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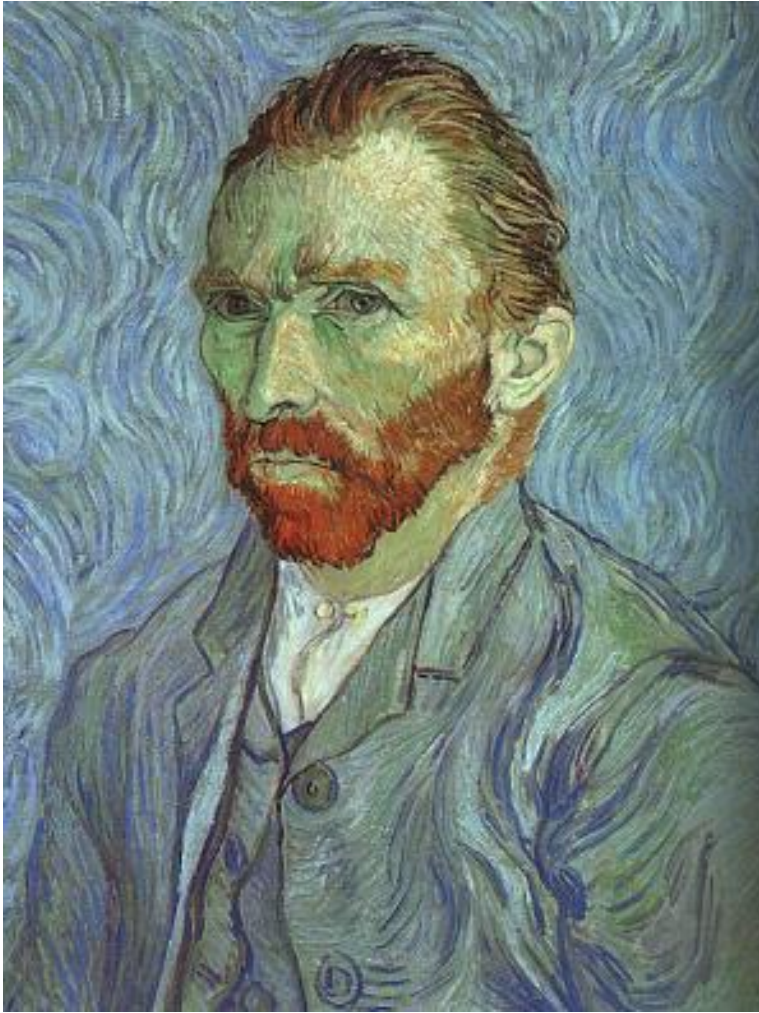


Photo courtesy of www.artunframed.com

To learn more about Vincent van Gogh, click on one of these links:

[Vincent Van Gogh](#)

[Impressionism](#)

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Van Gogh

Vincent van Gogh was born in 1853 in the Netherlands and worked as an art dealer, teacher, and clergyman, though he didn't find much success doing any of these things. Finally, he devoted himself to being a painter in 1880, at the age of 27. Although he still found little success during his lifetime, today he is considered one of the great impressionists. Impressionism is a style of art that focuses on color and movement.

Today, every one of van Gogh's paintings is worth millions of dollars, yet van Gogh lived much of his life in poverty. Though a brilliant painter, van Gogh only sold one painting in his lifetime out of the hundreds he painted. For financial support he had to rely on his favorite brother Theo, another art dealer.

Sadly, money was not van Gogh's biggest worry. Van Gogh also battled mental illness. He had to take medication, suffered hallucinations, and was hospitalized several times. His emotions were so strong that he actually cut off a piece of his own earlobe after a fight with a friend.

Many of van Gogh's most famous paintings are in Paris museums such as the Musee D'Orsay. However, you hardly have to go to Paris to see his work. Paintings like *Starry Night* and *Irises* can be seen on posters, coffee mugs, and tee shirts all over the world.

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