

A. Georges Seurat - Information

1. Georges-Pierre Seurat (2 December 1859 – 29 March 1891)
2. Born in Paris, France
3. He is best known for devising the painting technique known as pointillism.
4. He was influenced by Goya, Rembrandt, Delacroix and the Impressionists.
5. He began painting 'Sunday Afternoon at La Grande Jatte' in 1883. It took him two years to complete.
6. Seurat spent many years studying scientific theories regarding colour.
7. Seurat died from Meningitis in 1891.

C. Pictorial Analysis of 'La Grande Jatte'



Three figures from different social classes. Pipe smoking, muscular boatman, lady with her book and a dapper top-hatted 'toff'.



Monkeys were fashionable pets at the time. However, the monkey is also a symbol of licentiousness.

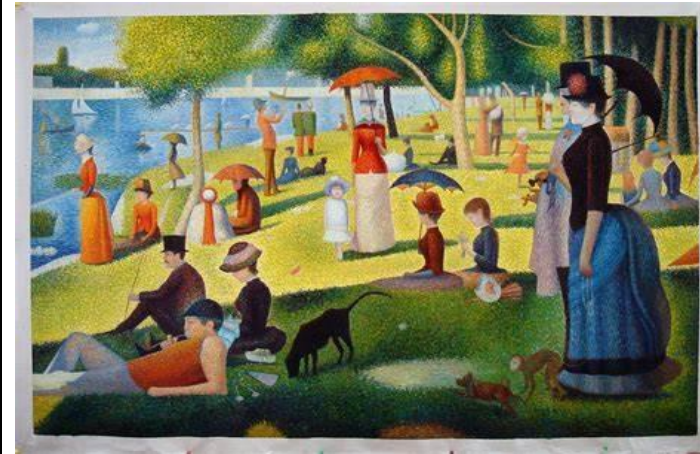


Reduced to the simplified forms of toy soldiers, these distant figures appear to be different from the other characters in the painting.

B. Analysis

1. Seurat based most of his compositions on classical principles, including the 'Golden Section'
2. Also known as the **Golden Section** or the Divine **Proportion**, this mathematical principle is an expression of the **ratio** of two sums whereby their **ratio** is equal to the larger of the two quantities.
3. The characters in the painting have been stylised and appear to have an impersonal or artificial quality.
4. The painting appears to be a commentary on modern Parisian life.
5. Seurat produced over 60 separate studies to prepare for this painting.
6. The painting is filled with symbolism.
7. The technique which Seurat pioneered is known as Pointillism.

D. Sunday afternoon at La Grande Jatte information



- Georges Seurat
- 1886
- Oil on Canvas
- 207.6 x 308cm
- Art Institute of Chicago, USA

Task: Learn/cover/write George Seurat information, Analysis, Pictorial Analysis and Sunday afternoon at La Grande Jatte information.