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The Role of Vincent Van Gogh in the Rise of Post-Impressionism

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Abstract

This research on “Vincent Van Gogh's role in the rise of Post-Impressionism” had little introduction of the post-impressionism, and the introduction of Vincent van Gogh, about van Gogh early life, their inspiration and how he starts that new art movement called post-impressionism and afterwards this research shows detailed view of the crucial role of Vincent van Gogh in the rise and development of the post-impressionism art movement, which emerged in the late 19th century. This movement starts against the limitations of impressionism. Impressionist artists focused on capturing the fleeting effects of light and colour in everyday scenes, and a post-impressionist artist focused on the surface appearances to explore deeper emotional and symbolic content. Van Gogh contributed to the post-impressionism art movement with his unique and powerful painting style, which shows bold colours, expressive brushstrokes, and dramatic composition. Van Gogh's work was intensely personal. He used to paint, not just depict the world around him, but to communicate his inner feelings, psychological states, and spiritual struggles. His famous works include *The Starry Night*, *Sunflowers*, and *Wheatfield with Crows*. Van Gogh was influenced by artists such as Jean-Francois Millet and Japanese

prints. Van Gogh also laid the foundation for the later modernist movement and inspired artists like Henri Matisse, Edvard Munch, and the German expressionists. He committed suicide at the early age of 37 years due to mental illness.

Keywords: Vincent van Gogh, Post-Impressionism, dramatic composition, Starry Night, brushstrokes.

I. INTRODUCTION

Post-Impressionism

Post-impressionism is an art movement that developed roughly in the years 1886 to 1905 in France. It was a French art movement. Paul Cezanne is known as the father of this movement. Post-impressionism started as a Reaction against impressionism. The Post-Impressionist artists focused on colour, form, and emotional expressions rather than the naturalistic shades of light and shadow. The artist used the application of thick colour (impasto technique) and vivid colour shades, and distinctive brushstrokes.

Key artist of post-impressionism

1. Vincent van Gogh
2. Paul Gauguin
3. Georges Seurat
4. Paul Signac
5. Pierre Bonnard

Vincent Van Gogh

Vincent van Gogh was a Dutch artist and an influential figure of 20th-century art. He was born on March 30, 1853, in Zundert, Netherlands, and died on July 29, 1890 (37 years), in Auvers-sur-Oise, France. he belongs to the post-impressionism art movement. Vincent van Gogh's art style characteristics are emotional intensity, bold and dark colours, and distinctive wavy brushstrokes. His artworks influenced 20th-century art style. He takes their unique style of brightened colour palettes and loose brushstroke inspiration from impressionism and neo-impressionism.

In his whole artistic career, van Gogh created 2,100 artworks, of which around 860 are oil paintings. He didn't achieve success in his field when he was alive; he always struggled with poverty. And in the years of his life, he admitted himself under the care of Dr. Paul Gachet due to suffering from mental illness, and after some time, he committed suicide with a gunshot.

Famous works of Vincent van Gogh

1. The Starry Night
2. Wheatfield with Crows
3. Café terrace at night
4. The potato eaters



Picture 1.1: Picture of Vincent Van Gogh

Contribution of Vincent Van Gogh to Post-Impressionism

Vincent van Gogh, a Dutch painter and the most influential figure of post-impressionism and a whole Western art history. He was barely recognised during his lifetime; instead, some people believed in his artistic talent, including his brother Theo van Gogh and fellow artist and friend Paul Gauguin. He is now considered a pioneer of modern art, and van Gogh's works are the most expensive paintings ever sold at that time.

Vincent van Gogh became famous as an artist at the age of 27, and in 1880, he moved to Brussels and started working on his drawing technique and met with another artist. Van Gogh never trained, instead, he was inspired by other famous artists such as Jean-Francois Millet and Jules Breton, and because of the inspiration, he started to portray the life of the countryside people while working, their humble existence, peasants living, and natural landscapes. However, his work's impact on the post-impressionism art movement is undeniable because his unique style includes bold colour and expressive brushstrokes of emotionally intense representation. These techniques helped him to look different from Impressionism and develop a new style of art called post-impressionism.



Picture 1.2: Van Gogh painting

In the late 19th century, the 1880s, many artists began to find the limitations of the impressionism art movement and started work with a deeper analysis of forms, composition, colour palette, and emotional expression, and this led to the birth of post-impressionism. A British art critic, Roger Fry, gave the name to this art movement as Post-Impressionism in 1906. Impressionist artists like Vincent van Gogh, Paul Cezanne, and Paul Gauguin gave more growth to this art movement with their unique painting techniques. After the introduction of post-impressionism throughout Paris.

Vincent van Gogh's style transformed to dramatic, and his colour palette became brighter and his brush strokes more expressive. Vincent van Gogh's "Starry Night" is the best example of post-impressionism because it depicts emotional expression over objective reality.

Some Famous Works of Vincent Van Gogh

1. The Starry Night (1889), oil on canvas

The Stray Night is Van Gogh's most iconic work. He created it while he stayed at the Saint-Remy-de-Provence asylum. This painting is a beautiful depiction of the night sky from his window. It represents the swirling sky, the Cypress tree, the Village scene, and Luminous stars and moons.



Picture 1.3: The Starry Night, Van Gogh

2. Crows in wheat fields (1890), oil on canvas

Van Gogh painted this painting in July, just before his death. In this painting, he depicted the field of golden wheat under a turbulent, dark blue sky with swirling clouds and black crows flying low over the fields. The key elements of this painting are expressive and loose brushstrokes, impasto, and contrast between bright yellow and dark blue.



Picture 1.4: Crows in the wheat fields, Vincent van Gogh

3. Sunflowers (1889), oil on canvas

Vincent van Gogh is known for his Sunflowers painting. He painted this painting in the French town of Avignon. Van Gogh can show the essence of flowers with inherent beauty and innocence. In these sunflowers, van Gogh used bright yellow shades and highlighted every curve and contour of each stem and leaf. Overall, art artwork depicts a bouquet of 15 sunflowers in a vase.



Picture 1.5: Sunflower, Van Gogh

Objectives of The Study

The main objective of the study is to analyse the contribution of Vincent van Gogh to the development of Post-Impressionism. With some points like how van Gogh inspired himself for art and how he started a new art movement with such a vibrant colour palette and wavy brush strokes, and the way he showcased the intensity of the emotions in their painting and form, where he got inspired for this new art style. And how post-impressionism is different from impressionism. This study also shows Vincent van Gogh's love towards fields, clouds, and flowers, especially sunflowers, and outdoor compositions. And in the end, some famous works of Vincent van Gogh discussed are *Starry Night*, *Crows in a wheat field*, and *Sunflowers*.

Research Methodology

To complete this research paper, the researcher used secondary sources for data collection. These sources include books and short articles about the artist and artworks, as well as web links such as previous research, online articles, PDFs, pictures, and YouTube videos about the artist and their art style.

II.CONCLUSION

In the conclusion, include Vincent van Gogh's contribution to the development of post-impressionism. Van Gogh played a significant role in the rise of post-impressionism with his innovative artistic techniques like a vibrant colour palette, wavy, scarred colour brush strokes, and deeply expressive emotions. Offending his inspired form, previous movements infused his works with intense emotion, bold colours, and dynamic brush strokes that conveyed his psychological depth. And this led to the foundation of post-impressionism and the future art movements, Fauvism, and modern art. He was the central figure in the evolution of post-impressionism. The famous works of van Gogh include *Starry Night*, *The Night Café*, *Sunflowers*, *Almond Blossom*, and self-portraits.

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