Leonardo Da Vinci (1452–1519) Italian Renaissance painter, scientist, inventor, and genius. He is one of most famous painters for his iconic Mona Lisa, The Last Supper, and many others.

He was born an illegitimate son of a Florentine noble and peasant woman in Anchiano, Italy and grew up in nearby Vinci. In his formative years, he developed a love of nature and from an early age began to display his remarkable academic and artistic talents.

In addition to art, he studied all aspects of life from anatomy, science, engineering, mathematics, and astronomy. He was a man well ahead of his time and filled many notebooks, about all of his ideas.

He is considered to be a key person in the birth of the European Renaissance, which saw an emergence of new ideas, scientific discoveries and the creation of beautiful art.

While his work *The Mona Lisa* became the most famous portrait, his drawing *The Vitruvian Man* became a cultural icon.

Vincent Van Gogh (March 30, 1853 to July 29, 1890)

He lived in Zundert, Netherlands and was a Dutch post-impressionist painter. He was one of the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art.

However, he was not commercially successful in his lifetime and died by suicide at 37, after years of mental health issues and poverty. He gained tremendous recognition, in the 20th century.

In 10 years, he created 2,100 artworks including 860 oil paintings, most of which were done in the last 2 years of his Life.

Pablo Picasso – (October 25, 1881 to April 8, 1973) and lived in Malaga, Spain.

He was a renowned artist whose paintings sell by millions of dollars at auctions even today, many years after his death.

With masterful strokes, attractive shades and rich textures, he created some of the most visually impressive art of the 20th century. While exploring new styles and experimenting with different techniques, Picasso co-founded Cubist art style and co-invented collage.

Michelangelo (March 6, 1475 to February 18, 1564) Sculptor and Painter

He was born in Caprese Michelangelo, Italy

Italian sculptor, painter, architect, and poet, he was a prominent figure of the High Renaissance.

He is credited to have influenced the Western art in unprecedented ways. He is widely regarded as the greatest artist of his age and one of the greatest artists of all time. He was equally revered and respected as an architect.
Andy Warhol (August 6, 1928 to February 22, 1987) **Artist and Filmmaker**

He was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and was an artist and filmmaker, who played a key role in the visual art movement.

Thanks to his extensive body of work, he has been the subject of various films, books, and retrospective exhibitions.

Described as the bellwether of the art market, some of Warhol's works are among the most expensive paintings ever sold.

Salvador Dali – (May 11, 1904 to January 23, 1989) **Surrealist Painter**

He was born in Figueres, Spain

He was a Spanish artist, best remembered for his precise draftsmanship and technical skills. His artwork is famous for depicting bizarre and striking images.

In spite of producing brilliant artworks, his ostentatious and eccentric public behavior often overshadowed his professional achievements, much to the irritation of his fans and critics.

His works have influenced other artists like Jeff Koons.

Claude Monet – (November 14, 1840 to December 5, 1926 – **Impressionist Painter**

He was born in Paris and was the founder of French Impressionist painting.

Often dubbed the driving force behind Impressionism, he mastered the art of painting the same scene several times so as to capture the changing of the light.

Since his death, his paintings have sold for record prices.

Jean-Michel Basquiat (December 22, 1960 to August 12, 1988) **Artist with other Artistic Interests**

He was born in New York and was an American artist whose legacy has had an influence upon fashion, film, music, and literature.

He serves as an inspiration to street artists as he started off as one, painting graffiti on buildings.

After his death, at the age of 27, the value of his work has increased; in 2017, one of his paintings sold for a record $110.5 million.

Jackson Pollock – (January 28, 1912 to August 11, 1956 **Abstract Impressionist**

Born in Cody, Wyoming, he pioneered the drip technique or action painting, which involved moving his whole body to paint on a horizontal surface.

Unfortunately, he struggled with alcoholism and died in a car accident, while drunk driving.

He inspired a Pulitzer Prize-winning biography and the 2000 film Pollock.
Raphael – (1483 to April 6, 1520)  **Fresco Painter and Architect**
He was born in Urbino, Italy and, along with Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci, formed the great trio who ushered in the **High Renaissance**.
He is mostly known for his frescoes of the **Vatican Palace** and **The School of Athens**.
He also designed the **Chigi Chapel**, among other structures in Rome.

Rembrandt – (July 15, 1606 to October 4, 1669)  **Printmaker, Painter, & Draftsman**
He was born in Leiden, Netherlands and was a master in three major art media.
He is widely considered the most important visual artist in Dutch art history and one of the greatest of all time.
He is also considered the greatest etcher in the history of printmaking. His life and work inspired several films, including the 1936 movie *Rembrandt*.

William Blake – (November 28, 1757 to August 12, 1827)  **Artist and Poet**
He was born in London, England.
He is the author of *The Songs of Innocence and of Experience*, and was a prominent figure of the early phase of the **Romantic Age**, known as the **pre-Romantic era**.
Known for his visual artistry and poetry, he was also a staunch abolitionist and a forerunner of the "free love" movement.

Henri Matisse – (December 31, 1869 to November 3, 1954)  **Painter, Sculptor, Printmaker, and Draftsman**
He was born in Le Cateau-Cambrésis, Nord, France and was a French artist.
Along with Picasso, he is regarded as one of the artists who contributed immensely to the revolutionary developments in visual arts. His works also influenced other painters who would adopt a technique called **intense colorism**.

Georgia O’Keefe – (November 15, 1887 to March 6, 1986)  **Painter**
She was born in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin
She was an excellent and creative artist who enriched American modernism and precisionism with her artwork, mostly water color and charcoal paintings.
She was the first female artist to have a retrospective at New York’s MOMA museum.
Her paintings focused on the cityscapes and landscapes of New York and New Mexico, and abstract flowers.
**Diego Rivera** – (December 8, 1886 to November 24, 1957)  
**Painter**

He was born in Guanajuato, Mexico.  
He is best remembered for his association with the mural movement and had created masterpieces such as *The History of Mexico* and the *Detroit Industry* Murals.  
He was inspired by cubism and post-impressionism.  
He had married, divorced, and remarried Frida Kahlo, the third of his four wives.

**Caravaggio** – (September 29, 1571 to July 18, 1610)  
**Painter**

Born in Milan, Italy, Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio is best remembered for his influence on the Baroque style of painting.  
He pioneered a tactic known as tenebrism, and combined light and darkness to create his masterpieces.  
He was known for his erratic and aggressive nature and died under mysterious circumstances.

**Gustav Klimt** – (July 14, 1862 to February 6, 1918)  
**Painter**

He was born in Baumgarten, Austrian Empire.  
Austrian symbolist painter, he was one of the most prominent members of the Vienna Secession movement.  
His primary subject was the female body, and he produced numerous paintings, murals, sketches, and other art objects.  
He was known for his deliberate painting style.

**Hieronymus Bosch** – (1450 to August 9, 1516)  
**Painter**

He was born in the Burgundian Netherlands.  
He was a Dutch painter and a significant figure of the Early Netherlandish painting school.  
Most of his works are made of oil on oak wood and consist of religious themes and dark depictions of Hell.  
One of his notable works is *The Garden of Earthly Delights*.

**Wassily Kandinsky** - (December 16, 1866 to December 13, 1944)  
**Painter**

Russian painter Wassily Kandinsky was born in Moscow and is considered the pioneer of abstract art.  
Known for notable works such as *On White II* and *Study for Improvisation*, he was a prominent artist of the Blue Rider Period and experimented with expressionism.  
He also earned a professorship at the University of Dorpat.
**Paul Gauguin** – (June 7, 1848 to May 8, 1903)  **Painter, Sculptor and Writer**

He was born in Paris, France and was a major figure in the Post-Impressionist and the Symbolist movements.

He had worked as a stockbroker and businessman before gaining fame as an artist.

He influenced the French avant-garde and modern artists such as Pablo Picasso and also led the way for Primitivism.

**Edvard Munch** – (December 12, 1863 to January 23, 1944)  **Painter**

He was born in Adalsbruk, (country) and was a Norwegian painter remembered for his iconic works The Scream and The Frieze of Life - A Poem about Life, Love, and Death.

His paintings exhibited themes that reflected his own psychological states.

He was a significant member of the Symbolism movement but was banned by the Nazi.

**Francisco Goya** – (March 30, 1746 to April 16, 1828)

He was born in Fuendetodos, Spain and was one of the most successful and distinguished artists of his time.

He is regarded as both the first of the moderns and last of the Old Masters.

His career was initially marked by Rococo style tapestry cartoons and Spanish aristocracy and royalty but later his works became more pessimistic.

**Johannes Vermeer** – (October 31, 1632 to December 15, 1675)  **Painter**

He was born in Delft, Netherlands and was a Dutch painter renowned for his use of light in paintings.

Although he did not achieve fame during his lifetime, Vermeer's works gained popularity in the 19th century.

Today, he is often counted among the greatest painters of the Dutch Golden Age.

**J. M. W. Turner** – (April 23, 1775 to December 19, 1851)  **Printmaker and Painter**

He was born in London, England and was an English printmaker, painter, and watercolorist best remembered for his imaginative landscapes and expressive colorizations.

Intensely reclusive and eccentric throughout his life, Turner lived in poor health and squalor for the last few years of his life.

He was portrayed by actor Timothy Spall in the 2014 biographical film, Mr. Turner.
**Piet Mondrian** – (March 7, 1872 to February 1, 1944)  **Painter**

He was born in Amersfoort, Netherlands and is remembered for pioneering what is known as 20th-century abstract art.

He co-founded the De Stijl art movement with Theo van Doesburg and gave rise to Neoplasticism.

His art was influenced by Cubism. Many of his paintings consist of geometric shapes in particular sets of colors.

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**Albrecht Durer** – (May 21, 1471 to April 6, 1528)  **Printmaker, Painter & Theorist**

He was born in Nuremberg, Germany and was a painter, theorist, and printmaker of the German Renaissance.

During his 20s, Durer established his reputation as a popular printmaker across Europe, thanks to his high-quality woodcut prints.

His popularity enabled him to work with major Italian artists like Leonardo da Vinci, Giovanni Bellini, and Raphael.

He also influenced generations of artists, especially in printmaking.

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**Sandro Botticelli** – (1445 to May 17, 1510)  **Painter**

He was born in Florence, Italy and was one of the most influential figures of the Early Renaissance.

His works later influenced the Pre-Raphaelites. He is best known for his iconic works Primavera and The Birth of Venus and his versions of the Madonna and Child.

He also painted the Sistine Chapel.

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**Paul Cezanne** – (January 19, 1839 to October 22, 1906)  **Painter**

He was born in Aix-en-Provence, France.

He was a prominent Post-Impressionist painter and influenced much of the early-20th-century movement known as Cubism.

Some of his notable works include The Card Players, The Bathers, and Pyramid of Skulls.

He experimented with watercolors and had created a host of still-life paintings.

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**David Hockey** – Born on July 9, 1937  **Painter, Photographer Printmaker & Stage Designer**

Birthplace: Bradford, Maine

He is best known for his works such as Portrait of an Artist, which became the most expensive piece of art by a living artist ever auctioned, at $90 million.

His works have explored themes such as homosexuality. He has synesthesia, too.
**Mark Rothko** – (September 25, 1903 to February 25, 1970)  Painter

He was born in Daugavpils, Latvia and is considered part of the New York school of painters of the 1940s.

He was best known for his signature color field paintings, consisting of vertically set rectangular patches of color.

A significant figure of the Abstract Expressionist movement, he also experimented with murals and mythological themes.

**Edgar Degas** – (July 19, 1834 to September 27, 1917)  Painter and Sculptor

He was born in Paris and was a French Impressionist.

He is best remembered for his oil paintings and pastel drawings and for his signature use of dancers and bathing women as themes in his works such as *Fin d'Arabesque* and *Woman in a Tub*.

He had also experimented with bronze sculptures and called himself a realist.

**Rene Magritte** – (November 21, 1898 to August 15, 1967)  Painter

He was born in Lessines, Belgium and is remembered for his art that displayed alternate perceptions of reality.

His creations were influenced by elements of pop art and minimalist art.

Some of his most notable works were *The Empire of Light* and *Les Amants*.

The Magritte Museum is dedicated to his work.

**Frida Kahlo** – (July 6, 1907 to July 13, 1954)  Painter

She was born in Coyoacán, Mexico City and was known for her many portraits and self-portraits. Her work is said to have been inspired by the nature, artifacts and the popular culture of Mexico.

Her work was not much known until the late 1970s, when it was rediscovered by art historians and political activists.

By the early 1990s, she became a recognized figure in art history.

**Marcel Duchamp** – (July 28, 1887 to October 2, 1968)  Painter and Sculptor

He was born in Blainville-Crevon, France and he is remembered for his association with movements such as Cubism and Dadaism.

A significant figure in conceptual art, he was against art that was meant to just cater to the eyes.

He was also a skilled chess player and carved his own chess set.
Peter Paul Rubens – (June 28, 1577 to May 30, 1640) Painter and Humanist

He was born in Siegen, Nassau-Dillenburg (now North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany) and lived during the Dutch Golden Age.

He is considered the most influential artist of the Flemish Baroque tradition.

His style of art emphasized movement, color, and sensuality.

He painted altarpieces, portraits, landscapes, and history paintings and also drew cartoons for the Flemish tapestry workshops.

He was a classically educated humanist scholar as well.

Titian – (1488 to August 27, 1576) Painter

He was born in Pieve di Cadore and trained by Giovanni Bellini.

As a boy, Titian also joined hands with Giorgione to work on a number of frescoes.

The Renaissance artist is regarded as one of the key figures of the Venetian school and is remembered for his masterpieces such as the three miracles of Anthony of Padua.

THE END