

Lauren Moore

Beginning drawing

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Vincent Van Gogh

Vincent Van Gogh was a famous post-impressionist artist from the Netherlands. He was born March 30th 1853. He was known for struggling with his identity and often seemed to lack a direction with his life while obtaining many career paths. He believed his true calling was to preach gospel, however we now know that his true calling was to paint and create art. His life journey eventually lead him to move to Belgium to begin pursuing the arts at age 27. His early work and more notable "The Potato Eaters" (1885) were created within this time there. He then went on to Paris at age 33, where he met other artists such as Claude Monet, an impressionist painter, and many others. He gained lots of knowledge from them and began to impersonate their techniques, which he was unsuccessful at replicating entirely. This lead to the more recognizable Van Gogh paintings. In 1888, He moved to The Yellow House in Arles with many other famous artists at the time. This was to create a many of masterpieces. Van Gogh ultimately could not take the stress of what he felt was failure, and he was lead to an altercation with another great impressionist, Gauguin, with an open razor. He was unsuccessful in his attack, so he then cut off his own ear with the razor. After this he spent a few years in an asylum and was released in May of 1890, which was also the year Van Gogh passed away which was deemed a suicide by gunshot wound. During his time of living, he was not very recognized, and he lived in poverty, only ever to sell one painting. Now he is a world known artist and a great one at that. For my GE assignment I chose to study the works of the famous Van Gogh. Although he was mostly known for his intricate and well-done oil paintings, he has an eye for unique styles of sketches. Van

Gogh was a mostly self-taught individual who often expressed his emotions within his pieces he created during his lifetime. While his early work was done in much greater detail, as his mind slipped towards the end, so did his eye for little details and his work almost became more abstract.

For my project I was going to try and do a self portrait, however as I researched more I decided to do a landscape style sketch which I found more within my comfort zone. I chose to try and mimic the style of his more later works as I tend to draw in a more realism style myself. This proved to be a challenge as most the texture and space was created by lines and dots, hardly any shading or color.

This image is what inspired my project. I was unable to find a title for it.



I chose to try and mimic the style and you can see that a lot of the components of these pieces side by side are similar. If I could change any aspect about my own project, I would work on the mountain behind the tree and perhaps make it more distances and try to have better execution overall. I am pleased with how it turned out and it was definitely a challenge to use sharpie on this because there was no turning back if a mistake was made.

Works Cited:

Vincent Van Gogh's Drawings. www.vincentvangogh.org/drawings.jsp.

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