

Eugène Henri Paul Gauguin



Eugène Henri Paul Gauguin was born on the 7th June 1848, in Paris, France. In 1851 he moved with his family to Peru, South America. They lived there for four years with his uncle and his family. Images of Peru would influence his art in years to come. At the age of 7 the family moved back to France.

In 1873 he married a Danish woman called Mette-Sophie Gad and they had 5 children. They moved to Copenhagen, but left his family in Denmark when he returned to France to pursue his painting. He was to become a leading Post-Impressionist artist, painter, sculptor, printmaker, ceramist and writer.

One of his close friends in France was Vincent van Gogh. Their relationship was rocky and it was after an argument with Gauguin that van Gogh famously lost part of his ear.

Gauguin travelled far and wide looking for success with his work, including Tahiti, Panama and Martinique. While in Martinique it is estimated that he painted around 12 pieces. He lived in a mud hut there and painted the people living around him including a community of Indian immigrants. His work was often bold and colourful and he is known to have influenced van Gogh and Pablo Picasso.

Gauguin died at the age of 54.

Now choose two of these activities to do:

- ✚ With Easter coming up, research Gauguin's painting *The Yellow Christ* and write 250-300 words about it. Do not copy and paste from other websites.
- ✚ Create your own version of *The Yellow Christ* - use which ever materials you have e.g. coloured pencils, paint, torn paper for a collage.
- ✚ Print out a map of the world and colour / label the countries he visited. Use a different colour for each country. Mark the capitals of each of the countries too.
- ✚ Make a PowerPoint about the life of his friend van Gogh. Again, do not copy and paste from a website.