



Artist & Composer Study

This session has 4 featured artists: Claude Monet, Pierre August Renoir, Alfred Sisley, and Frederick Bazille. We've included one art selection from each artist for your kids and teens to use for picture study. They are:

- Monet's *Woman with a Parasol*
- Renoir's *Luncheon of the Boating Party*
- Sisley's *The Meadow*
- Bazille's *Family Reunion*

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

- La Mer
- Rêverie
- Clair de Lune
- Two Arabesques

Artist & Composer Study



Claude Monet

November 14, 1840 - December 5, 1926

Oscar-Claude Monet was born to Claude Adolphe Monet and Louise Justine Aubrée Monet on November 14th, 1840, in the 9th arrondissement of Paris. Monet's mother was a singer and fully supported his desire to become an artist, though his father wanted him to join the family grocery and ship supply business.

Monet's mother died when he was only 16 years old, so he decided to go live with his aunt and leave his schooling behind. He was drafted into the military for service in 1861 and was sent to Algeria.

While in Algeria, he created a few pieces that were lost. He served a year before contracting typhoid fever, after which his aunt purchased the remainder of his commission with the condition that

Monet take an actual art class. He quickly decided he did not care for conventional art.

In 1862, Monet became a student of Charles Gleyre and met other rising talents like Renoir and Sisley. They explored new methods of painting, including painting the light they saw "en plein air," meaning "outdoors." This method would develop into what we now call Impressionism. Impressionism got its name from Monet's painting *Impression, Sunrise*. This was put on exhibit in 1874 at the first exhibition of the group of young painters who had all been denied the opportunity to have pieces in the Académie des Beaux-Arts.

Monet's first wife Camille died in 1879. Soon after, he recruited Alice Hoschedé to help raise his 2 sons. She took them to Paris to be with her 6 children. Monet and Alice married in 1892. They lived together at his famed house and gardens in Giverny. Monet died of lung cancer on December 5th, 1926, and was buried at the Giverny church cemetery.



Woman with a Parasol, 1875

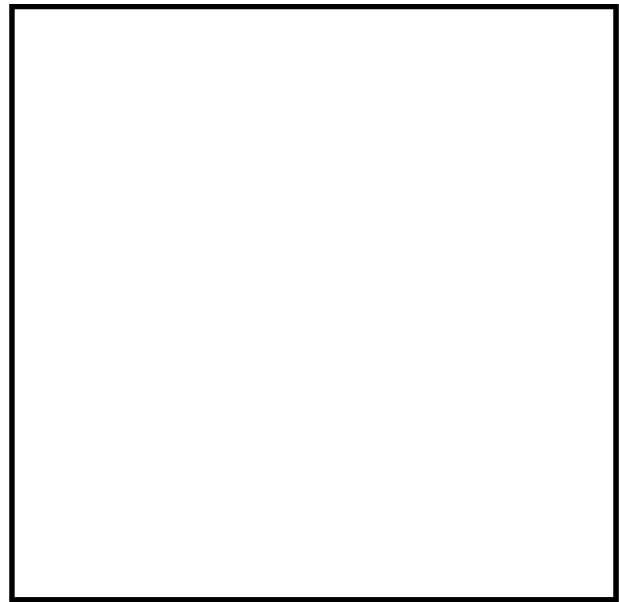
Artist Study

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Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Artist Fun Facts: _____



Art Mediums Used: _____

Famous Artworks: _____

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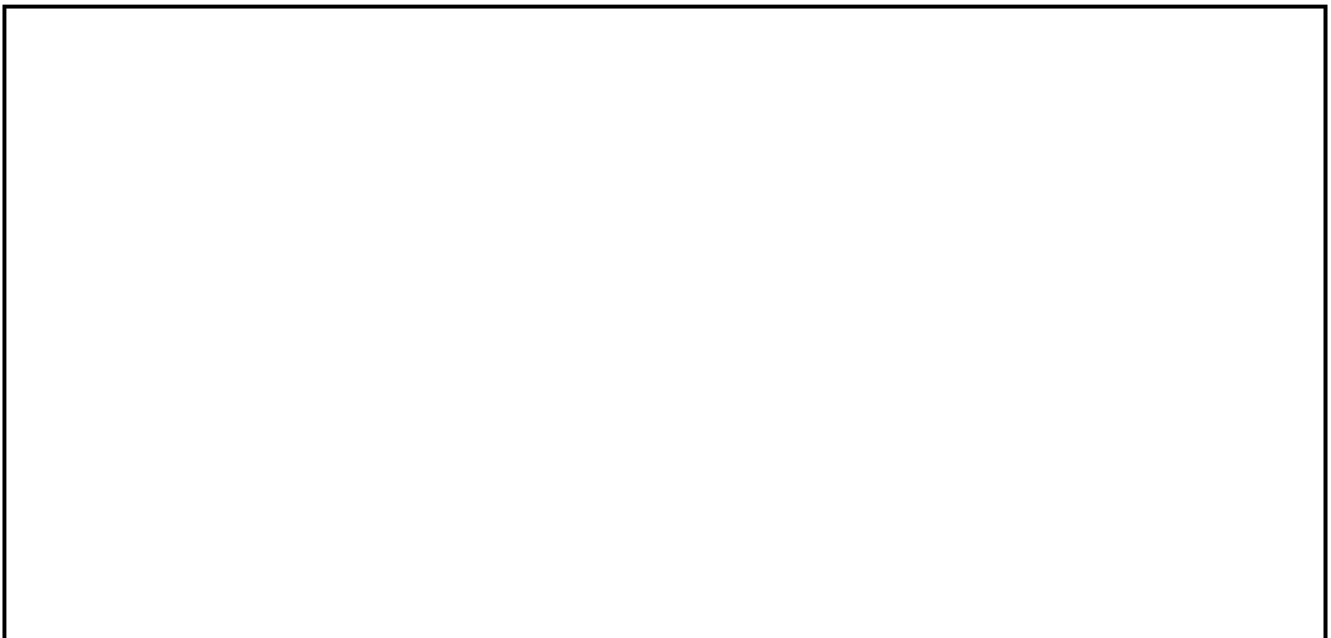
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Use the box to draw a picture inspired by this artwork.





Pierre August Renoir

February 25, 1841 - December 3, 1919

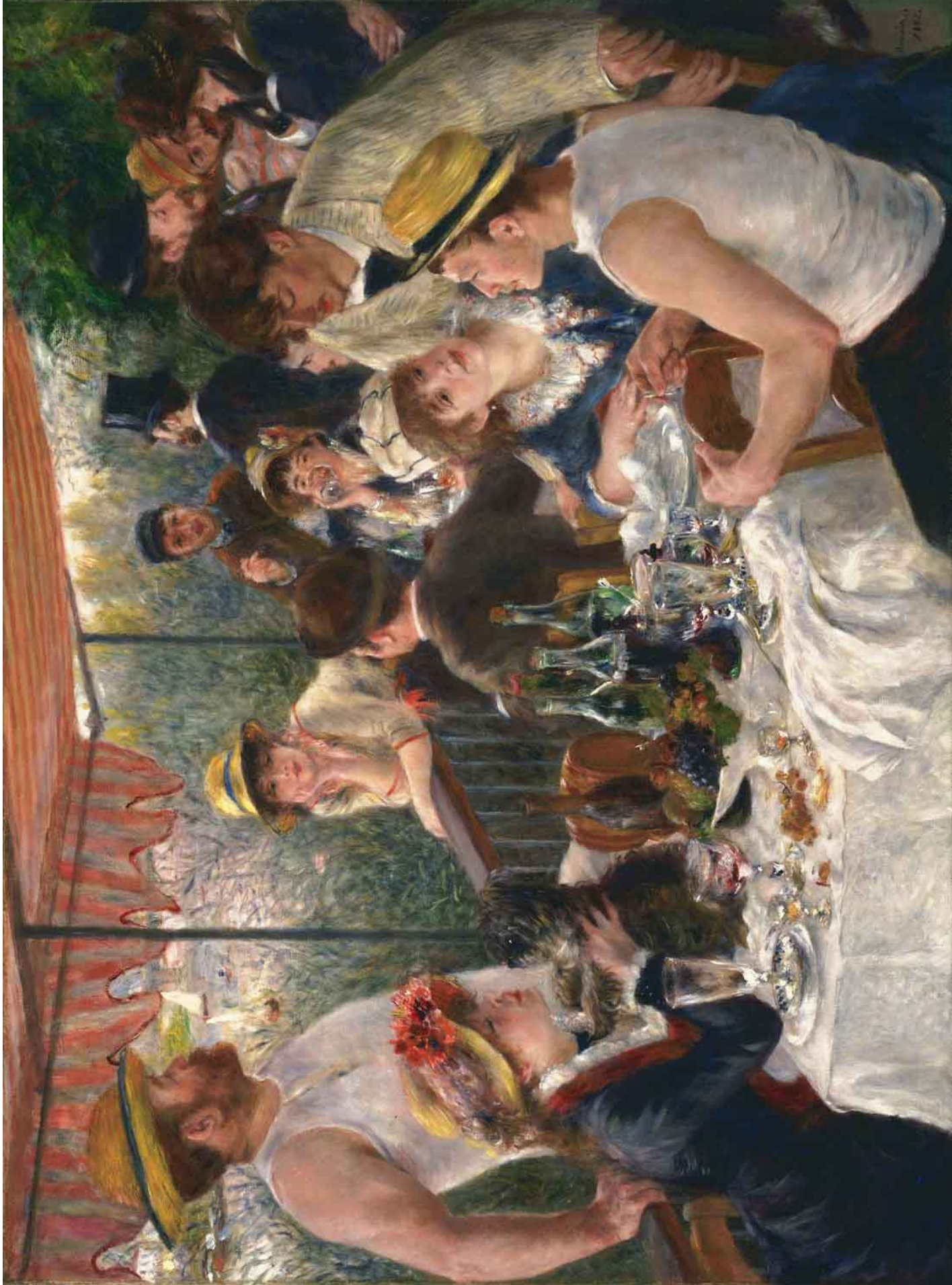
Pierre-Auguste Renoir was one of the leading figures of the Impressionist movement, which revolutionized European painting in the late 19th century. Born on February 25, 1841, in Limoges, France, he was originally trained as a porcelain painter before attending Charles Gleyre's studio to study painting. While at Gleyre's, Renoir developed his own style, characterized by scenes of everyday life, bright colors, and strong brushstrokes.

Renoir's first important painting was the 1868 work *Lise with a Parasol*, which featured his future wife Aline Charigot. In the early 1870s, he began to focus more on outdoor scenes featuring various aspects of the French countryside and the river Seine. His most iconic works from this period include *Luncheon of the Boating Party* (1881) and *The Swing* (1876).

In the 1880s, Renoir developed a style characterized by a softer palette and more intimate subject matter. He also began to experiment with the use of pastels, which he described as "the most perfect of all colors." Some of his best-known works from this period include *Dance at Bougival* (1883) and *The Ball at the Moulin de la Galette* (1876).

Renoir was also a prolific sculptor and art collector. He traveled extensively throughout his life, including to the Mediterranean Sea in search of inspiration. After suffering from rheumatoid arthritis since 1910, Renoir died at the age of 78 on December 3, 1919, in Cagnes-sur-Mer, France.

Renoir's legacy lives on through his works and the continued influence of Impressionism in modern art. His paintings are held in museums around the world, including the Musée d'Orsay in Paris, France, and The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. He is often cited as one of the greatest painters of all time and continues to be an inspiration for generations of artists.



Luncheon of the Boating Party, 1881

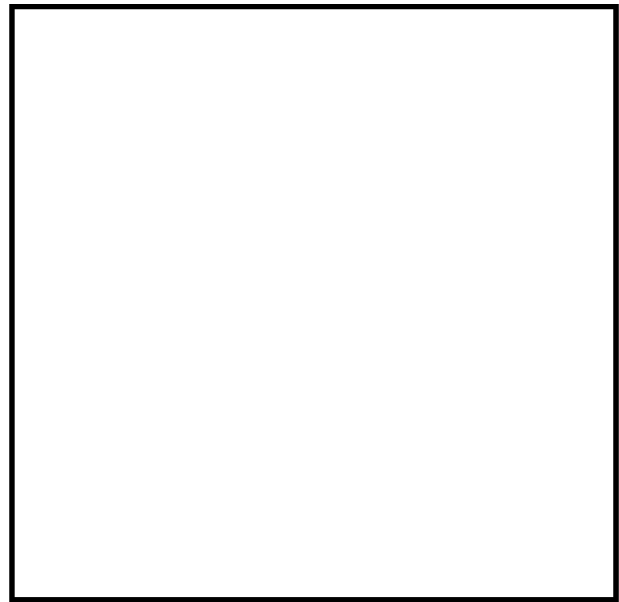
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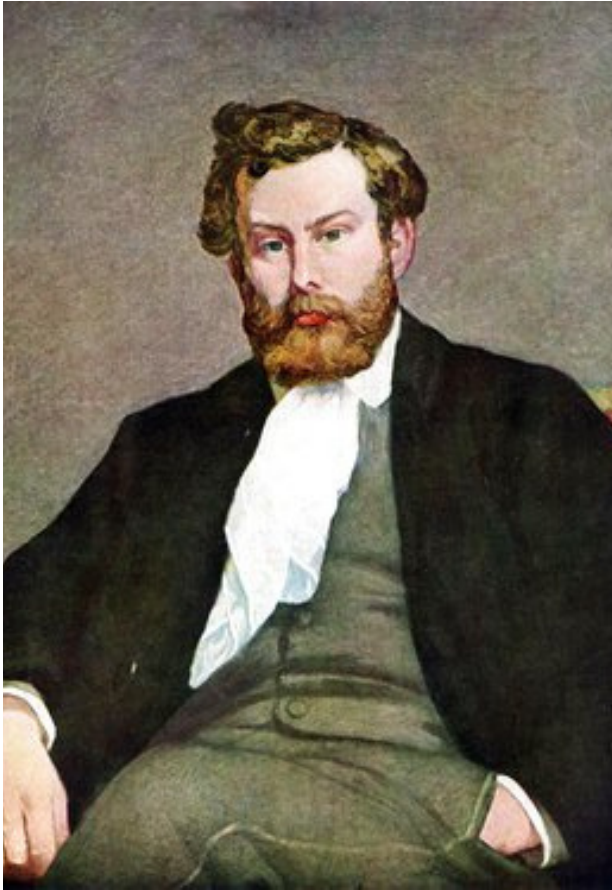
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Alfred Sisley

October 30, 1839 – January 29, 1899

Alfred Sisley (1839-1899) was an Impressionist painter from France. He was born in Paris to affluent English parents and studied art at the École des Beaux-Arts. In 1860, he traveled to London, where he developed a strong interest in landscape painting.

Sisley moved to the countryside near Paris in 1865 and devoted himself to painting landscapes. He was an admirer of both Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot and Eugène Boudin, two landscape painters who had a strong influence on his work.

Sisley painted many scenes of the Seine Valley, often depicting floods and storms. He was also known for his depiction of the lush poplar trees which lined the flowing river. His technique is characterized by short brushstrokes, bright colors, and a focus on light and atmosphere in his paintings.

In 1874, Sisley joined the Impressionists, led by Claude Monet. Although he participated in their exhibitions, Sisley was never truly part of the movement. Instead, he developed a unique style characterized by his use of small brushstrokes and light touches on the canvas.

In 1878, Sisley left Paris and settled in the village of Moret-sur-Loing in Seine-et-Marne, where he painted numerous landscapes and river scenes. He spent the rest of his life in this village, painting until his death in 1899.

Today, Sisley's works can be found in major museums around the world, including the Musée d'Orsay in Paris and the National Gallery in London. His paintings remain an important part of the Impressionist movement.



The Meadow, 1875

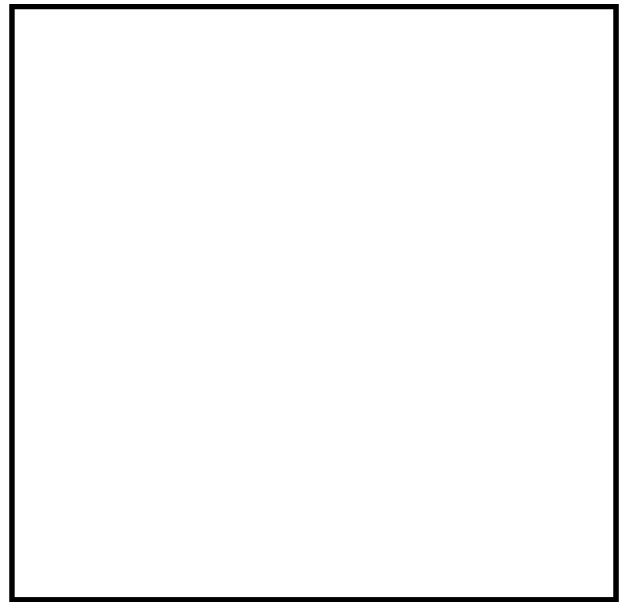
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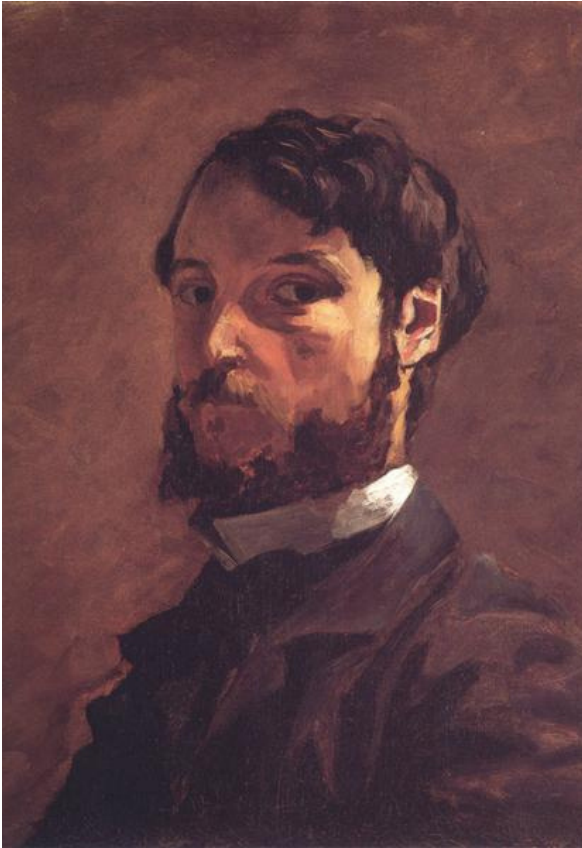
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Frédéric Bazille

December 6, 1841 – November 28, 1870

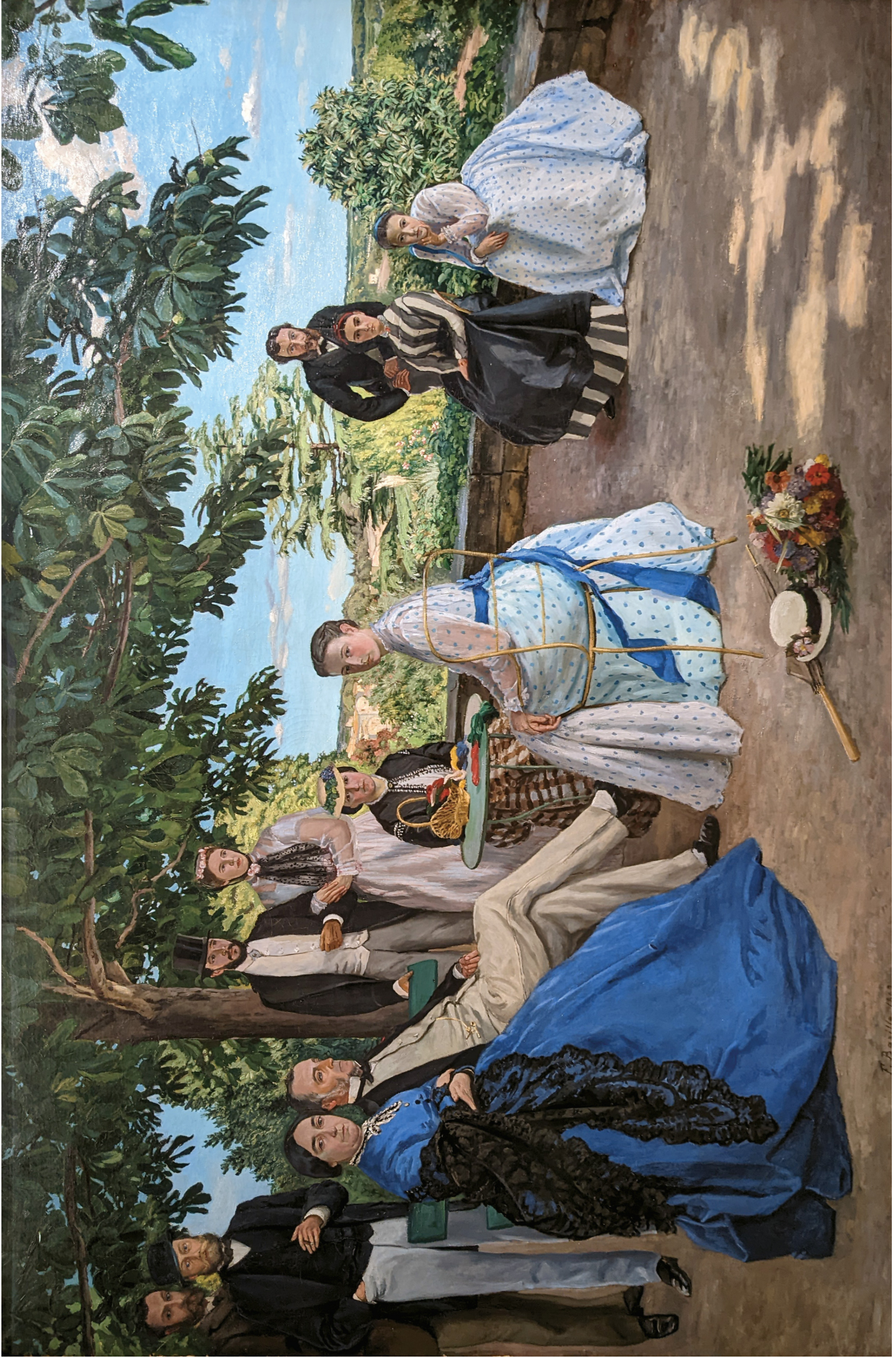
Frederic Bazille (1841-1870) was a French Impressionist painter and sculptor. He is best known for his modern realist style of painting, which focused on the everyday lives of ordinary people in rural settings. Born in Montpellier into an affluent middle-class family, he initially studied medicine at the University of Montpellier but soon gave up his studies to pursue an artistic career.

He became a student of Charles Gleyre in Paris in 1862, and later studied under Gustave Courbet. His early works were influenced by Realism and Naturalism as practiced by the Barbizon School painters. In 1866, Bazille moved to the Parisian neighborhood of Montmartre, where he worked alongside artists such as Monet and Renoir. This was a period of experimentation for him; he began to

explore the use of light and color to capture everyday life, which would become his signature style. He was particularly interested in depicting scenes from cabarets and cafes in Paris, often featuring lively conversations among working-class people.

In 1869-1870, Bazille's works began to gain recognition both in France and abroad. His painting *The Family Reunion* (1867) was purchased by the Musée d'Orsay, and he was invited to participate in the first Impressionist exhibition in 1874. His influence can be seen in many of Monet's paintings from this period, particularly his seascapes.

Tragically, Bazille was killed during the Franco-Prussian War at the age of 28. Though his time as a painter was short, his influence on the Impressionist movement was profound and continues to be felt today. His pioneering use of light and color to capture everyday life has made him one of the most beloved figures in modern art history. Despite having a brief career, Bazille left behind some truly remarkable works that reflect his innovative vision. *The Family Reunion* remains one of the most iconic images of Impressionism and is widely considered to be among the greatest works in French painting. He also left behind many sketches and drawings that demonstrate the extent of his experimentation with form and technique.



Family Reunion, 1867

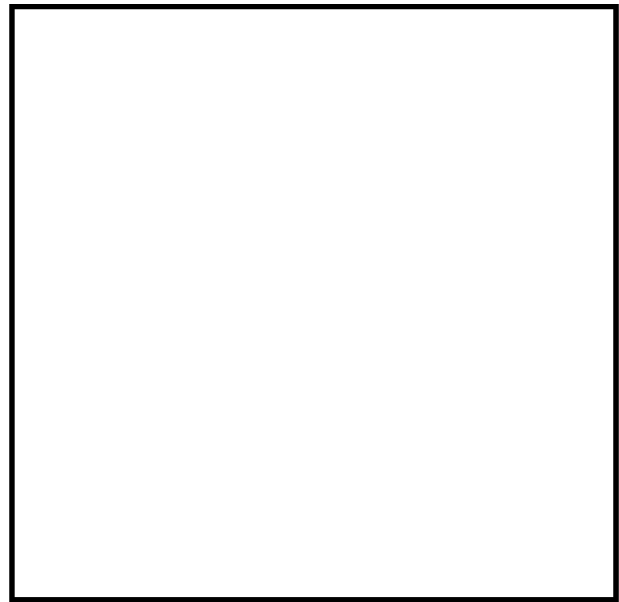
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