

Henri Matisse

born 1869 – died 1954

Henri Matisse created in a variety of media during his long life. He lived from 1869 – 1954. He is best known for his paintings and his paper cut out collages.



As a child and a young man, he had no interest in art. After high school, he studied law.

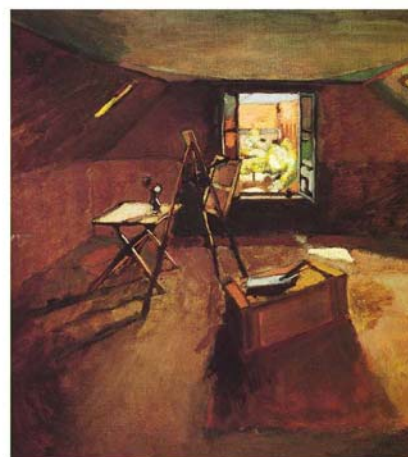
At age 21, he had to stay in the hospital for a long time. During his hospital stay, he became interested in painting and art.

Once Matisse became interested in art, he worked hard. He was passionate about his art. He learned drawing and painting at art school, Ecole des Beaux-Arts. He chose painting as his profession.

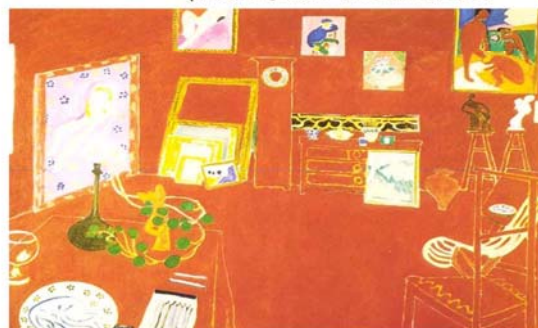


Matisse the Painter

An early painting by Matisse...



Studio Under the Eaves, 1903



The Red Studio is a well known Matisse painting.

Like all great “artists”, Matisse explored art from different times in history, other cultures, and art of contemporary artists living and working in his own time. He was very influenced by the patterning he saw in African tribal art.



Detail of rafia applique, Zaire

These are a few examples of pattern in African Textiles.



Bogolan mud-dyed cloth of Mali

Examples from The Art of African Textiles by Duncan Clarke

Matisse the Artist - Compiled, organized, and added to by ♥ M.C.Gillis

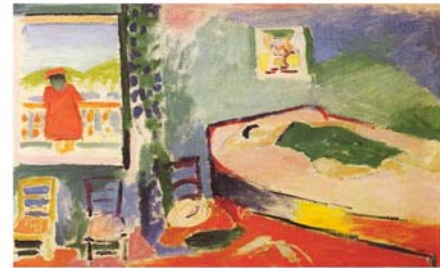
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Matisse painted what he saw around him everyday. He painted nature.

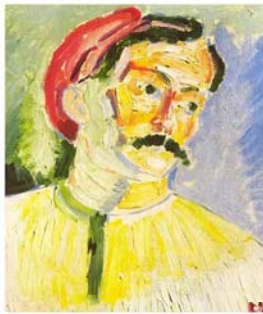


The Bank - oil on canvas



Interior at Collioure - 1905 - Oil on Canvas

Matisse painted hundreds and hundreds of paintings, in his lifetime.



Andre Durain, 1905

Matisse painted his friends.



The Lorrain Chair, 1929



Harmony in Red - 1908

As time went on, he was more interested in designing with colors and shapes than making the picture look real.

* Matisse paintings are from Henri Matisse by Volkmar Essers.



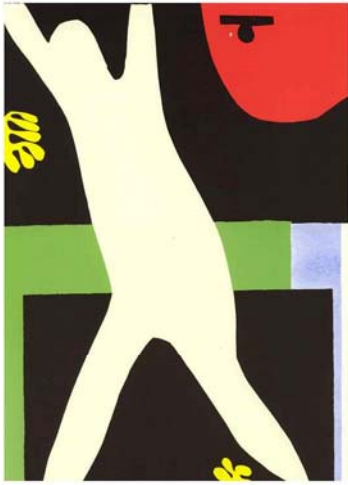
Matisse as an older artist

When Matisse was older, he worked on his paper cutout collages. Matisse enjoyed arranging shapes to make beautiful compositions.

Matisse used simple, bright colors. He didn't care about things looking too real.

These works are only a very small sample of the art work of Henri Matisse. Many books have been written about him.





Paper Cutout Collages by Henri Matisse



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