

# CLAUDE MONET (14 Nov 1840 - 5 Dec 1926)

A French painter, one of the founders of **IMPRESSIONISM**.

His father had a grocery shop, his mother was a singer. When Monet was a child, they lived in a small town by the sea in the north of France. He started painting at school and he was very talented.

His mother died when he was 16. He went to Paris to study art.

At 25, Monet met Camilla, who became his model and his wife. He loved painting **nature, landscapes**, and he was fascinated by **ocean** and **water**. He often painted on the water, on his small boat-studio.

**He often spoke of not seeing shapes and objects, but colours.**

When Monet was nearly 40, his wife Camilla fell ill and died. He moved to the country, to Giverny, where he had a house and a garden with a lot of flowers. **He painted his garden. He wanted to paint the beauty of the nature.** For a year, he painted haystacks.

He fell ill of cancer and died at the age of 86. Today, his house and his garden can be visited by tourists who love his paintings.