Redecorating with Impressionist Paintings by Shaly Criston

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When decorating, redecorating or simply sprucing up a room, consider adding artwork to the space. A timeless way to add a touch of class to an interior, paintings are a great investment. Not only are they beautiful, but they also make great conversation pieces and can be passed down from generation to generation as family heirlooms. Contrary to popular belief, hand-painted canvases need not be extremely expensive. Whether in search of an original piece or an expertly done recreation, relatively cheap paintings can be found both online and in stores.

Paintings come in a seemingly endless supply of styles, but if youâ€™re looking to add some classic Parisian elegance and style to a room, impressionist paintings are an excellent option. The distinctive impressionist style began in Paris during the late 1800s and was considered to be quite radical at the time. Utilising a series of short, thick strokes, softness was emphasised over detail and wet paint colours mixed side-by-side directly on the canvas. The result of these new techniques was the creation of one of the art worldâ€™s most popular styles. Pioneered by artists such as Claude Monet, Alfred Sisley and Pierre-Auguste Renoir, impressionist paintings are well represented in the worldâ€™s great art museums.

Today, there are numerous shops where one can buy impressionist prints and posters to hang on the wall. However, nothing looks quite as good as a real painting. While it may not be possible to hang a real Monet masterpiece on your wall, purchasing a handmade re-creation is within arms reach. Fill your home with Renoirs, Monets and Sisleys to liven the atmosphere of your rooms and add colour to your walls. Many impressionist paintings feature landscapes and tranquil scenes which would look lovely in a living or dining room. For more neutral tones, opt for works such as Hoarfrost by Camille Pissarro or The Harbor at Lirient by Berthe Morisot, which hang in the Musee dâ€™Orsay in Paris and the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. respectively.

Monet is the artist to turn to in order to add colour and pop to a space. His A Bouquet of Sunflowers is one of his most iconic pieces and bursts with bright yellows and blues. His landscapes are also exceptionally bright, beautiful and often depict idyllic scenes of the European countryside. Monetâ€™s many paintings of Argenteuil, now considered a northern suburb of Paris, captured the peacefulness of the French countryside during the late 1800s. His whimsical brush strokes and liberal use of colour evoke the subtle movements of the breeze and bring his paintings to life.

Keeping in mind the cost of the originals, these are relatively cheap paintings that add an incredible amount of beauty and value to a space. Capture the essence of Parisian history and culture while adding a great conversation piece and family heirloom to your art collection by investing in an impressionist painting.

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