



**Artist:** Paul Cezanne  
**Lifespan:** 1839 - 1906  
**Nationality:** French  
**Style of art:** Post-Impressionist

### Brief Biography:

- Paul Cezanne, the illegitimate son of a wealthy, dominating banker, was born in Aix-en-Provence, France. Although his father did not approve that Cezanne abandoned his legal studies to become an artist, he gave him a small living allowance. When Cezanne's father died, he inherited his father's wealth
- Emile Zola, the famous novelist and a close childhood friend, encouraged Cezanne's artistic endeavors. When Zola wrote a novel about an artist who was a failure, Cezanne thought Zola had used him as a basis for his main character, and ended the friendship.
- He moved to Paris in 1861 to study art. There, he met Camille Pissarro, an impressionist painter, who served as his mentor and guide, and introduced him to painting outdoors.
- When he was 30, he took Hortense Fiquet as his mistress, and three years later, she gave birth to their son. He kept his family secret, but after 17 years together, when his father died, they married.
- He felt uncomfortable with people, phobic about physical contact and isolated himself.
- He was not very successful until in 1895 when Vollard, an art dealer in Paris, exhibited his works in a one man show.
- He died of pneumonia, after being caught in a storm, at the age of 67.

### Influences and Impact:

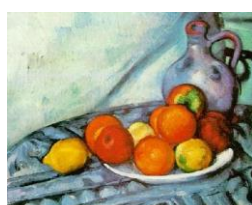
- Steam Engine facilitates travel in 19<sup>th</sup> century. Camera invented in 1839. Oil paints in metal tubes (1840) allowed artists to work outdoors.
- Impressionists felt that a photo could record what something looked like, but not how one saw it, and hence tried to capture the fleeting moment of seeing using subjects in the world around them
- Cézanne wanted to make Impressionism solid and durable.
- Revived still life whose popularity had declined from the 17<sup>th</sup> century Holland.
- Had a profound influence on 20<sup>th</sup> century art opened the gateway for cubism (incorporated block like patches and multiple perspectives), fauvism (intensified Cezanne's warm/cool contrast), and abstract art (liberation from real world imitation).

### Famous Works:

Mont Sainte Victoire



Fruit and Jug on Table



The Card Players



The Bathers

