

Painting # 11

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Title: *Starry Night*

Artist: Vincent van Gogh

(Netherlands)

Date of Painting: 1889

(Style, Impressionism)

Many art historians consider this painting to be among the two or three greatest paintings of all time. It may be the most recognized and copied painting ever.

Vincent van Gogh had what was termed a mental breakdown in December, 1888, resulting in self-mutilation to his left ear. He voluntarily committed himself into the Saint-Paul-de-Mausole Asylum. Since the asylum was only about half full, he was given an extra room to be used as a studio. This painting is the view from his east facing bedroom window just before sunrise.

He painted as many as twenty-one different paintings showing his view of the world from his bedroom window, including *Starry Night*.