



Artist & Composer Study

This session's featured artist is Thomas Gainsborough. We've included five art selections for your kids and teens to use for picture study. They are:

- *Gainsborough Self Portrait*
- *The Blue Boy*
- *Road from Market*
- *Frances Brown, Mrs. John Douglas*
- *The Gravenor Family*

Our featured composer is Benjamin Britten. We've included four of his pieces (with links to each) to listen to. They are:

- *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*
- *Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes*
- *War Requiem*
- *Simple Symphony*

Artist & Composer Study



Thomas Gainsborough

May 14, 1727 - August 2, 1788

Thomas Gainsborough was an English portrait and landscape painter who was one of the most important artists of the 18th century. He is known for his naturalistic style and for his ability to capture the essence and personality of his subjects.

Gainsborough was born in Suffolk, England on May 14, 1727. He showed an early interest in art and was encouraged by his father to study painting. As a child, he would often go on walks in the countryside and paint the landscapes he saw. He also enjoyed drawing portraits of his family and friends. He attended art school in London from 1740 to 1746, then began working as a professional artist, painting portraits of wealthy clients.

In 1759, Thomas married Margaret Burr, the daughter of a successful businessman, and the couple had six children together.

Gainsborough gained a reputation as one of the best portrait painters of his time. His sitters included King George III, Queen Charlotte, and the Duchess of Devonshire. He also painted many well-known actors and musicians, such as David Garrick and Johann Christian Bach.

In 1774, he moved to Bath, England. This was a fashionable spa town and he hoped to attract more wealthy clients.

Although he initially worked as a portrait painter in London, he found that he preferred painting landscapes and rural scenes to portraits, and gained acclaim for his paintings of the English countryside, which were filled with light and color. He traveled extensively throughout England and Europe, painting some of the most beautiful scenery he encountered.

Gainsborough's health began to decline until he died in 1788. However, his work was highly influential and helped to shape the course of English art in the 18th century.

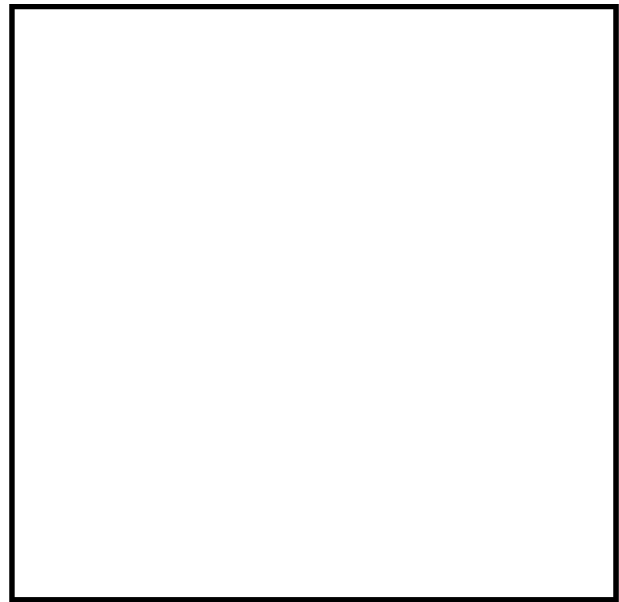
Artist Study

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Artist Fun Facts: _____



Art Mediums Used: _____

Famous Artworks: _____

Further Study:



Self-Portrait, 1759



The Blue Boy (1770)



Road from Market (1767 - 1768)



Frances Browne, Mrs. John Douglas (1783)



The Gravenor Family (1754)

Picture Study

Title: _____

Date Created: _____

Art Mediums Used: _____

Further Study: _____

Use the box to draw a picture inspired by this artwork.

