

# 19<sup>th</sup> century Western Art: Realism, Impressionism, Post-Impressionism

Week Thirteen

# Goals

- Understand the style of Academic Arts and how various movements (-isms) emerged in counterpoint.
- Understand how artists to reconsider their craft in the face of historical events, technological advances and globalism.
- Grasp the basic styles, subjects, techniques, and ideology in Realism, Impressionism, Pointillism, Post-Impressionism and Japonisme.

Who decides what is “good art”?

# Académie des Beaux-Arts, France. Est. 1816





# How does this epitomize the French Academic Style?

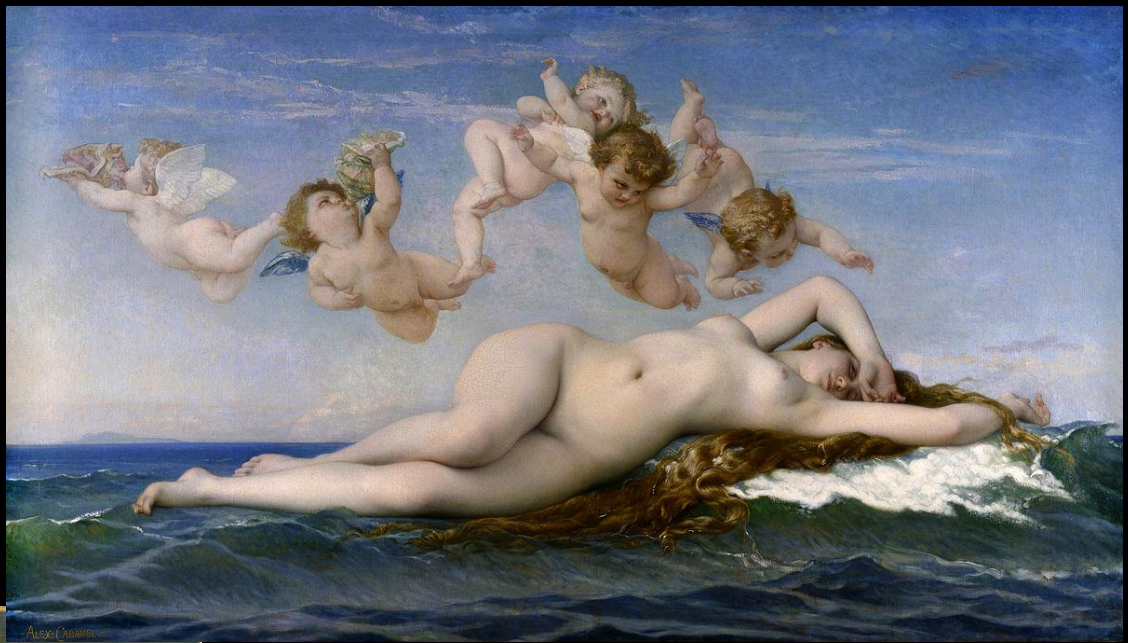


Alexandre Cabanel. Birth of Venus. Oil on Canvas. 1863

Historical subjects  
No hint of brushstroke  
Erotic and sensual  
Technically astounding (look at the waves and fleshy anatomy)







Nicolas Poussin, *Et in Arcadia Ego*, 1637-38, oil on canvas, 87 x 120 cm (Musée du Louvre, Paris)



Gustave Courbet. The Stone Breakers. 1849.  
Oil on canvas. 5'3" x 8'6" (1.6 x 2.59 m)





How are the figures depicted in this work?





What are the sentiments being conveyed in this painting?



# Paris at this moment

- Plagued by violence, social unrest, overcrowding and poverty
- Rising food prices high unemployment, political disenfranchisement, government inaction
- Revolution of 1848: establishes the Second Republic.
- Continuous uprising and uncertainty
- Literature of Charles Dicken representative of this period. Stories about the lower class.



# Realism (with a capital R)

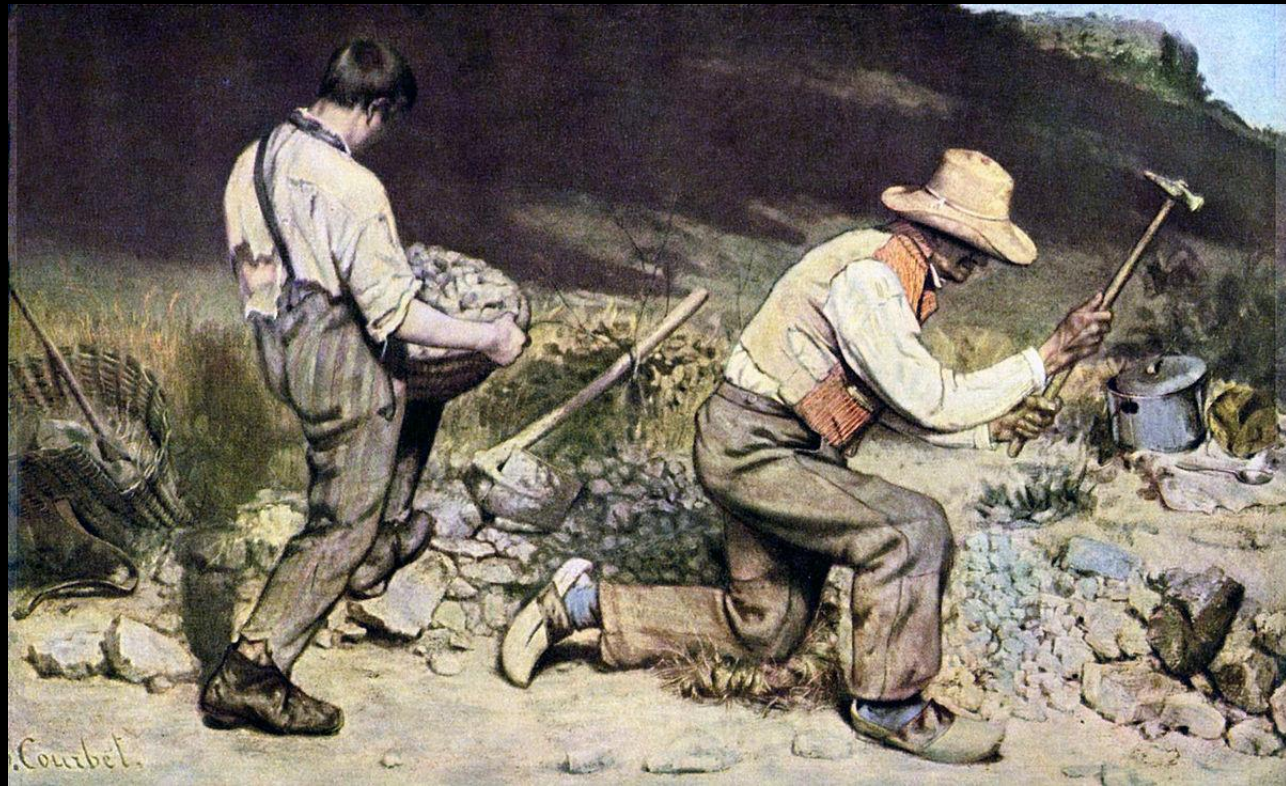






How does  
Realism break  
away from the  
Academic style?

How are  
they similar?





Jean-François Millet. The Gleaners. 1857. Oil on canvas. 33" x 44" (83.8 x 111.8 cm)



How does this work reveal the contemporary life?





How does it contrast with Courbet's work?



Édouard Manet. Le Déjeuner sur L'Herbe (The Luncheon on the Grass). 1863. Oil on canvas.  
7' x 8'8" (2.13 x 2.64 m)





How is this traditional?



Marcantonio Raimondi (c. 1480-1534), based on a drawing by Raphael called Judgment of Paris. 1510-1520





Giorgione. The Tempest. 1506-1508



Titian. Pastoral Concert. 1509



How is this traditional?





Nude vs. Naked





How is this work a challenge to the painting traditions up to this time? (What's modern about this work?)



[Video](#): Smarthistory (Manet, Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe)

# Applications of Photography

- Portraiture
- Documentation of current events
- Faithfulness to life



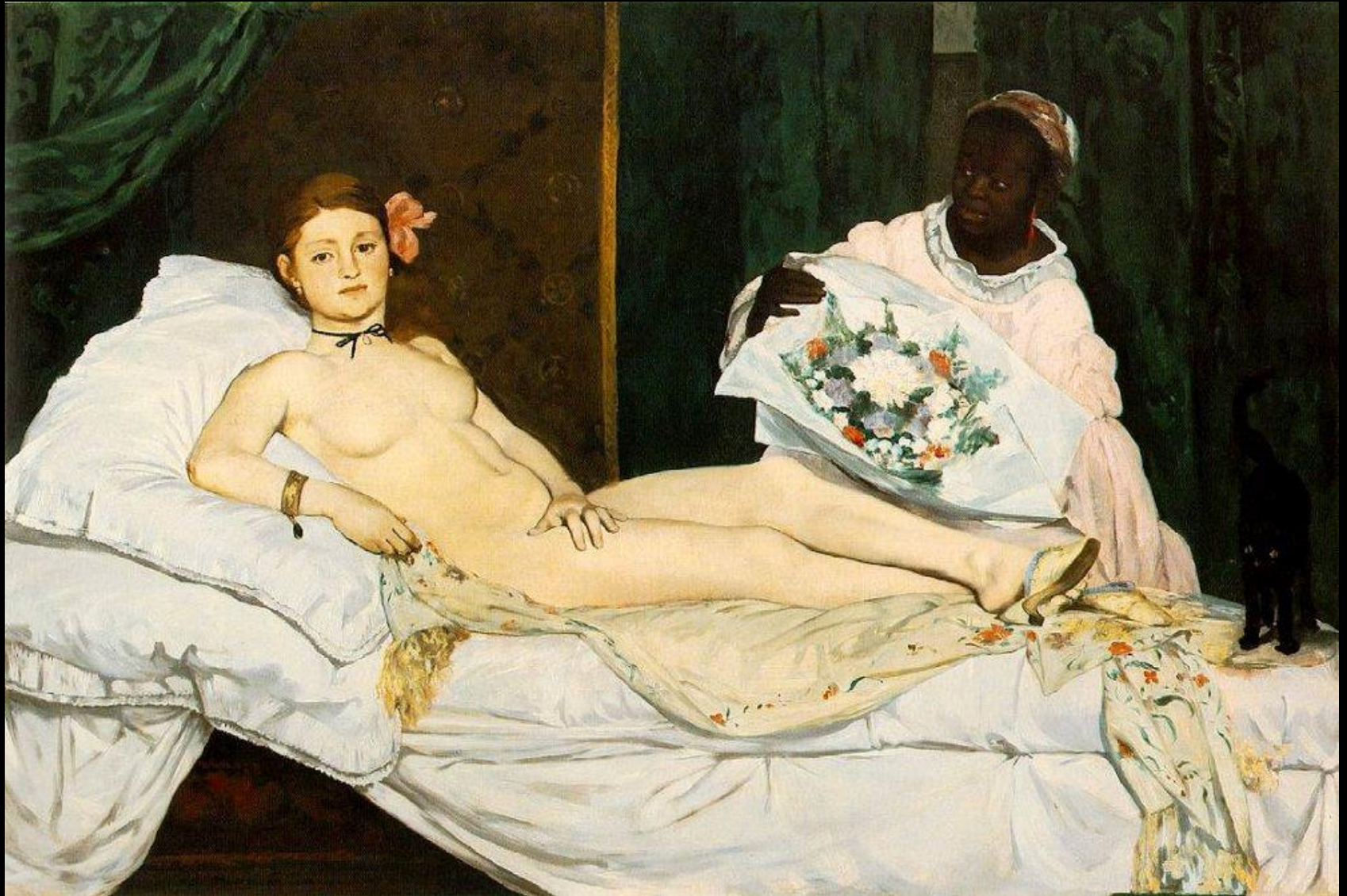


How do you depict modernity in the age of photography?





Édouard Manet. Olympia. 1863. Oil on canvas. 4'3" x 6'2 ¼" (1.31 x 1.91 m)

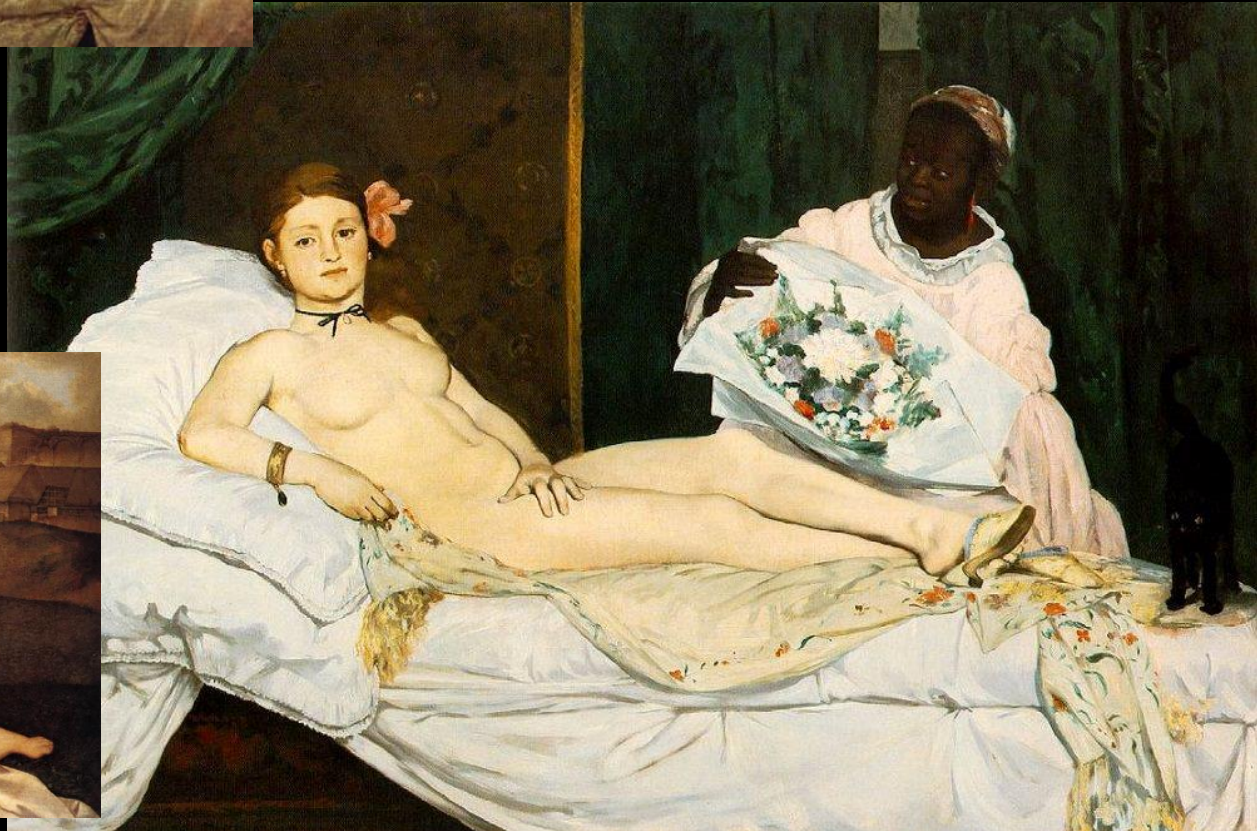


Titian, Venus of Urbino. 1534.  
Oil on Canvas





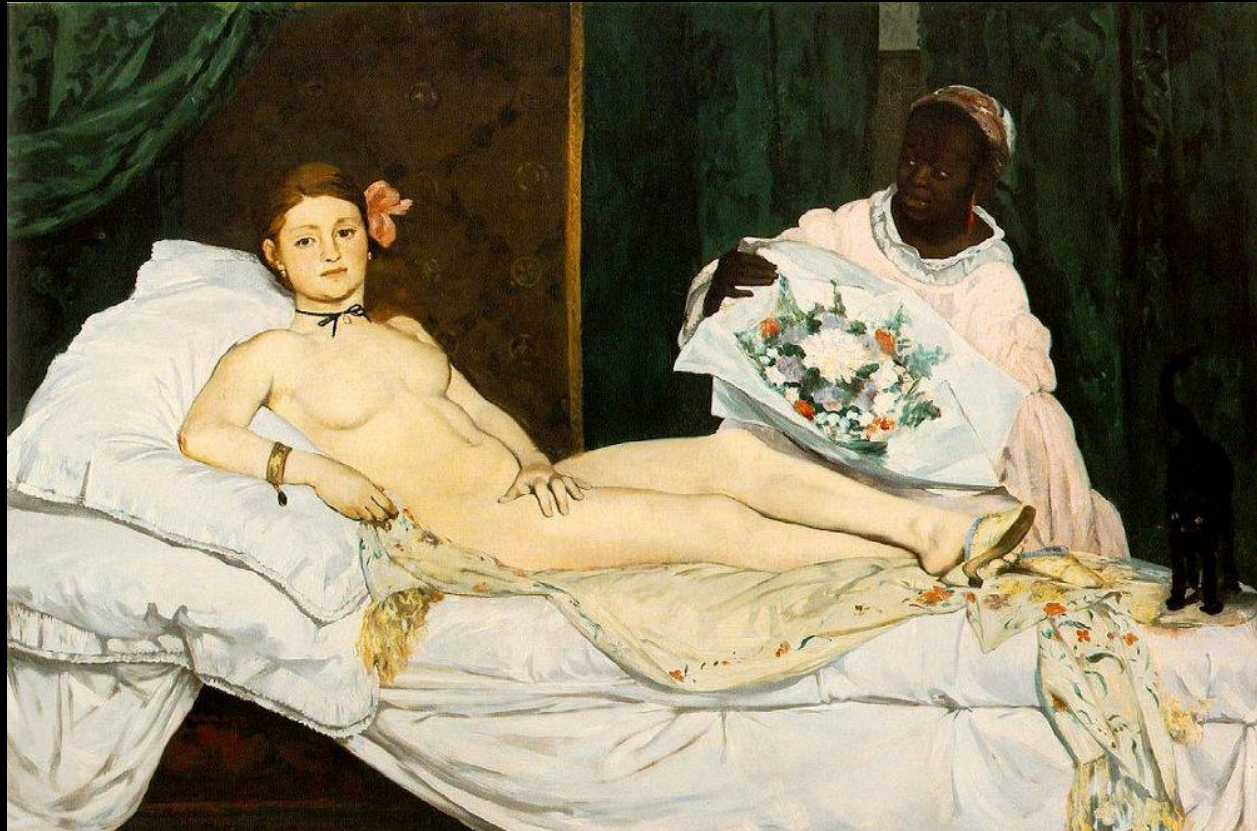
How did Manet challenge to genre of the female nude







Manet challenge  
the Venus trope.



[Olympia](#) from Smarthistory



Édouard Manet. A Bar at the Folies-Bergère. 1881-1882. Oil on canvas. 37 ¾" x 51 ¼" (95.9 x 130 cm)





What's reality and what's illusion?



Smarthistory [video](#)



What is our perspective? Is it realistic?





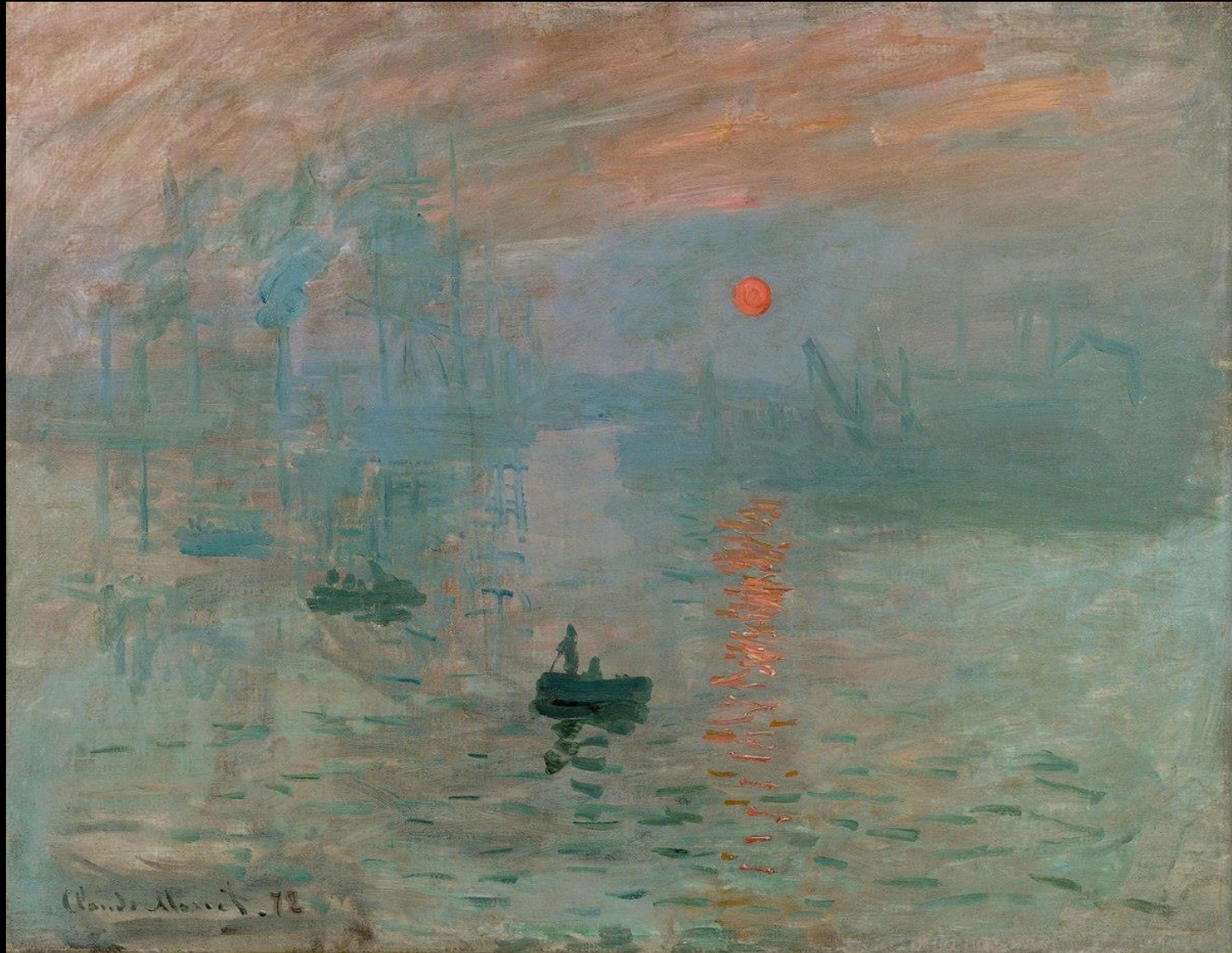
# Commodities for sale



What kind of art did Impressionist  
artists make?

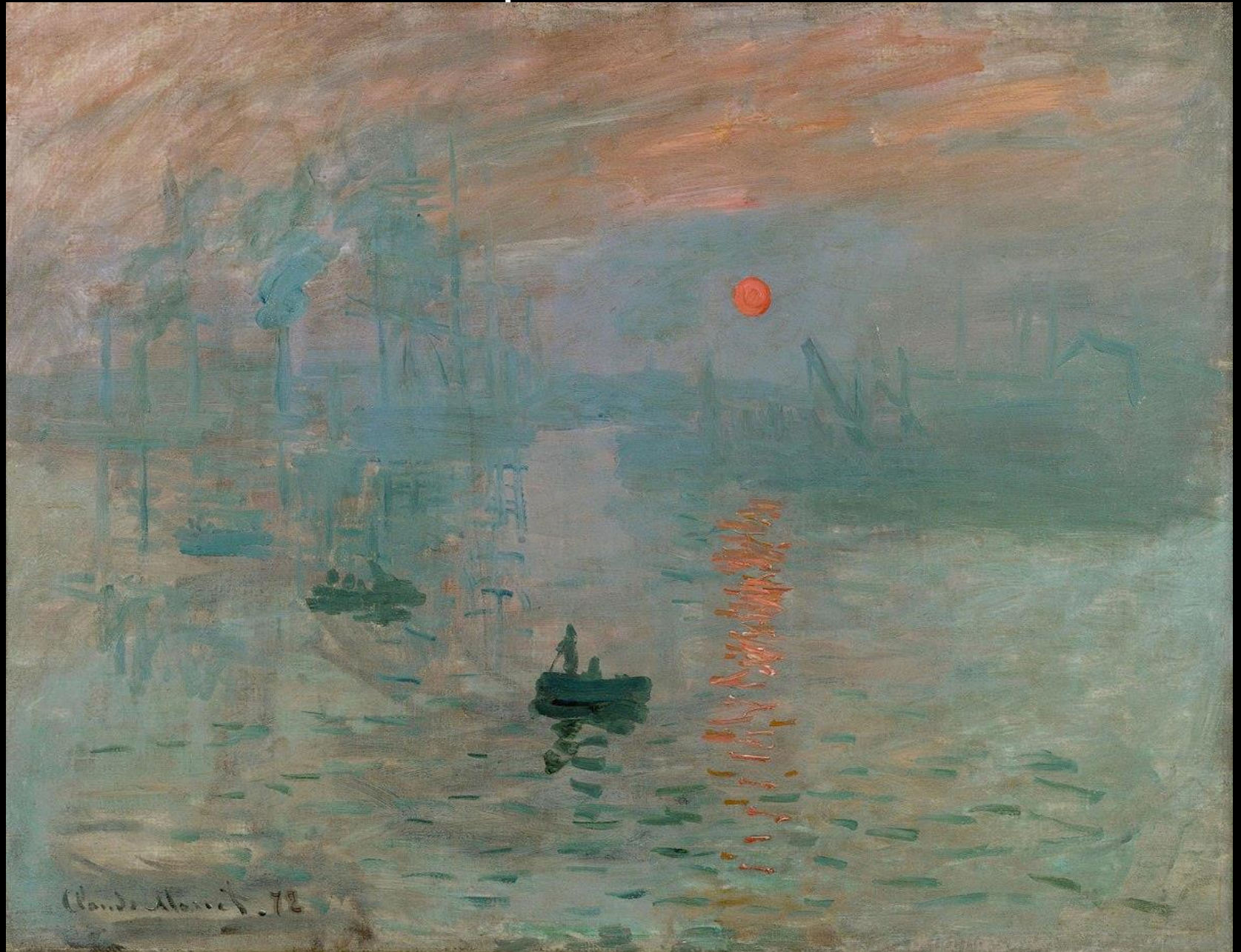


Claude Monet. Impression: Sunrise. 1872.  
Oil on canvas. 19" x 24 3/8" (48 x 63 cm)





# “Impression”





Claude Monet.

Rouen Cathedral: The  
Portal (in Sun).

1894. Oil on canvas.

39 ¼" x 26" (99.7 x 66  
cm)







The thirty versions of the Rouen Cathedral, realized in two years,

[Video](#) in Smarthistory



Gustave Caillebotte. Paris Street, Rainy Day. 1877.  
Oil on canvas.  
83 ½" x 108 ¾" (212.2 x 276.2 cm)



# New City: Widened Streets Haussmann Renovations (1853-1870)





Is this an impressionistic work?









# Expression of Modernity



[Video](#) about this work on Smarthistory



Who were the Post-Impressionists  
and what did they believe?



Georges Seurat. A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte. 1884-6. Oil on canvas.  
6'9 ½" x 10' 1 ¼" (207 x 308 cm)







[Video](#) about this work on Smarthistory



What are some of the ideas  
behind pointillism?



Vincent van Gogh. Starry Night. 1889. Oil on canvas. 28  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 36  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (73 x 93 cm)





Is this a realistic portrayal of the night sky?





Vincent van Gogh. Starry Night over the Rhone. 1888.





# Japanese Aesthetics Comes to the West (Japonisme)



- Many Japanese ceramics exported to Europe in 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Woodblock prints as packing material
- Major influence for Monet, Van Gogh, Degas and other artists working in Europe



Ando Hiroshige.

Plum Orchard,  
Kameido. No. 30  
from One Hundred  
Famous Views of  
Edo.

1857.

Woodblock print.

13 ¼" x 8 5/8" (33.6  
x 22.6 cm)





Vincent van Gogh. Japonaiserie: Flowering Plum Tree.  
1887. Oil on canvas. 21 ½" x 18" (54.6 x 45.7 cm)







大黒心屋錦水江戸町二月



新花原筆 大黒心屋

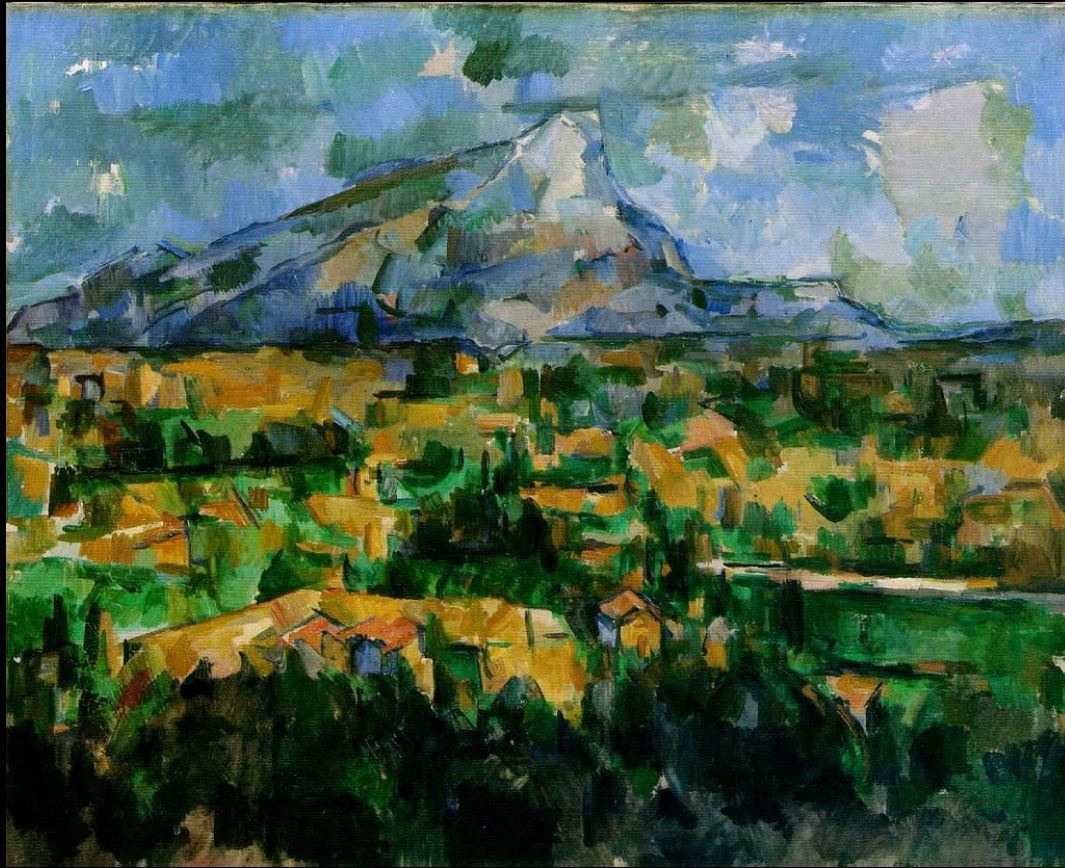


Paul Cézanne. Mont Sainte-Victoire.  
Circa 1885-1887. Oil on canvas.  
25 ½" x 32" (64.8 x 92.3 cm)



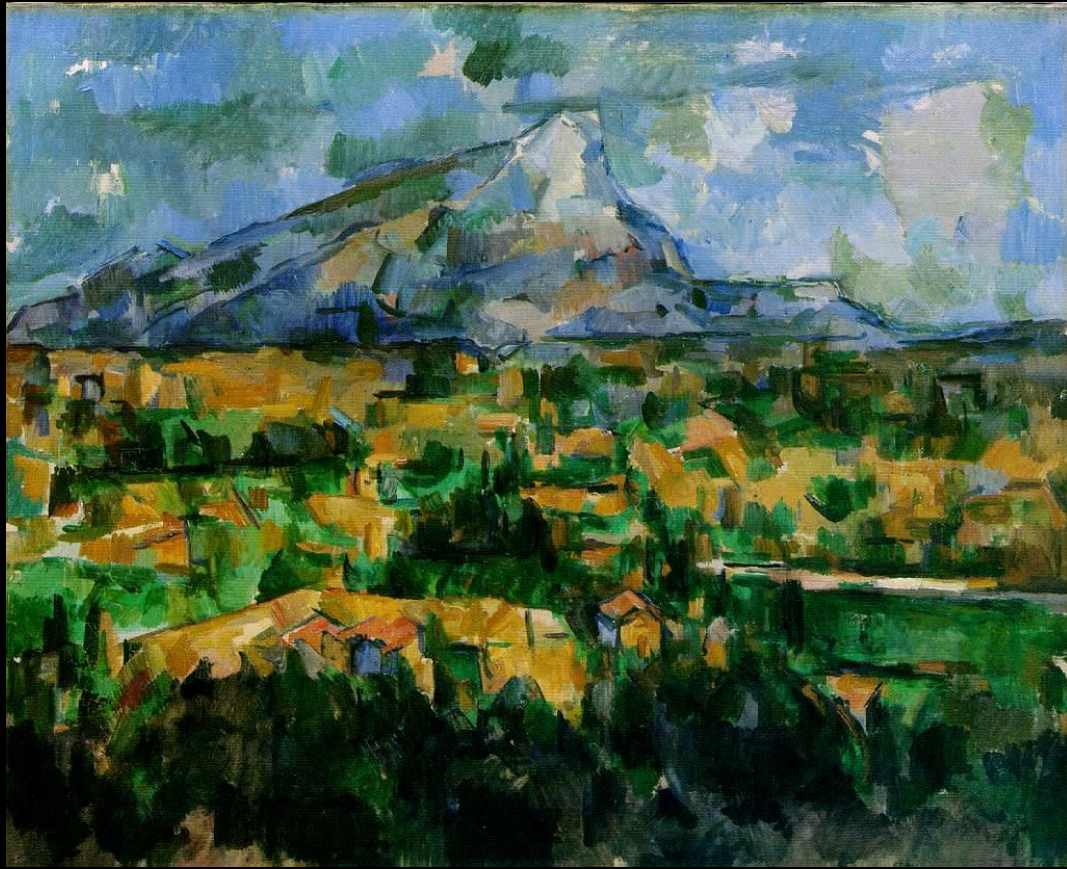


# Cezanne vs. Impressionists



[Video](#) on Smarthistory





Cezanne wanted to “make of Impressionism something solid and durable, like the art of the museums.”



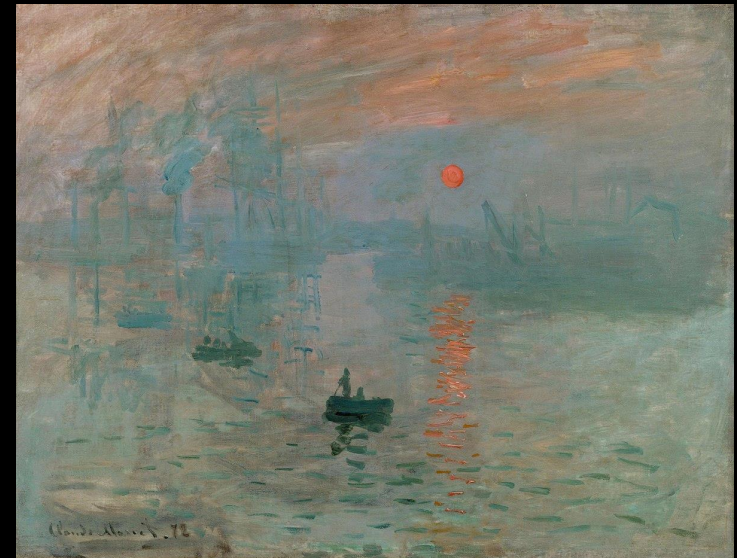


“Painting as a work of art is a construction after nature”





# Nature as Depicted since the Renaissance “This is what I see”





Cezanne's nature with various spatial ambiguity:  
"Is this what I see?"



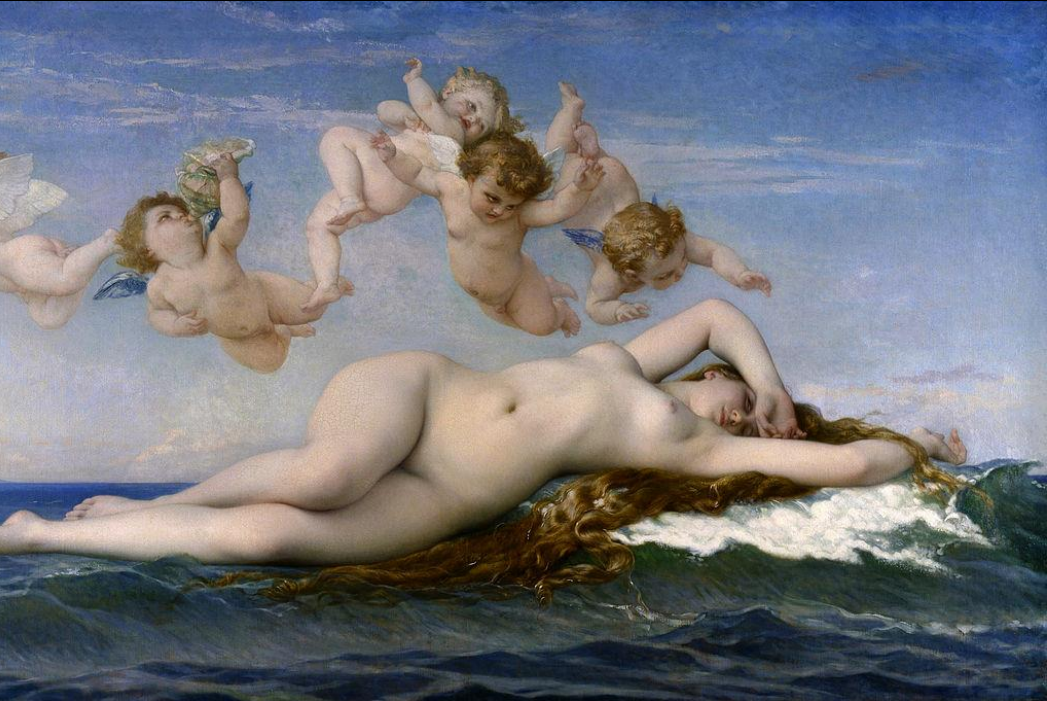
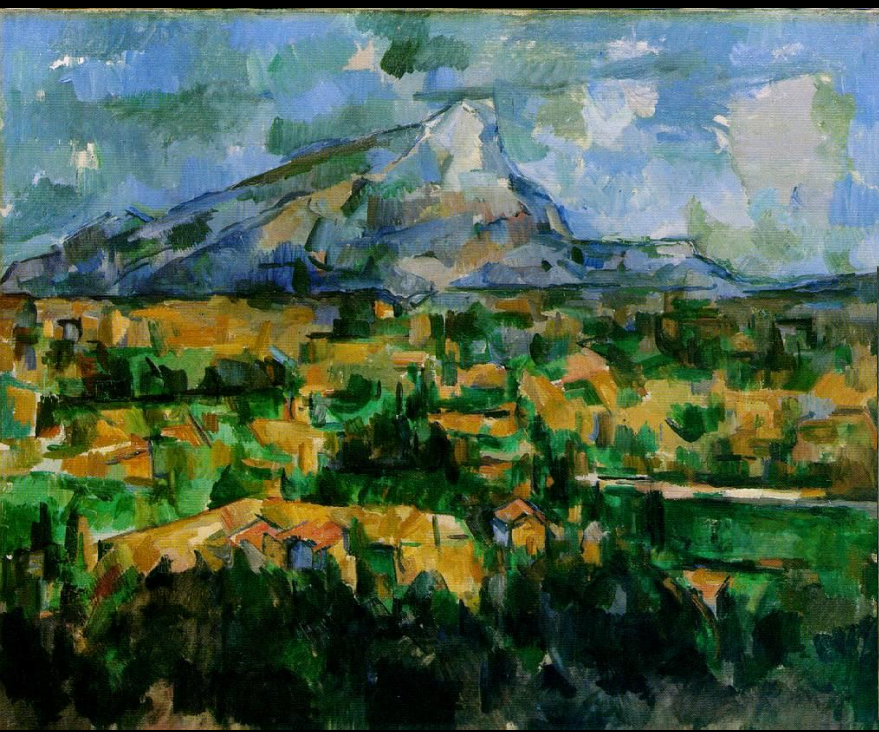


# Cezanne's construction of Nature



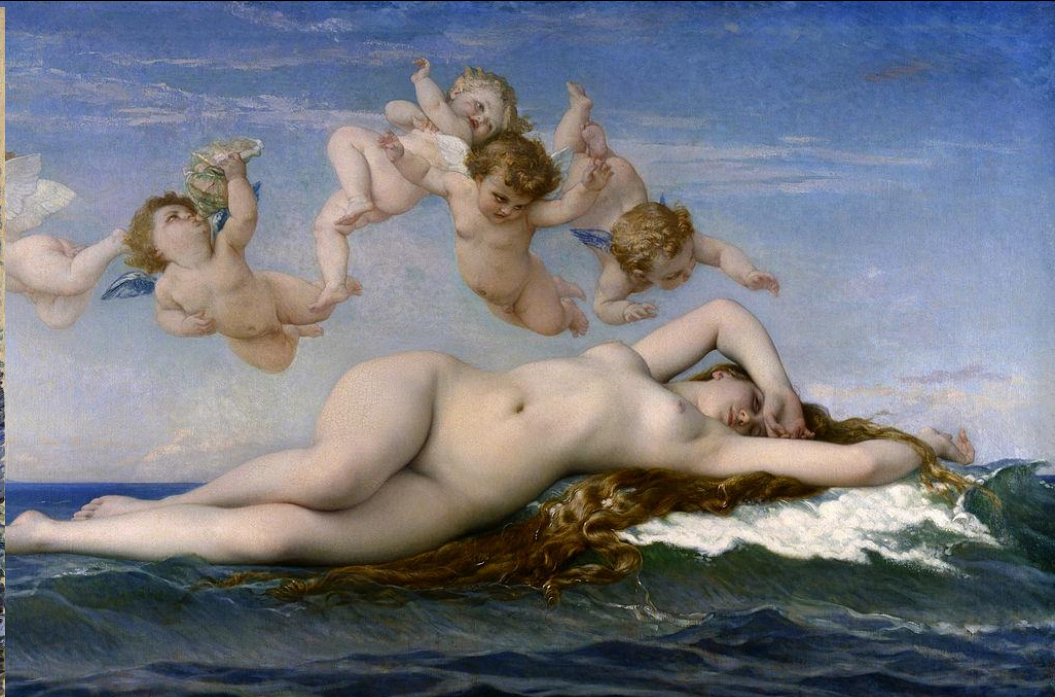
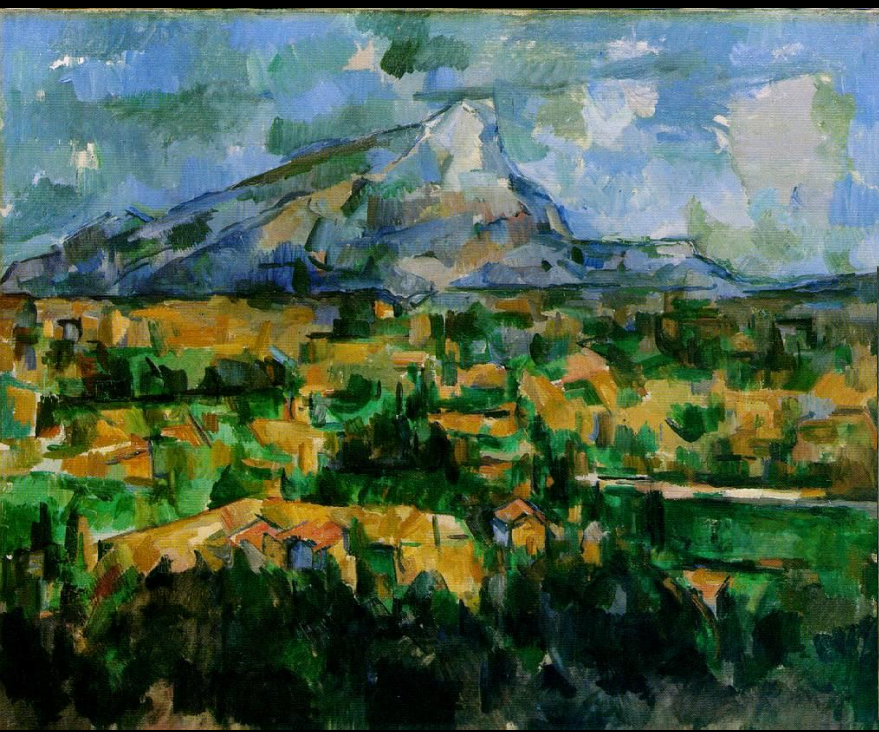


# Different Treatment of Brushwork





Different Subject matter





# Different ways of seeing

