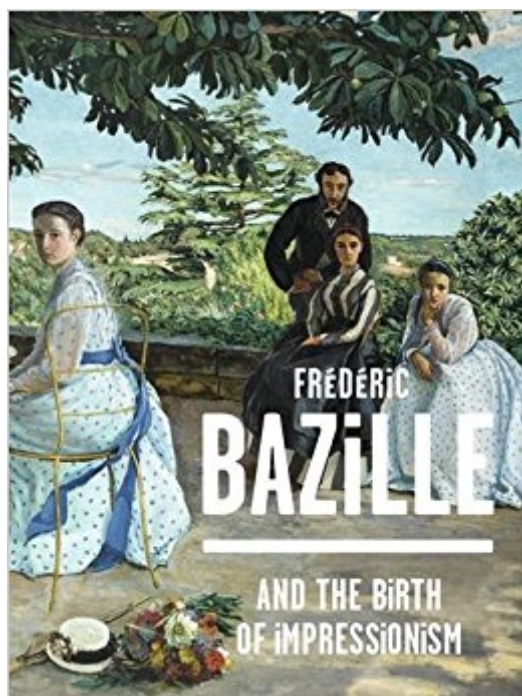


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Frederic Bazille And The Birth Of Impressionism



Synopsis

A collection of essays, paintings, and personal correspondence celebrates the life and legacy of Frédéric Bazille, an instrumental but largely unsung Impressionist talent. The paintings of Frédéric Bazille (1841–1870) were rediscovered after the turn of the nineteenth-century by art critics and curators who credited the artist as an important pioneer in the development of Impressionism. Tracing his artistic career from its inception—including his links to Manet, Monet, Renoir, and Cézanne—this book unveils Bazille's complete painted works. Organized both thematically and chronologically, this monograph also features facsimiles of the artist's personal letters interspersed throughout the book on special paper inserts, and it is completed with a comprehensive bibliography, a list of works, and maps detailing his life in Montpellier and Paris. The book accompanies an exhibition at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. from April 9 to July 9, 2017.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Michel Hilaire, General Heritage Curator and Director of the Musée Fabre in Montpellier, edited this collective work. Featuring essays by Paul Perrin, Curator of Paintings at the Musée d'Orsay in Paris, and Kimberly Jones, Associate Curator of French Paintings at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

How I would have loved to see this exhibition! But I am happy to have this wonderful book, which is

now one of my favorite art books. It was obviously a labor of love, prepared with great imagination and care, from the wraparound reproduction of the great "Family Gathering" which serves as cover, through the endpapers featuring large-scale details from four other great paintings, to the little facsimiles of Bazille's letters tucked in here and there between the pages. Bazille was the contemporary of and friends with Manet, Renoir, and Monet, and his career would probably have paralleled theirs had he had a longer life. He enlisted as a Zouave, against the wishes of family and friends, during the Franco-Prussian War and was killed in battle. He had believed he would not be killed because there was so much he wanted to do. Still, he left some gorgeous pictures, many reflecting his Montpellier homeland in the sunny, flowery South. The huge "Family Gathering" is his most famous, but others are just as wonderful, not least the two versions of the "Young Woman with Peonies." There are self-portraits and portraits of other artists and their studios, Languedoc landscapes, still lifes, and more. All his known works are now in public collections, many in Montpellier and other French galleries, but quite a few also in museums in the United States. This exhibit brought virtually all together for the first time. This book includes seven essays on various aspects of Bazille's life and work, 16 short essays on his most important paintings, and an illustrated catalog of all his works and their locations.

Really great

We saw the exhibit and did not want to have to carry the book back with us on the plane. Wonderful history of his life and French impressionism.

Beautiful book. Very.

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