

## Landscape painting

**Dong Yuan** (c.932-962)

**Detail from *Xiao and Xiang Rivers*, c.960** (a handscroll painted in ink on silk)

Landscape painting has its roots in antiquity, particularly in Chinese paintings which were based on Taoism. These were meant to have a spiritual dimension and were for the mind rather than the eye.

**Giotto**, (c.1267-1337)

**St Francis Preaching to the Birds, 1297-99**

and

**Limbourg Brothers**, (1385-1416)

**The month of March from *Les Riches Heures de Duc du Berry*, 1412-16**

During the early middle ages landscape and scenery, where it existed at all, was just background for biblical and mythological stories.

**Leonardo da Vinci** (1465-1519)

**Landscape of the Arno Valley, 1473**

This sketch is the earliest surviving known art work by Leonardo. It's reputed to be the first known depiction of a real landscape in Italian art.

**Giorgione** (1477- 1510)

**Adoration of the Shepherds, c.1505-10**

The scene in this painting is a nativity and the painting's main purpose is for religious meditation, but Giorgione has set it within a landscape which is unusually prominent for paintings of the time.

**Albrecht Altdorfer** (1480-1538)

**Landscape with a footbridge, 1518-20**

and

**Danube Landscape with Castle Wörth, 1525**

These two paintings are considered to be the first known painted landscapes in European art that contain no human figures.

**El Greco** (1541-1614)

**View of Toledo, 1599-1600**

An unusual Spanish landscape.

**Claude Lorrain** (c.1604-1682)

**Landscape with Merchants, 1629**

As a genre, landscape painting was low down in the hierarchy of subjects and Lorrain inserted small figures into his landscapes to represent scenes from the Bible or mythology, thereby raising the status of his work

**Peter Paul Rubens** (1577-1640)

**A View of Het Steen in the Early Morning, c. 1636,**

and

**Landscape with Rainbow, 1636**

Het Steen is the estate near Antwerp that Rubens bought in his later years. These landscapes were painted as a pair and solely for pleasure, not for profit. When hung together, they show different views of the estate and represent different times of the same day.

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**Nicolas Poussin** (1594-1665)

**Landscape with Orpheus and Euridice, 1650-53**

His landscapes were very carefully composed, with the vertical trees and classical columns carefully balanced by the horizontal water and flat stone.

**Jan van Goyen** (1596-1656)

**View of the City of Arnhem, 1646**

It was in the Netherlands in the 17<sup>th</sup> century that landscape painting truly became a subject in itself and landscapes became more popular.

**Jacob van Ruisdael** (1628-1682)

**Dunes by the Sea, 1648**

This Dutch landscape painter, born in Haarlem, was also a practicing physician. His painting of realistic landscapes was a big influence on later painting in the genre.

**Canaletto** (1697- 1768)

**A View of Greenwich from the River, 1750-52**

Already well-known when he arrived in England in 1746, Canaletto remained for ten years and painted several English scenes.

**Thomas Gainsborough** (1727-1788)

**Mr and Mrs Andrews, 1750**

Gainsborough sometimes complained that well-paid portrait work kept him away from his true love of landscape painting. This painting combines his interest in landscape with more lucrative portraiture.

**Caspar David Friedrich** (1774-1840)

**Dolmen in the Snow, 1807**

Friedrich's winter scenes are solemn and still; he was one of the first artists to portray winter landscapes as stark and lonely places.

**John Constable** (1776-1837)

**Wivenhoe Park, 1816**

Wivenhoe Park is 200 acres of parkland in Essex. The painting was commissioned by General Rebow, who was a friend of Constable's father.

**Joseph Mallord William Turner** (1775-1851)

**Modern Italy: The Pifferari, 1838**

The 'pifferari' were strolling musicians. They played bagpipes and 'pifferi' (similar to oboes) and each Christmas they travelled to Rome from southern Italy to play at wayside shrines and images of the Madonna in the belief that their music relieved her labour pains.

**Thomas Cole** (1801-1848)

**Home in the Woods, 1847**

an English-born American artist and the founder of the Hudson River School, widely regarded as the first significant American landscape painter.

**Frederick Edwin Church** (1826-1900)

**Cotopaxi, 1862**

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This active volcano is the second highest peak in modern-day Ecuador. The painting was seen by some as an allegory of the Civil War, which was then raging in the American South, with its casting of light against darkness.

**Camille Pissarro** (1830-1903)

**Woods at Marly, 1871**

An autumn scene, Pissarro was interested in the effects of light

**Claude Monet** (1840-1926 )

**Haystacks, 1890-91**

Monet was intensely fascinated by the variations in light and the landscape through different seasons and different times of day.

**Paul Cezanne** (1839-1906)

**Mont Sainte-Victoire with Large Pine, 1887**

Cezanne aimed at reducing objects to their basic shape, in simple terms of cylinder, sphere and cone. He painted Monte Sainte-Victoire many times, with variations each time.

**Stanislaw Maslowski** (1853-1926)

**Moonrise, 1884**

A nocturne landscape by a Polish painter. Maslowski was painting in the realist style, although in Western Europe the Impressionist era was at its height.

**André Derain** (1880-1954)

**The Turning Road, L'Estaque c. 1906**

A major work of the avant-garde art movement known as Fauvism, which explored the idea that the strength of a picture has more to do with colours and brushwork than with providing a realistic view of the world.

**Paul Klee** (1879-1940)

**Landscape 1905**

and

**Black Columns in a Landscape, 1919**

A Swiss-born German artist. With a highly individual style, influenced by expressionism, cubism, and surrealism. He explored colour theory, which he wrote about extensively

**David Hockney** (1937- )

**Garrowby Hill, 1998**

At 807 feet above sea level , Garrowby Hill is the highest point in the Yorkshire Wolds. The view on a clear day from the top is stunning.