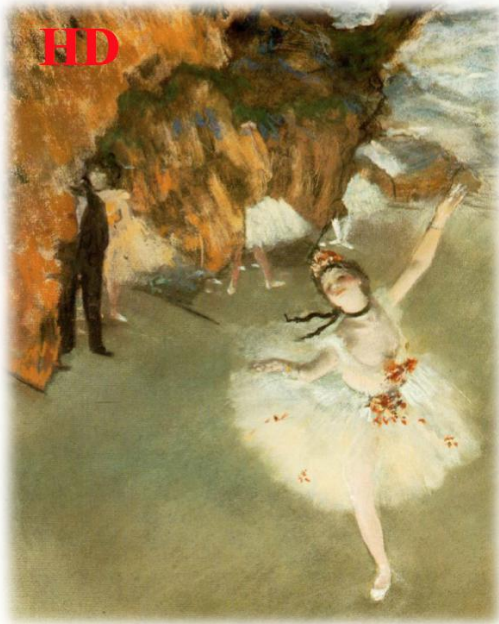




The Greatest Painters of the world : From impressionism to surrealism and abstract: Edgar DEGAS



Directed by Jacques VICHET

French Version
English Version

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A documentary of 52'

High Definition
HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

While Degas is officially known as an Impressionist, his work does not make use of the movement's most recognizable traits.

Many of his paintings were controversial, and today still Degas' work is a source of debate among art historians.

Degas experimented with all genres.

He had a predilection for portraits; landscape painting is clearly the genre he practiced the least. On the other hand, the subject of dance marked his career. He was in utter admiration before the dancers who shone onstage.

In 1855, he began studying at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris.

Between 1856 and 1860 he undertook a series of trips to Italy, because he preferred a personal and direct approach to the artworks of the great Classic masters of the Italian Renaissance, such as Luca Signorelli, Sandro Botticelli and Raphael.

He first visited his family in Naples, then went to Rome and Florence, where he became friends with the painter Gustave Moreau.

His early works include some neo-Classic inspired paintings and especially portraits of his family members. In the 1880s, as his sight was beginning to decline Degas favored watercolors, sometimes mixing it with gouache.

The paintings from this period reveal a very modern use of expressive colors and lines.

In 1905, the painter confined himself to his studio, embittered by his increasing loss of sight.

The following year, the works he had accumulated in his studio and his major collection of artworks were dispersed, sold at auctions.