

# Describing Gauguin's paintings

As we saw in the video and in the biography,  
Gauguin was inspired and influenced by  
**many cultures**  
**all over the world**

## Peruvian art and imagery



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Portrait\\_Vessel\\_of\\_a\\_Ruler,\\_100\\_BC\\_-\\_500\\_AD,\\_Moche,\\_north\\_coast\\_of\\_Peru,\\_ceramic\\_and\\_pigment\\_-\\_Art\\_Institute\\_of\\_Chicago\\_-\\_DSC00321.JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Portrait_Vessel_of_a_Ruler,_100_BC_-_500_AD,_Moche,_north_coast_of_Peru,_ceramic_and_pigment_-_Art_Institute_of_Chicago_-_DSC00321.JPG)

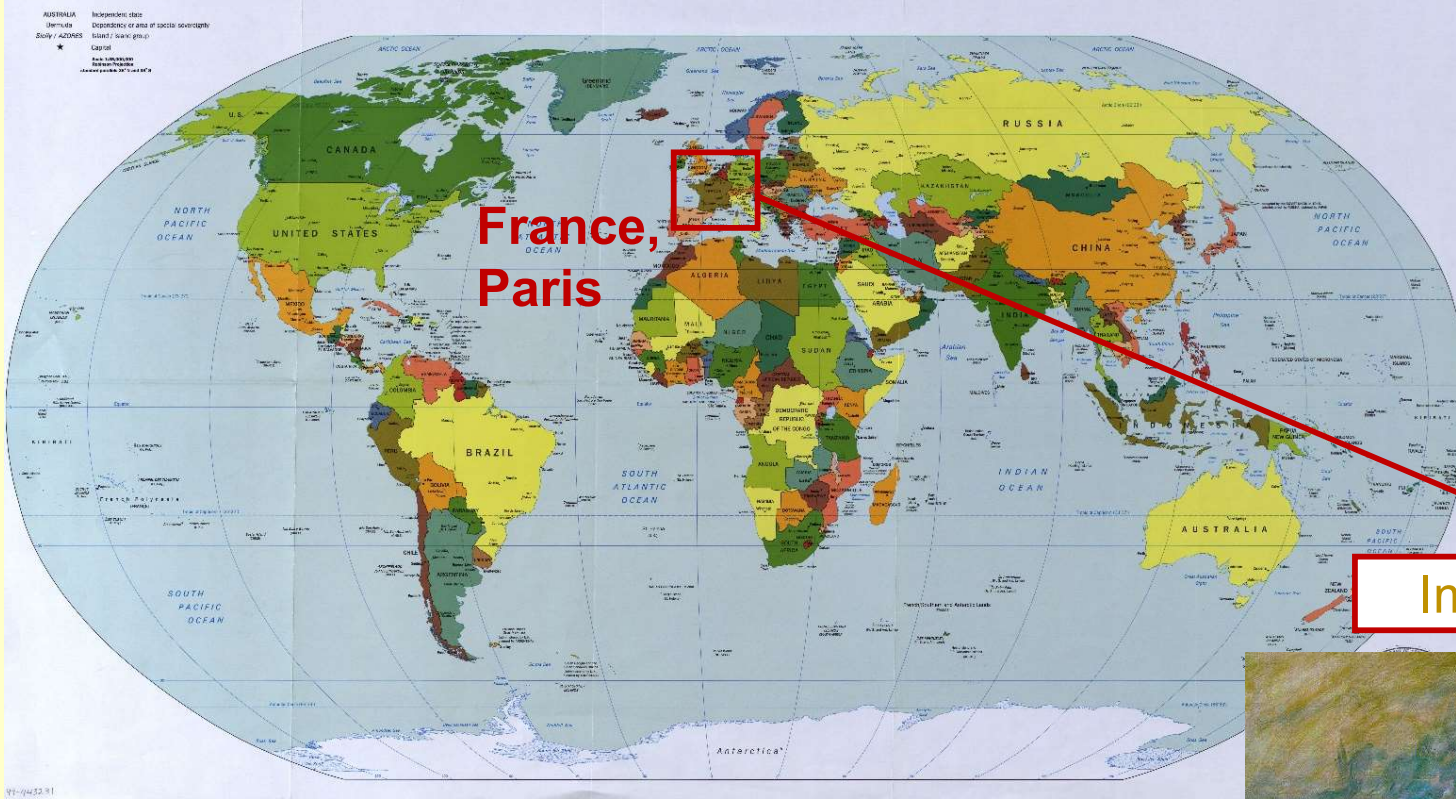
Pieces of ancient Peruvian art



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4c/Ethnologisches\\_Museum\\_Dahlem\\_Berlin\\_Mai\\_2006\\_002.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4c/Ethnologisches_Museum_Dahlem_Berlin_Mai_2006_002.jpg)



Political Map of the World, June 1998



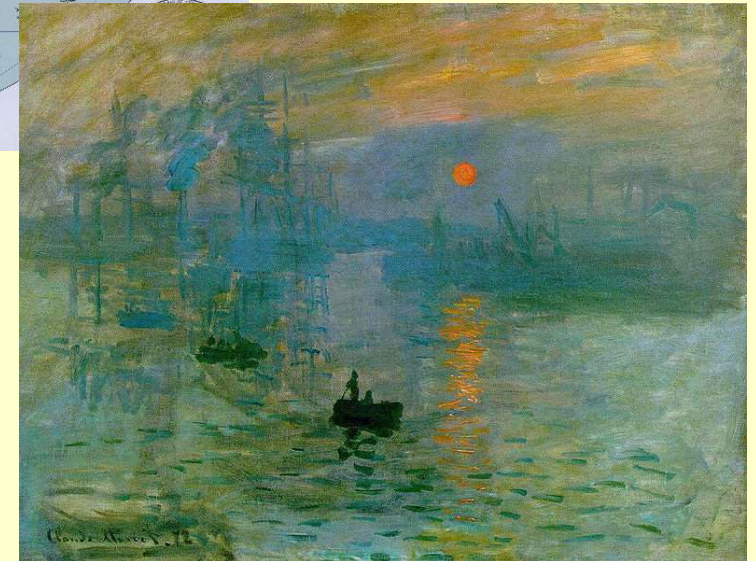
France,  
Paris

Impressionist art

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gauguin\\_1875\\_Le\\_Port\\_de\\_Grenelle\\_1.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Gauguin_1875_Le_Port_de_Grenelle_1.jpg)



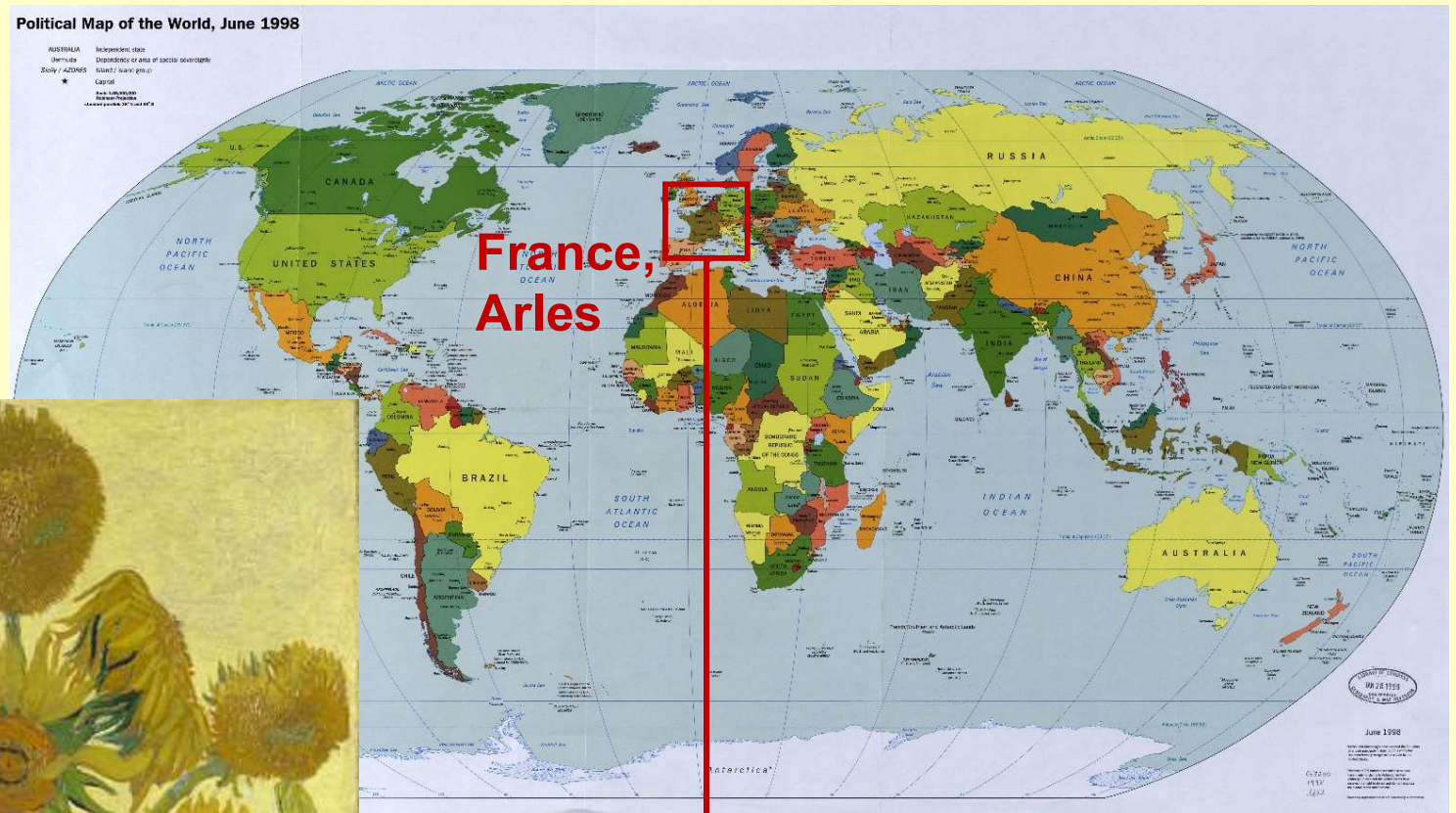
*Port de Grenelle, Gauguin 1875*



*Impression Sunrise, Monet 1872*

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Claude\\_Monet,\\_Impression,\\_soleil\\_levant,\\_1872.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Claude_Monet,_Impression,_soleil_levant,_1872.jpg)





Van Gogh  
Post-Impressionist art

*Vase with fifteen sunflowers,*  
Van Gogh 1888





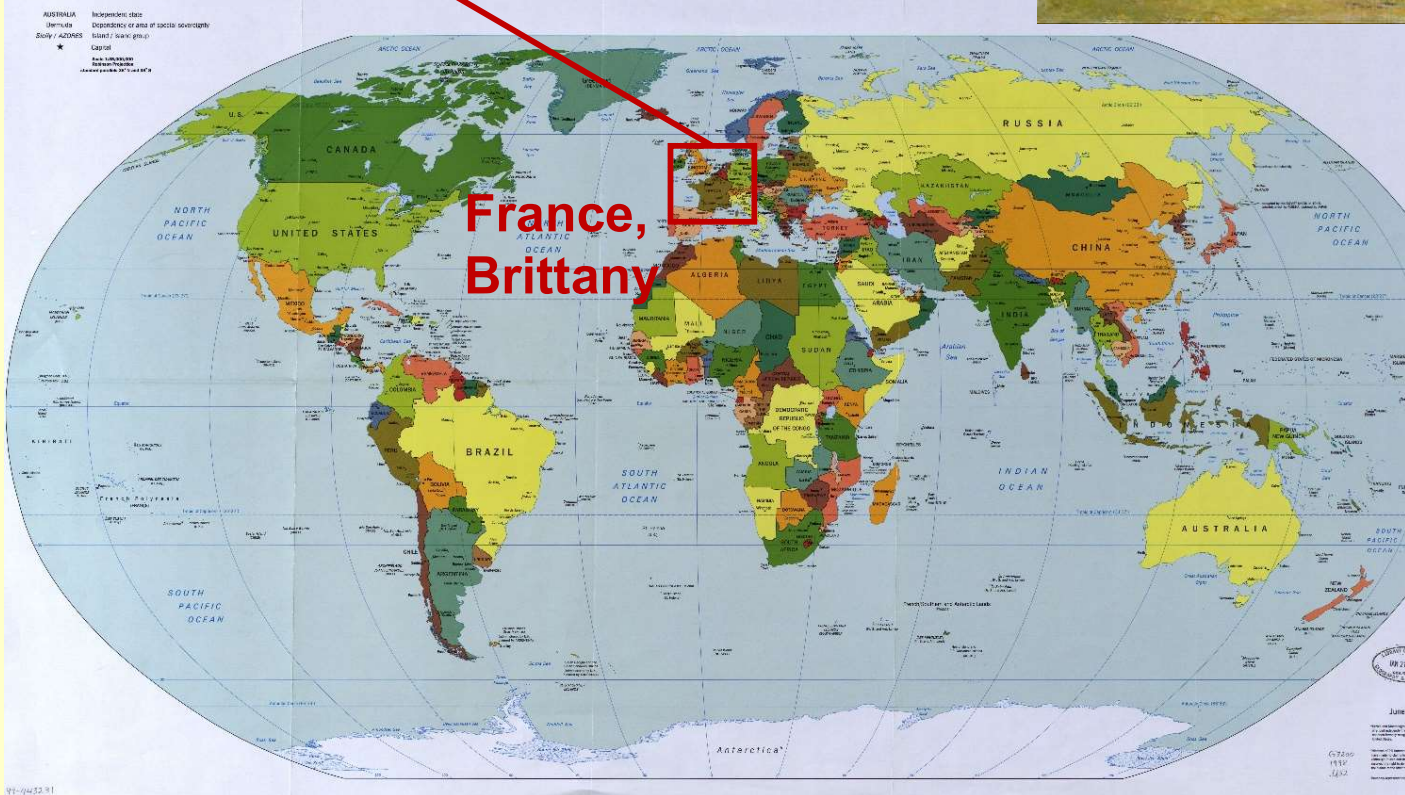
*Breton girls dancing, Gauguin 1888*



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Paul\\_Gauguin\\_-\\_Breton\\_Girls\\_Dancing\\_-\\_Pont-Aven\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Paul_Gauguin_-_Breton_Girls_Dancing_-_Pont-Aven_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)

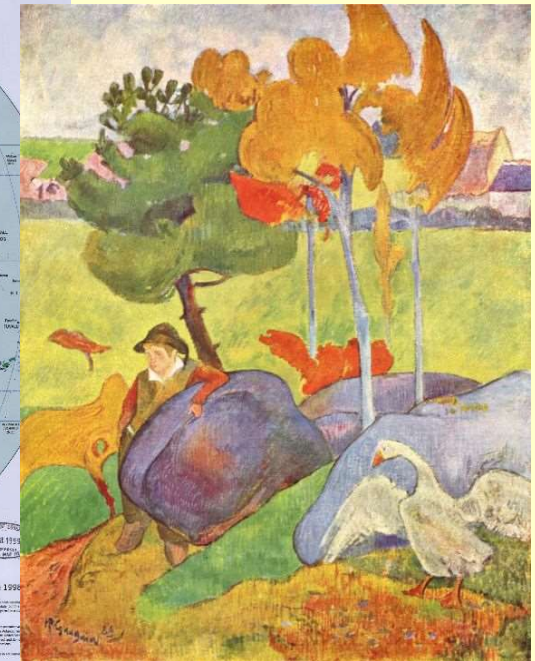
Bretons' shapes, colours,  
traditional dresses

Political Map of the World, June 1998



France,  
Brittany

*Breton boy with goose, 1889*



<https://it.pinterest.com/pin/60657926209685996/>



Political Map of the World, June 1998



Polynesia,  
Tahiti

Polynesian colours, images,  
landscapes



Arearea ,  
Gauguin 1892

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Arearea\\_by\\_Paul\\_Gauguin.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Arearea_by_Paul_Gauguin.jpg)



Gauguin  
was also  
inspired by  
Japanese art



Japan: woodblock prints

were exported to Europe and  
were very famous among  
French artists



<https://mymodernmet.com/rhythm-force-star-wars-japanese-woodblock-style/>



Here are some examples of woodblock prints  
by **Hokusai, a famous Japanese artist.**



***View of Mount Fuji***, Hokusai 1830





*View of Mount Fuji, No. 45*, Hokusai 1830





***View of Mount Fuji, No.29, Hokusai 1830***



What did you notice?

Dark outline

Simplified shapes



Overlapped  
surfaces (no  
perspective)

*View of Mount Fuji, No.41*, Hokusai 1830



Let's look at a Gauguin's  
**landascape painting**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Paul\\_Gauguin\\_-\\_Tahitian\\_Landscape\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Paul_Gauguin_-_Tahitian_Landscape_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)



***Tahitian landscape***, Gauguin 1891



**Try to describe this painting**  
using some adjectives  
and expressions you already know  
(work in pairs)

Some suggestions.....



## **What does the painting depict?**

A landscape, paradise, forest, animals, people,...

In the foreground, in the background...

## **What is the subject like?**

Tropical, primitive, calm, colourful, joyful, calm,  
relaxed atmosphere

## **How did Gauguin paint it?**

Inspired by..., with dark outline, flat surface in intense  
colours, simplified shapes....

## **What are colours like?**

Bright, intense, vibrant, contrasting, complementary...



<https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1036649049500942339>



Lets try to create our  
**Gauguin's wordcloud**

.....

.....

.....

inspiration landscape overlapped  
colourful shape calm woodcut  
paradise surface joyful prints  
bright primitive simplified intense  
unnatural complementary tropical  
Japanese contrasting dark  
flat vibrant  
atmosphere relaxed  
surfaces outline

WordItOut