



Glossary of Art Genres

Classicism – (17th Century) Ideas and styles that emulate a high regard for historical or aesthetic traditions of Greece and Rome in antiquity. Examples: Nicolas Poussin, Discovery of Achilles on Skyros.

French Rococo - (18th Century) Developed in Paris, France this art style is a direct reaction to the Baroque style, which was more grandeur, Rococo focused more on floral design elements and used light colors and asymmetrical designs. Example: Rococo, Louis XV Style Panel.

Romanticism – (18th Century) This artistic movement originated in Europe, depicting a strong sense of intense emotion including apprehension, horror, and awe. Example: John Singleton Copley, Watson and the Shark.

Impressionism – (19th Century) Originated in Paris and was an art style that primarily focuses on light and color. They often painted outdoors and used small and short broken brush strokes of mixed and pure unmixed color. Example: Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Dance at Bougival.

Post-Impressionism (20th Century) – Term coined by the British art critic Roger Fry, used to describe the development of French art since Manet. The post-impressionists were dissatisfied with the triviality of subject matter and less of structure so they worked to restore order to structure to traditional painting. Some styles that derived were pointillism, fauvism and cubism.

Pointillism – (19th Century) A technique in painting developed by Georges Seurat that consisted of distinct dots of pure color applied in a pattern to form an image. Example: Seurat, La Parade.

Cubism – (20th Century) Picasso and Braque were known as the inventors of Cubism. The art style is primarily defined by shifting planes and multiple viewpoints. Example: Pablo Picasso Les Femmes d'Alger (O.J. No. 1).