



Jean-François Millet
Millet's artwork reflected his values and humble manner of living. He found beauty in the life of peasants, as seen here in his painting, *The Gleaners*. Millet saw virtue and Godliness in physical labor and had a great respect for the life of the lower class. He often depicted them in a manner that was traditionally reserved for more exalted subjects. "A peasant I was born, a peasant I will die."
- J. F. Millet



Realism

Quick Facts

- Recognized as the first modern art movement that rejected traditional ideas about what art was
- It depicted real-life events and real-life people no matter their status
- Introduced artists as self-publicists fueled by the explosion of print media

Characteristics and Types

- Used dark and earthy color palettes to challenge the traditional, idealistic view of beauty
- Challenged the materialistic values or conventional attitudes of the upper and middle class



Honoré Daumier

The first five years of rule under Louis Philippe I resulted in more freedom of the press. It was during this time that Honoré Daumier began publishing caricatures that criticized the monarch, very similar to the political cartoons we still see today in our newspapers. The caricature above is called *Gargantua*; it depicts the king as a gluttonous giant.

Influences

- Revolution
- Social and political change



Gustave Courbet

Courbet led the charge for socialism in France as he constantly assaulted political powers, materialistic values and the institution of art itself. His simplistic painting of a rural funeral in *A Burial at Ornans* marked the debut of Realism as a movement with significant force and influence that would revolutionize the European art scene.