

The prima ballerina on stage, bowing to the audience, rehearsal dancers, the teacher, orchestra musicians and the spectators. The dancers in the back of the room resting, they are sitting awkwardly on chairs or the floor, with their heads down, completely exhausted after practising accordingly to the ballet master. Degas was entranced by the natural cycles of activity, he watched from behind the scenes. He focused on the dancers who were released from their crucial rehearsals that could relax. So as Degas would continuously sketch the dancers to make them look as authentic as possible, they would practice their movements to perfection.

Claude Monet is a famous French painter and is one of the founders of the art movement; impressionism. Monet also painted the Notre Dame eight times, each time using a different light for example: fog, rain, sunrise, sunset, snow etc. Monet rejected the traditional approach to landscape painting, he learnt from his friends and nature itself instead of his masters. He observed variations of colour and light caused by the daily or seasonal changes. Monets painting Impressionism-Sunrise was painted in 1872 oil on canvas, this is the painting that gave rise to the name Impressionists. In the painting, Monet has chosen to paint the port of Le Havre in the morning. In the background you can see some ships and their silhouette fades into the mist. The foreground contains three small boats and the water reflects the slowly rising sun. The main colours used in this painting were blue violet and the suns reflection in the water was painted orange.

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Pierre-Auguste Renoir was one of the founding members of the Impressionist movemnets. Renoir is best known for his paintings of children, flowers, pleasant scenes and nude women. Renoir was inspired by a variety of sources and experimented with new techniques throughour t his career. Renoir's Luncheon of the Boating Party was painted in 1881 and is oil on canvas. The painting shows Renoirs friends share food, wine and conversation on a balcony overlooking the Seine at the Maison Fournaise restaurant in Chatou.

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Parisians at this time went to the Maison Fournaise to rent rowing skiffs, dine and stay the night. Renoir spent months going over this painting making numerous amounts of changes, plus painting the figures if they were available.

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Overall the 19<sup>th</sup> century society of Paris allowed the Impressionist to thrive. Throughout this art movement Paris grew in population and size. Making drastic changes to the capital of France.

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