

Art History: The World of Claude Monet

Learning objective: To understand the artistic style, techniques, and subjects of Claude Monet, a key figure in the Impressionist movement.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of Claude Monet. Read the front, try to answer the question, then reveal the back to check your facts.

Who was Claude Monet?

A famous French painter and one of the founders of the Impressionist movement in the 19th century.

What does the term 'Impressionism' mean in art?

A style of painting that focuses on capturing the immediate 'impression' of a scene, often using light and colour rather than precise detail.

What does 'en plein air' mean?

A French term meaning 'in the open air'. Monet often painted outside to capture natural light.

How did Monet apply paint to his canvases?

He used short, thick, and rapid brushstrokes to capture the essence of a subject rather than fine details.

Where was Monet's famous garden located, which inspired many of his paintings?

Giverny, a village in France where he spent the later years of his life.

What was the subject of Monet's famous series of over 250 oil paintings?

Water Lilies (Nymphéas) from his garden pond.

Why did Monet often paint the same subject many times at different times of the day?

To observe how changing natural light and weather conditions affected the colours and atmosphere of the scene.

What did Zara the zebra notice about Monet's colour choices?

He often placed pure colours side-by-side on the canvas, allowing the viewer's eye to blend them from a distance.

Did Monet use black paint often in his shadows?

No, he preferred to use complementary colours to create depth in shadows instead of using pure black.

What is the main goal of an Impressionist painting?

To capture a fleeting moment in time and the feeling of light, rather than a realistic, photographic representation.

How might you describe the texture of a Monet painting?

It is often thick and visible (impasto), showing the movement of the artist's brush.

Why is Monet considered a pioneer of modern art?

He broke away from traditional, strict painting rules, encouraging future artists to experiment with colour and light.