

Henri Matisse

Woman with the Hat

1905

Painting of Henri Matisse's wife,
Amelia, in 1905.

This painting caused shock and outrage when it was shown at the Salon d'Automne in 1905.

Madame Matisse's dress, skin, and feathered hat, are all portrayed with unrealistic shades and vivid colors.

The background and most of Madame Matisse's features are applied with active brushwork.



Matisse used "deliberate disharmonies: of red, green, orange, purple and blue.

The painting is characterized by flat shapes and controlled lines, with expression dominant over detail.

Today, this masterpiece piece helped to define fauvism, but more importantly, helped set the course of modern art.

Fauvism is 1: an art movement launched in 1905 whose work was characterized by bright and non-natural colors and simple forms; influenced the expressionists.
2: a genre of painting characterized by vivid colors and simplified forms that gave a decorative effect.

Painters who practiced fauvism in their art were labeled as "wild beasts".