Key Facts

Seurat is seen as one of the fathers of the post-impressionists. Seurat adopted a scientific approach to his art, thinking carefully about colour theory and relying on the human eye to see colours that weren't really there. His first attempts to have his work exhibited at the Paris Salon were refused.

It took Seurat two years to complete Bathers at Asnieres. Some of his works were at first considered 'messy', as viewers did not understand that the large pictures were not constructed to be viewed up close.

Key Work



Bathers at Asnieres (1884) Seurat's first major work, which shows working class men relaxing by the River Seine. It was rejected by the Paris Salon (a very important art exhibition between 1748 and 1890).

Key Vocabulary Primary A colour of pigment colour that cannot be made by mixing others. Secondary A colour of pigment colour made by mixing two primary colours. Tertiary A colour of pigment colour made by mixing a primary and a secondary colour. Tint A colour mixed with white only. Shade A colour mixed with black only. Types of Paint Acrylic Brightly coloured and can be used on many surfaces.

Oil-based

Water-

based

Gouache

Slow drying, with a

Very opaque, with a

appearance when dry.

glossy finish. Leave pigment on

evaporates.

slightly chalky

Georges Seurat (1859 - 1891)



Key Work



An Afternoon on the Island of La *Grande Jatte* (1884-1886) This huge picture is 3m wide. It shows the different classes of French society engaged in different activities.

Year 3 Knowledge Organiser **Pigment:** Paint

- Mix a variety of colours and know which primary colours make which secondary colours.
- Use a developed colour • vocabulary, eq tint, tone, shade, hue.
- Experiment with different effects, equipment and textures.



Key Styles and Influences

Seurat was part of a group of artists called the postimpressionists. Like the impressionists before them, they used vivid colours, thick paint and real-life subject matter, but they wanted more emotion in their work.

Seurat developed pointillism, in which paint was applied in overlapping dots of different colours to create the desired image. Paul Signac and Felix Fènéon also used pointillism. Other post-impressionist artists include Paul Cezanne, Paul Gaugin and Vincent Van Gogh.

Key Work



Circus Sideshow (1889) Seural's first nocturnal painting, and the first to show popular entertainment. It shows people queuing to buy tickets for the circus, having seen by the sideshow.

Examples of Existing Art Acrylic paint



Turgoise Marilyn (1964) Andy Warhol (1928-1987)

Oil paint



Mona Lisa (1503-1506) Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

Gouache



Self Portrait (1911) Kazimir Malevich (1879-1935)