

Who were these people???

Antoine Louis Barye, an innovative sculptor, was the father of *Les Animaliers*, a movement of animal artists who rejected neoclassical academic standards and created naturalistic sculptures that blended Romanticism and realism. Though his perfectionism precluded his becoming commercially successful, his influence on followers made him one of the most influential artists of the 19th century.

Rosa Bonheur was immensely successful with her paintings in the style of *Les Animaliers*. Her works were considered so realistic, people thought they could smell the animals and dirt. She studied animals at every opportunity and even kept a small menagerie in her sixth floor Parisian apartment.

Jules Pierre Mene learned to work a foundry from his father, which was crucial to his success later in life. In 1837, he established his very own foundry to make sculptures in the tradition of *Les Animaliers*. He was a huge commercial success, and his stamp was used in castings well after his death.

Jacob van Ruisdael, especially known for his cloudscapes, was one of the Dutch "Old Masters" and a contemporary of both Rubens and Rembrandt. Prefiguring Romanticism, his works brought emotive power and individual expression to landscape painting and later inspired both Hudson River School and Barbizon painters. Currently, this is the oldest painting on display in the Gallery.

Giovanni Piranesi loved the Roman ruins that littered his native Italy. He had an eye for discerning the original architectural design of a building, mostly leaning toward Gothic and Romantic interpretations. When he fell ill with a fever, he dreamed of *the Prisons*, a collection of 16 etchings made in 1761.

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Brief Biographies of a Few of the European Artists, con't

Charles Jacque was a member of the Barbizon School, a French art movement that brought Romantic principles to landscape painting. He focused on domestic animals and became known as the "Raphael of pigs." Inspired by the Forest of Fontainebleau, the Barbizon painters contradicted academic standards in several regards, including believing that humble subjects were worthy of painting and that artists had the ability to recognize in nature that which is beautiful and fit for artistic treatment.

Alfred Stevens, a Belgian artist, was one of the favorites of the Paris Salon, receiving the status of *hors concours* which guaranteed his inclusion in every year's exhibition. Though he remained a mainstream artist focusing on painting fashionable women in upscale interiors, he was a friend of the Impressionists, and eventually incorporated many of their methods into his work, including broken brushwork, vivid color, and the use of Japanese motifs.

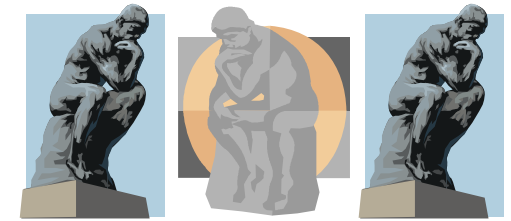
Mary Cassatt was born in Philadelphia, but spent most of her life in Paris. She was one of the original French Impressionists and extremely influential in the spread of Impressionism to America. Though Impressionism is often associated with landscapes, Cassatt was primarily a figurative artist best known for her paintings of mothers and children, usually completed in a single sitting.

Josiah Wedgwood was an innovator and genius when it came to pottery. Not only did he invent a new earthenware that impressed Queen Charlotte, thus its name Queen's Ware, but he also invented Jasperware, Parian Ware, Majolica, and perfected a technique for working with flaky basalt.

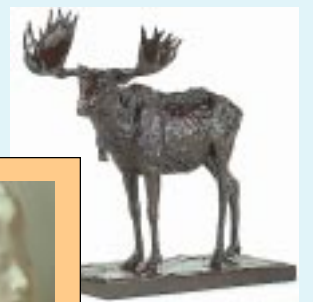
Auguste Rodin is considered to be one of the greatest sculptors the world has ever known. Ironically, he failed to get into the premiere French art school, the Ecole des Beaux Arts because he failed the sculpting exam three times. He is considered to be the bridge between Romanticism (think of his statues *The Kiss* and *Eternal Spring*) and Modernism (*View Head of young Girl*--the figure is emerging from the raw marble--the piece looks almost unfinished).

R. W. Norton Art Gallery
Shreveport, LA 71106

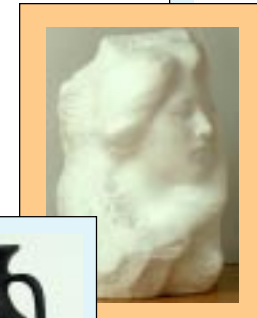
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The R.W Norton Art Gallery Answer Key for "Meet a Few European Artists"



Elk, Barye

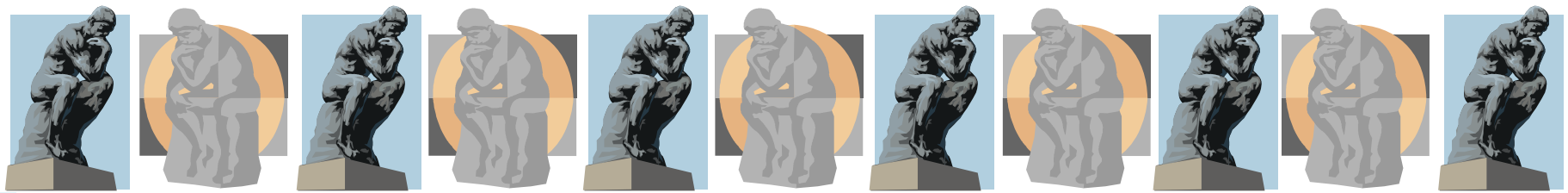


Head of a Young Girl, Rodin



Portland Vase, Wedgwood





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Bartholdi	Barye	Bonheur	Carrier-Belleuse
Cassatt	Corot	Cretif	Dalou
Greuter	Gutenberg	Houdon	Jacque
Mene	Piranesi	Ptolemy	Rodin
Romano	Stevens	Van Ruisdael	Wedgwood



Barye



Van Ruisdael

Who's
Who



Stevens



Wedgwood



Bonheur

What's
What



Cassatt



Piranesi

