



Birds of a Feather

Berthe Morisot was an original member of the Société Anonyme, the group we know as the French Impressionists. Like her male contemporaries, she used a painterly style to capture immediate visual experiences.



The Cage, 1885

Take a closer look

The Cage exemplifies the late style of **Berthe Morisot (1841–1895)**, featuring dynamic brushwork and fragmented color. The raw canvas, visible near the frame, suggests that the artist worked swiftly and spontaneously to capture a fleeting moment.

Something to talk about

Morisot rendered domestic spaces and activities instead of cafés and boulevards favored by her male peers, as these were considered inappropriate subjects for women. She applied impressionist techniques to her everyday life. What might you depict in a still life to reflect your surroundings?

Who knew?

In addition to Morisot, three other women were closely associated with the French Impressionist circle: Marie Bracquemond (1840–1916); Mary Cassatt (1844–1926), also in the museum's collection; and Eva Gonzalès (1849–1883).

Berthe Morisot, *The Cage*, 1885; Oil on canvas, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15 inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of Wallace and Wilhelmina Holladay; Photo by Lee Stalsworth

