

Post-Impressionism

Art & Design

Four painters who took Impressionist colour and put structure back into it.

A retrospective label, coined by Roger Fry in London in 1910.

The argument

Impressionism had dissolved structure

Colour can carry feeling, not only light

Form should be constructed, not dissolved

Roughly 1886 to 1905

Cézanne

Nature as cylinder, sphere and cone

Shifting viewpoints in one canvas

Colour used to model the form

Directly ancestral to Cubism

Van Gogh, Gauguin

Van Gogh: colour as feeling, loaded stroke

Gauguin: flat areas inside dark outline

Both looked outside European convention

Gauguin's Tahiti work is also colonial

Seurat

Divisionism: separate touches of colour

Built on Chevreul's colour theory

Mixing left to the eye, not the palette

La Grande Jatte, 1884 to 1886

Post-Impressionism is a label applied afterwards to painters who never formed a group and disagreed with each other.