

# IMPRESSIONISM

## I. Background Information

- A. Artistic movement in France in the late 1800s
- B. Started with an independent exhibition, established galleries would no show impressionistic art.
- C. The movement takes it's name from a painting by Monet called *Impression: Sunrise*
- D. Impressionist artists tried to just give an impression of what they painted not show every detail

## II. Claude Monet (1840-1926)

- A. Leader of the impressionist movement
- B. Organized the first showing of impressionist art
- C. Among his most famous works are many paintings of water lillies

## III. Auguste Renoir (1841-1919)

- A. Optimist, tried to see and paint the happy scenes of life
- B. Often painted happy scenes, families, parties

## IV. Edgar Degas (1834-1917)

- A. Less optimistic the Renoir, wanted to show things how they were, happy or otherwise
- B. Particularly fascinated with dancers and women's backs.

## V. Mary Cassatt (1844-1926)

- A. American by origin, lived in Paris much of her adult life
- B. Well known for her paintings of mothers and infants