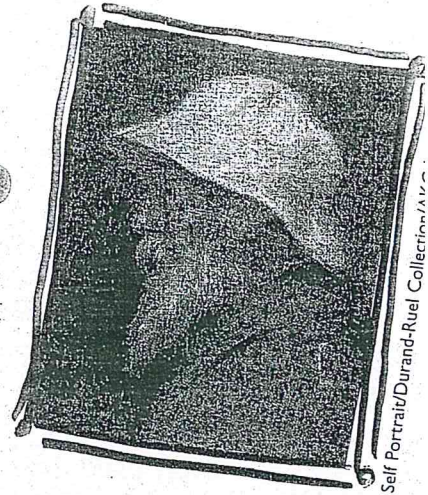


Great  
artists

# Renoir

C4 30



Self Portrait/Durand-Ruel Collection/Art

Renoir used sketchy brushstrokes and bright colours in his cheerful scenes of everyday life.

**P**ierre Auguste Renoir (say Ren-wah) was born in 1841 in Limoges, France. His father was a tailor. When Renoir was three, his family went to live in Paris, near the famous Louvre museum. He loved to study the paintings there. Renoir was such a talented artist, he became an apprentice to a porcelain painter when he was just 13 years old. By the age of 20, he was taking formal art lessons and meeting Impressionist artists like Monet, with whom he shared the same artistic ideas.

Luncheon of the Boating Party/Phillips Collection, Washington DC/Bridgeman Art Library



## Sun worship

Renoir preferred to paint outside in natural light. The colours in his pictures look vivid because he used small brushstrokes of pure colour rather than mixing shades. He even painted shadows with bright colours. Renoir loved to show the effects of sunlight on figures and flowers.

## LAZY AFTERNOON

The people in this picture are relaxing over lunch and having a lovely time. Renoir wasn't interested in painting professional models - he used his friends or local people. The woman with the dog is Aline Charigot, who Renoir later married.

## Show off!

It was Renoir's great ambition to have one of his pictures shown at the Salon - an important art exhibition that was held in Paris every year. He eventually got his wish when his painting, Esmeralda Dancing, was accepted. Renoir was so critical of his own work that he destroyed the picture as soon as the exhibition was over!



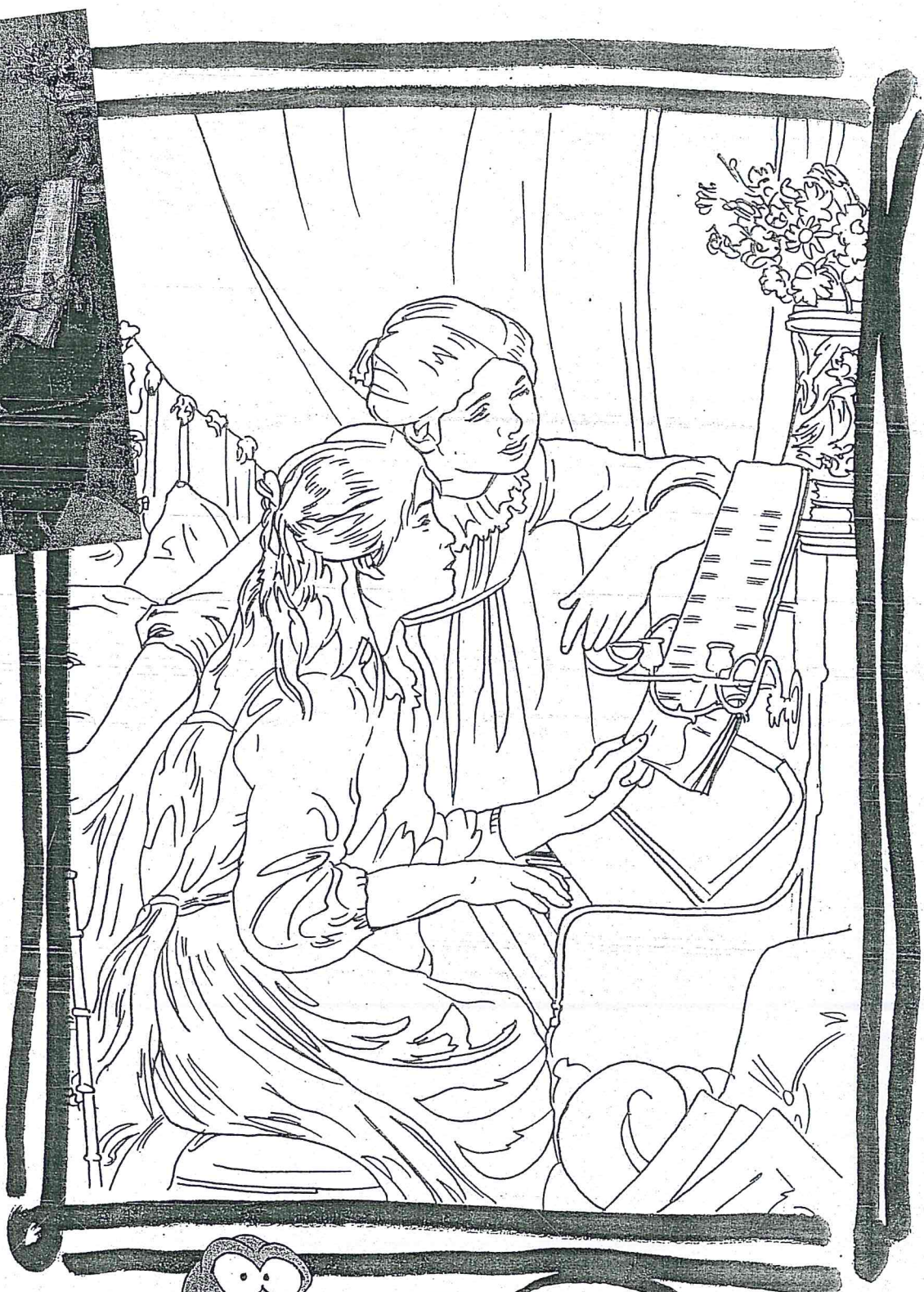
# terpiece

Renoir used oil paints and light, feathery brushstrokes to create this picture. You can get the same effect by shading with pencil crayons or felt-tip pens.

Girls at a Piano/Musée d'Orsay, Paris/Erich Lessing, AKG London

## PIANO PRACTICE

This painting was very important for Renoir because it was requested by the French state. He worked very hard and painted several versions of it. This is the one that was finally hung in the Luxembourg Palace. Renoir immediately decided that he had sent the worst one of the lot!



I'm more of a  
sssynthesizer  
sssnake myself!