

Impressionism

- **Impressionist** was coined by a critic making an ironic reference to Claude Monet's painting *Impression: Sunrise*
- The title of the work lets us know that the main concern of the artist was to represent a sunrise...not to duplicate a sunrise
 - It was to give the impression of a sunrise
- When Impressionism started art schools and tradition of painting dictated what a painting should look like
- Many people did not like impressionism and thought it was ridiculous because it was not a true representation
- **The main goal** of the Impressionists was to capture a moment of time in light...the passing of time and weather and how light effects form and color
- The play of light on a landscape
- Believed that feelings and emotions should be emphasized
- Believed that design and mood were important features
- Used lines and patches of color making the art look almost like a puzzle

The Characteristics of an Impressionist Painting

- Light and the spontaneous use of marks
- Paint applied in small splashes of color
- Absence of precise contours
- Clear colors
- Outdoor subjects

The Impact of Impressionism

- By focusing on light's effect on form and getting away from subject representation, the Impressionists unknowingly opened the door to twentieth-century art, which moved away from the imitation of nature.



symmetrical balance: you can draw a line down the center of the artwork and both sides are relatively the same

Vincent van Gogh
Starry Night

An Artist will use the direction of line and mark to give a sense of movement to artwork

An artist uses different types of balance to make an artwork more dynamic and interesting.



Balance is a principle of Art that uses arrangements so no one part overpowers another

asymmetrical balance uses two unlike items that carry equal weight