

## My Vincent Van Gogh

Vincent Van Gogh was a Dutch post-impressionist painter who is among the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art. He was born in Zundert, Holland on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1853 and he died on 29<sup>th</sup> July 1890.

At 16 years old he started to work for an art dealer in The Hague. Later, his brother Theo, who was four years younger than him, joined the company. Theo was always there for him and he supported him financially throughout his life. In 1880, Vincent followed his brother's suggestion and took up painting really seriously. Then, in 1886 he went to Paris where he moved with his brother Theo and shared a house. There he met the painters, Edgar Degas, Paul Gauguin, Bernard and many others. He discovered impressionism and liked its use of light and color.

Vincent was an unstable and volatile man, well known as the 'tortured artist'. Then, he went to Gauguin hoping he would help him find a school art. They had many arguments and in one incident a portion of his (Vincent's) ear lobe was cut off. Then, he was sent to an asylum in Saint Remy with depression, for treatment. While he was there, he painted 150 paintings. In 1890, where he had already left from the asylum, he shot himself in the chest, because his depression aggravated and died two days later.

