European Masters

Henri Matisse

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Henri Matisse

Born: 31 December 1869

Died: 3 November 1954

Style: Fauvism & Expressionism

Matisse was a French painter who was best known for his brightly coloured paintings. His early work was labelled "fauve" (wild beast) due to his use of wild colours and line. He continually experimented with new styles and was a leading figure in the Modern Art Movement, along with his life-long friend Pablo Picasso.

Matisse is also known for his sculptures and brightly coloured paper collage techniques.

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Henri Matisse

The Red Room : Harmony in Red

Date Completed: 1908

Medium: Oil on Canvas

Dimensions: 180 cm × 220 cm (70.9 in × 86.6 in)

Location: Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg, Russia.

This painting features a maid arranging fruit in a bowl on the table. The brightly coloured tablecloth and wallpaper design seem to match.

Henri Matisse

Open Window at Collioure

Completed: 1905
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: 55.3 x 46 cm (21 3/4 x 18 1/8 in.)
Located: Private Collection, The National Gallery Of Art, Washington D.C, USA

Matisse painted the view through the window of his apartment at Collioure on the southern coast of France.

The brush work he used brings the scene to life. You can imagine the boats bobbing on the water and the sun reflecting on the water.

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Madras Rouge

Completed: 1907
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: 99.4 cm × 80.5 cm (39.1 in × 31.7 in)
Located: The Barnes Foundation, Lincoln University, Philadelphia, U.S.A

Madras Rouge means "The Red Madras Headdress". It was worn by Matisse's wife Amélie for this portrait.

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