

Painting #15

Osterreichische Galerie Belvedere Museum
Belvedere Palace, Vienna, Austria

Title: *The Kiss*

Artist: Gustav Klimt

(Austrian Empire) Present Day Austria

Date of Painting: 1909

(Style, Symbolism)

This painting masterpiece is considered to be Gustav Klimt's most popular painting. Observers have noted the painting has a beautiful mosaic quality to it. Art historians point out that Gustav Klimt traveled through Italy in 1903. Italy is famous for mosaics. Using this technique, the oil paints and gold leaf create an amazing visual treat.

Another interesting aspect of this painting is the fact it was sold prior to being finished. Amazingly, one of the most valuable paintings in the world was never finished, according to the artist.

This painting was sold for more than \$87,000,000 in 2006, a world record at the time. No one knows how much it is worth today.