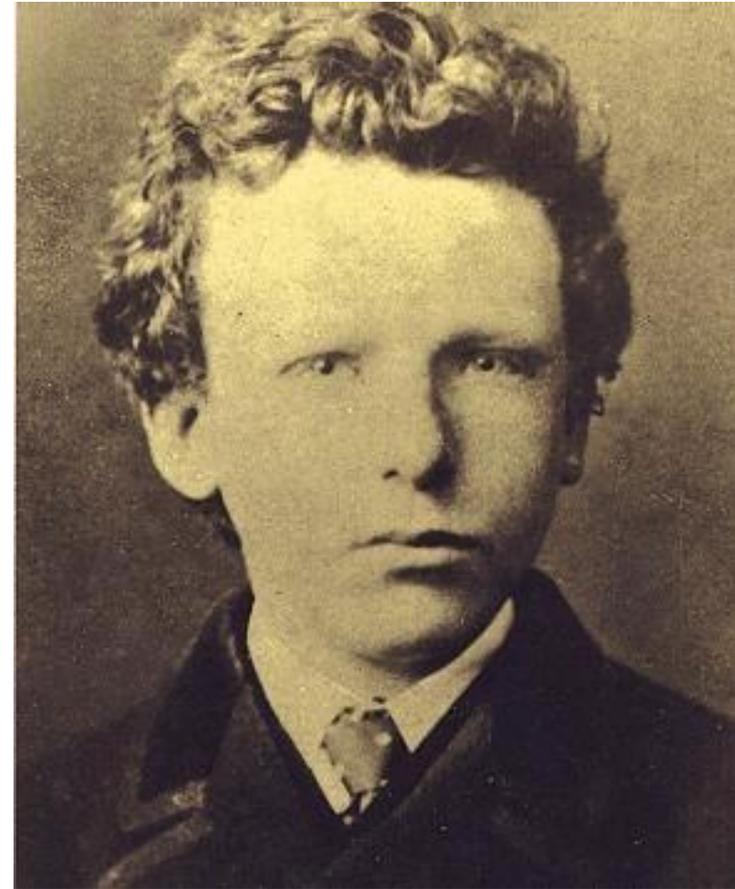


The Life and Works of Vincent Van Gogh



Early Life

- ✎ Vincent Van Gogh was born on March 30, 1853 in Groot-Zundert, Holland.
- ✎ He had a family of eight, with three sisters and two brothers.
- ✎ Van Gogh worked in multiple art galleries in Paris and London starting at age 16.
- ✎ Van Gogh realized selling art was not for him. He then decided to follow his father's footsteps and become a minister.
- ✎ After being a minister, he finally found his passion for art.

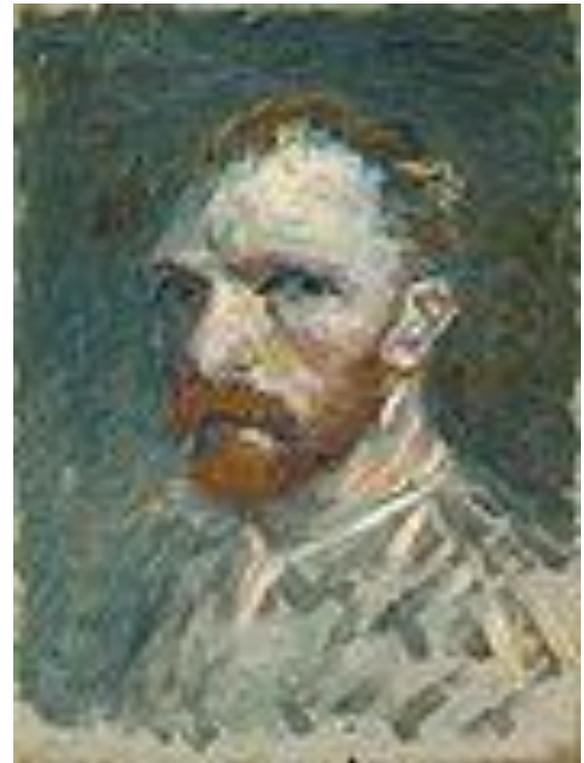


Early Influences

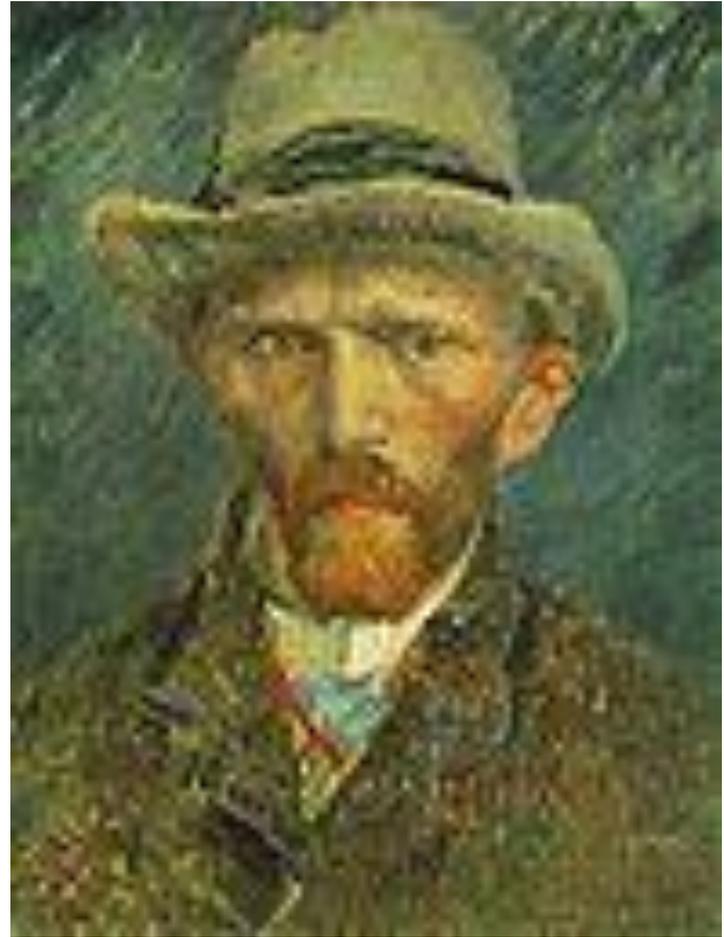
- Rembrandt was a Dutch painter of light & shade who lived 200 years before Van Gogh
- He had an amazing ability to draw people's moods.
- He told a story with his paintings
- He did many self-portraits
 - So would Van Gogh



Self-Portraits



Self-Portraits



Self-Portraits



His first painting

☞ His first painting was *The Potato Eaters*, 1885.

☞ Some people believe that Van Gogh had not yet mastered the techniques and skills of painting for *The Potato Eaters*.

☞ He focused on peasant life and the anatomy of a peasant.

☞ *The Potato Eaters* unfortunately did not become famous in Van Gogh's lifetime.



Post Impressionism

- ❖ Post Impressionism is an extension of Impressionism that rejected certain limitations impressionist artists placed
- ❖ Impressionists focused more on the color and lighting effects along with atmosphere and movement
- ❖ Post Impressionist artists favored symbolic, ambitious, or personal content
 - Yet, Post Impressionist artists admired the lack of subject and bright colors

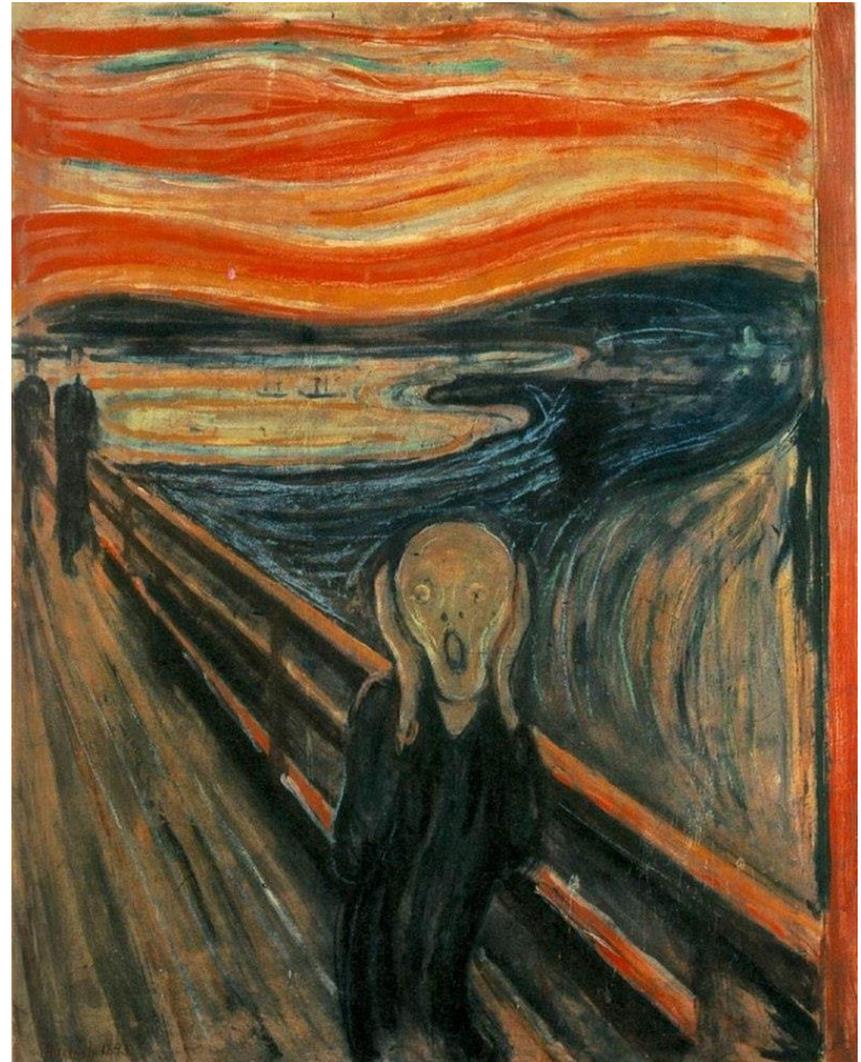
Impasto

Van Gogh was known for laying down thick layers of paint to emphasize brushstrokes and add texture to the piece



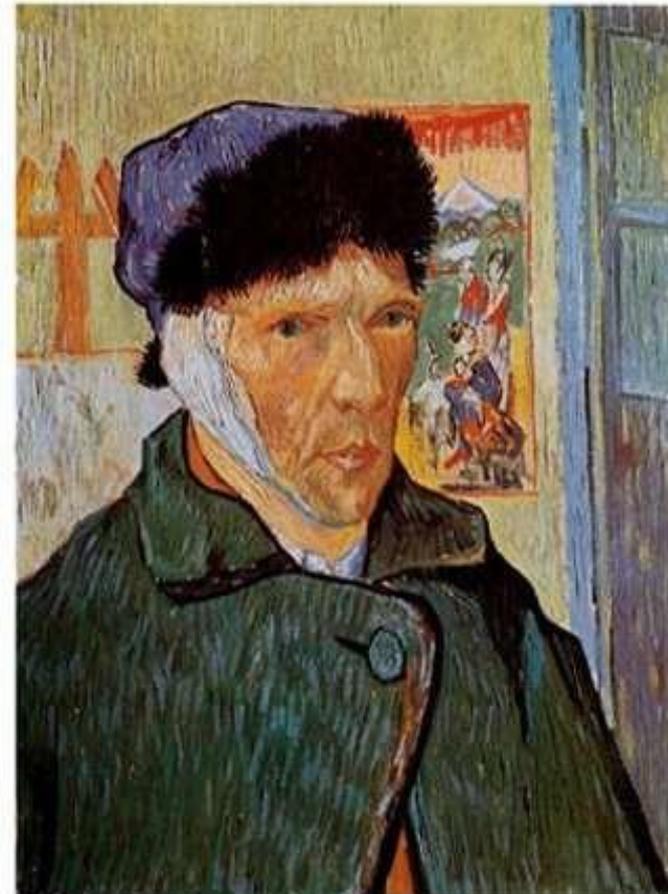
Expressionism

- Was a modernist movement, initially in poetry and painting, originating in Germany at the beginning of the 20th century.
- Its typical trait is to present the world solely from a subjective perspective, distorting it radically for emotional effect in order to evoke moods or ideas.
- Expressionist artists sought to express the meaning of emotional experience rather than physical reality



His mental state

- ✎ Van Gogh's mental problems did not become apparent until 1888.
- ✎ He suffered from epilepsy, psychotic attacks, and delusions.
- ✎ One serious breakdown occurred when Van Gogh chased his fellow artist friend, Gauguin around with a knife.
- ✎ Van Gogh later cut part of his ear off and gave it to a woman as a gift.
- ✎ He later hospitalized himself in Saint-Remy-de-Provence



While hospitalized...

- ∞ While Van Gogh was hospitalized he created *The Starry Night*, 1889.
- ∞ Some believe that Van Gogh's shaky, and swirling technique was his way of showing his own mental state.
- ∞ This technique can be seen in all of Van Gogh's paintings while he was hospitalized.



The Starry Night

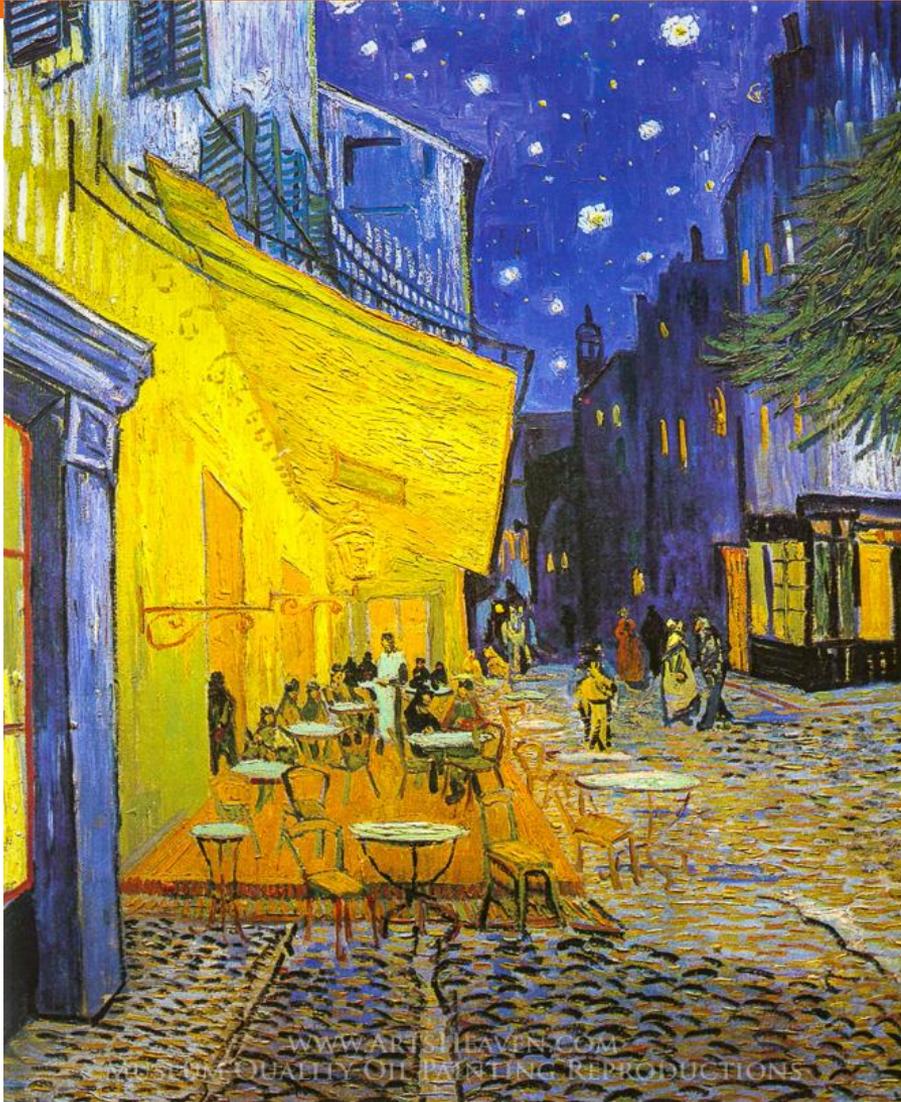


More Starry Nights



Starry Night Over the Rhone (1888)

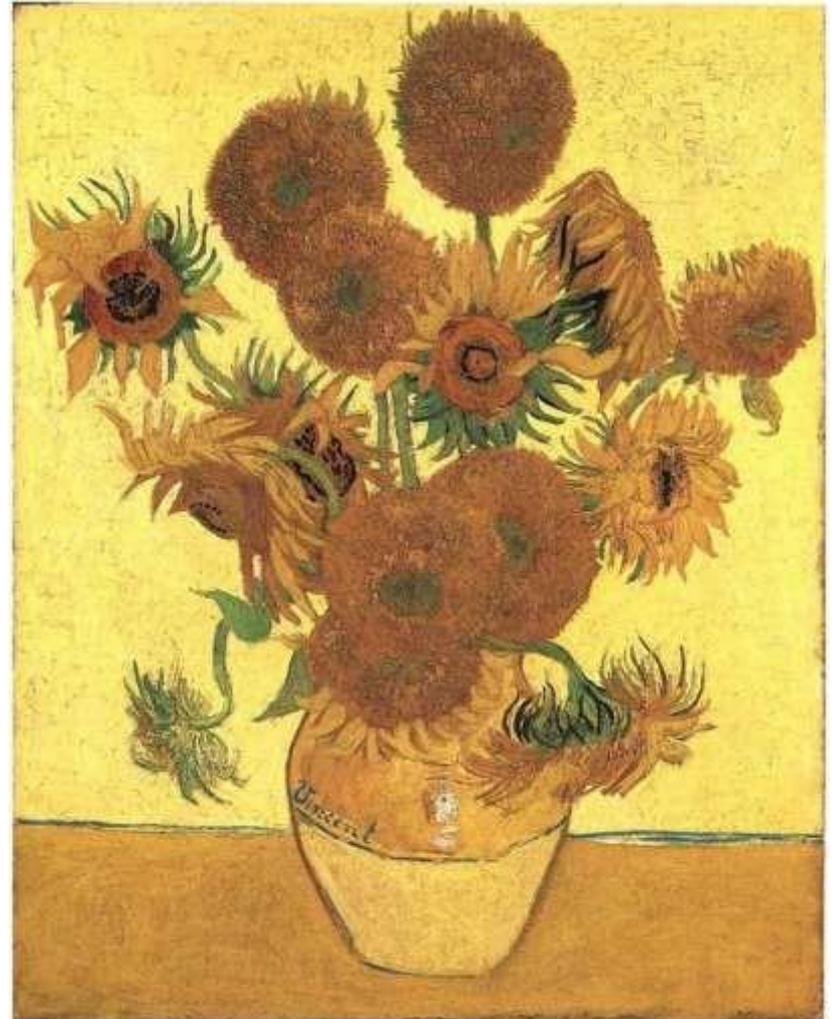
More Starry Nights



The Café Terrace on the Place du Forum, Arles, at Night, or better known as Café Terrace at Night (1888)

Sunflowers

- ☞ Van Gogh is known for his sunflower paintings.
- ☞ They were painted between 1888-1889 and mainly in France.
- ☞ Van Gogh painted them to decorate his friend, Paul Gauguin's bedroom while the two



Iris



- ∞ Van Gogh created works of art while hospitalized in France.
- ∞ Along with *Starry Night*, Van Gogh created nature studies which have now become world famous paintings.
- ∞ His painting, *Iris* (1889) is one of the most expensive pieces of art ever. It sold for \$54 million in 1987. It is now on display at The Getty Center in Las Angeles, CA.

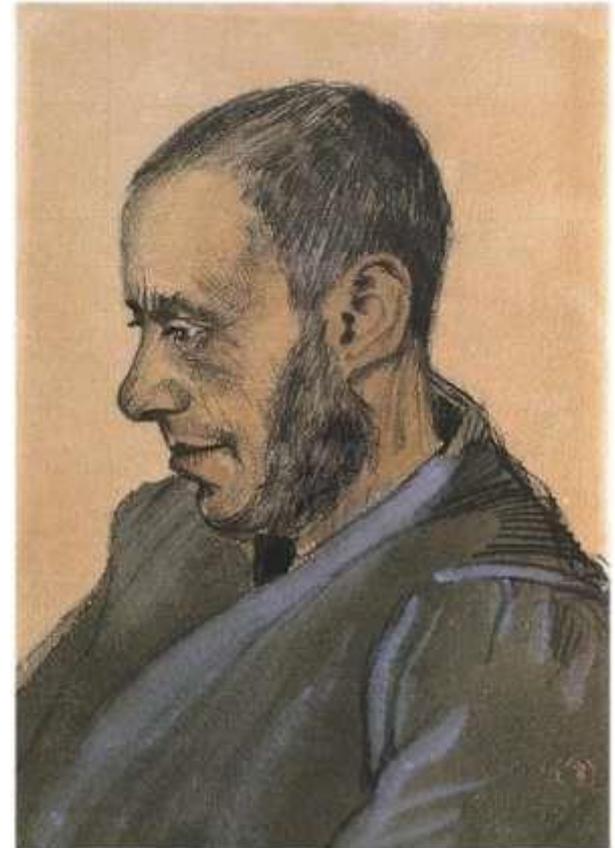
Drawings

- ✎ Van Gogh drew over 1,000 drawings from 1877 to 1890.
- ✎ He saw drawing as a way to build up technique and skill levels for an artist.
- ✎ He mainly used black, red, and blue chalk, pencil, reed pen, and charcoal for his drawings.

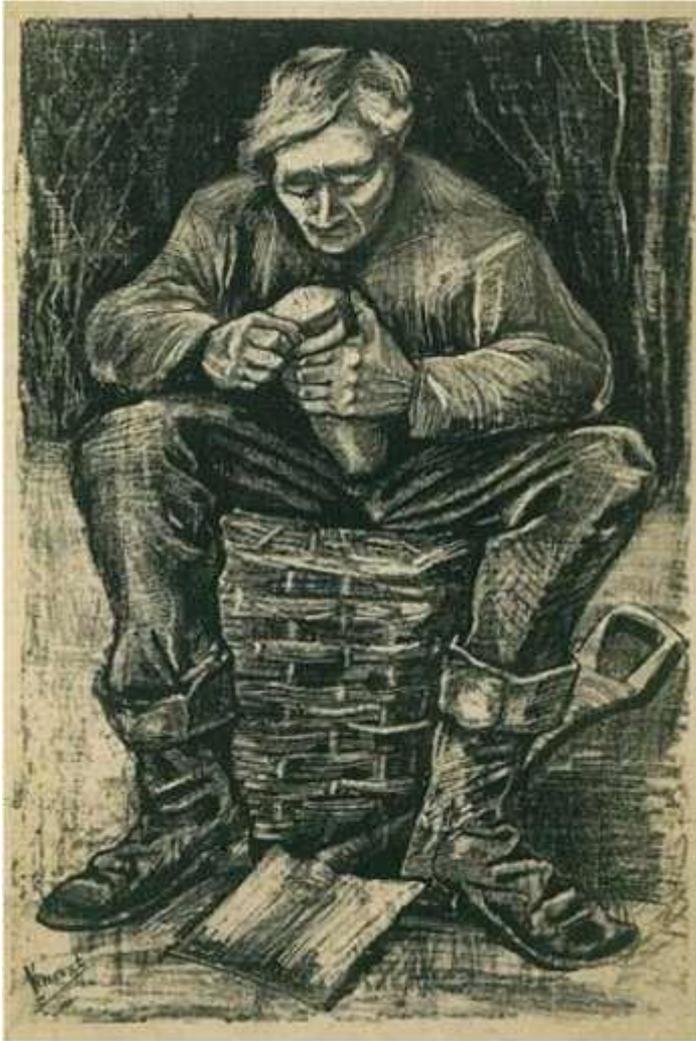


Watercolors

- ✎ Along with drawing, Van Gogh used watercolors as a way to practice his skills as a painter.
- ✎ Van Gogh has created almost 150 watercolors and all have his style of thick bold colors and unique painting techniques.
- ✎ His watercolors have not become as famous as the oil paintings, but they are still a testament to Van Gogh's artistic ability



Lithography

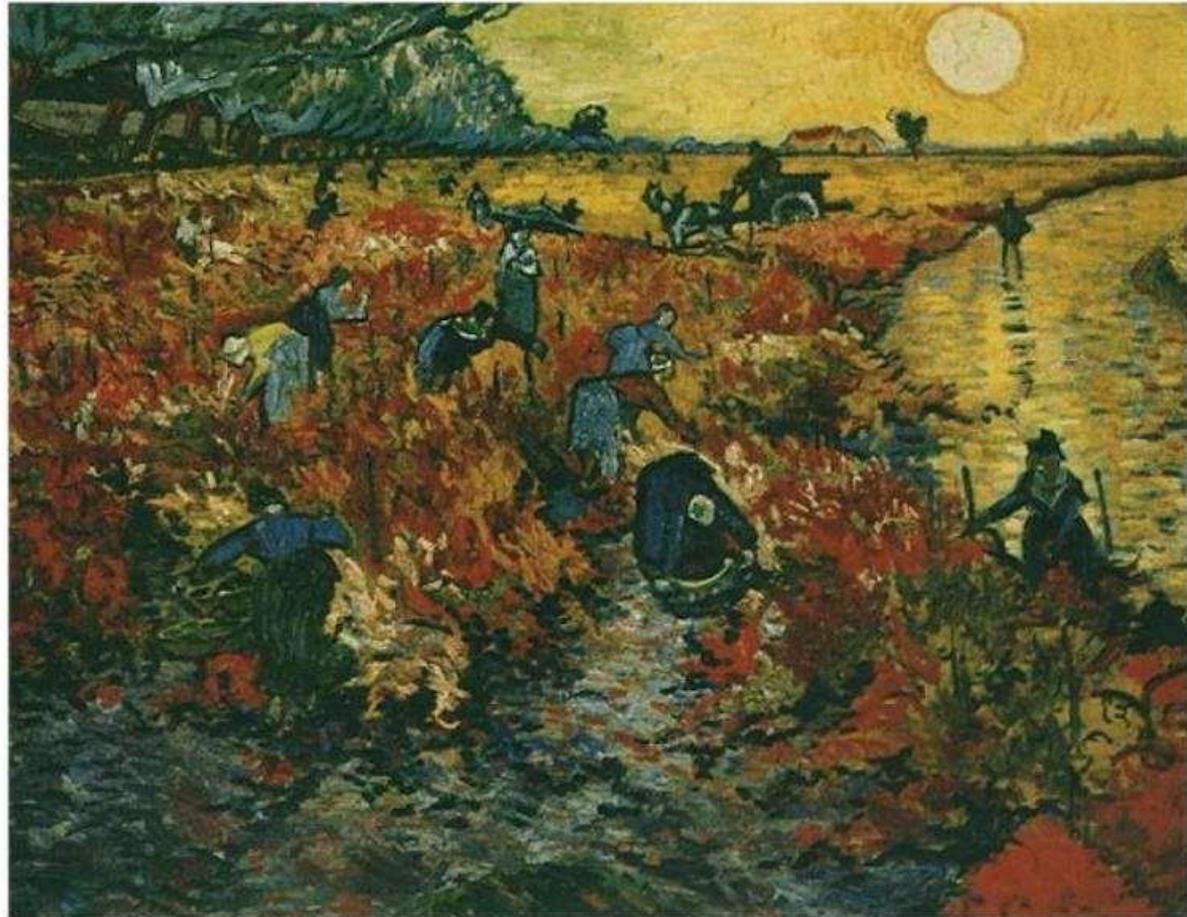


- ✎ Lithography is a way to make prints by using a stone or metal plate.
- ✎ Van Gogh experimented with this form of art and created a set of ten images; nine lithographs and one etching.
- ✎ Many of his lithographs were either originally a drawing or became a drawing or painting later on.

The only painting he sold

∞ Van Gogh only sold one painting in his entire life, *The Red Vineyard* (1888).

∞ Even though Van Gogh is seen as a world renowned artist in current culture, he never was ever recognized for his art during his lifetime.

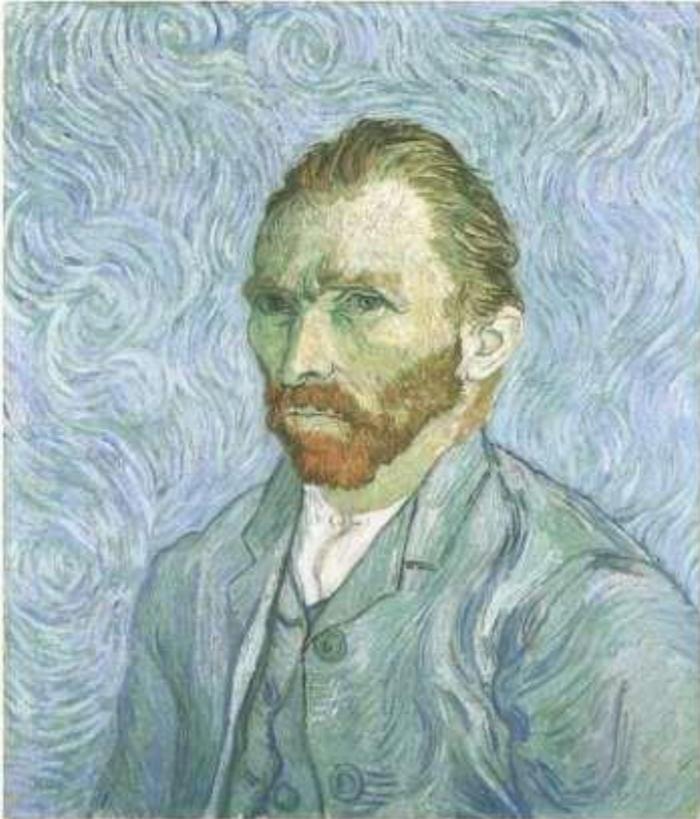


Museums

- ✎ Every continent, excluding Antarctica, has Van Gogh's works of art on display.
- ✎ The largest Van Gogh exhibit is located in Amsterdam at the Van Gogh Museum where over 200 works of art are housed.



End of his life



- ✎ Unfortunately Van Gogh attempted suicide on July 27, 1890.
- ✎ He shot himself in the chest, but somehow survived. He died two days after.
- ✎ Although Van Gogh was not considered as an artist during his life, he has become one of the world's most well known artists.

Significance

- Van Gogh was the first artist to incorporate emotion back into art.
- Created Expressionism. Often labeled as a Post-Impressionist painter, Expressionism is a more appropriate label even though it was not an official movement until after his death.
- Popularized Impasto
- An important artist who laid the foundations for modern art.

Activity

Draw a
self-
portrait

