



Nature in art

Many artists include drawings of nature in their work, but the results can be very different. Here are four of the most famous.

Stanislaw Witkiewicz (1885–1939) was a Polish artist. You often see his paintings in art galleries in Poland. Many people like Witkiewicz's paintings of people's faces, but I prefer his paintings of nature and landscapes.¹ This one (painted in 1907) shows the Hinczow Lakes in the Tatra mountains. I like this painting because of the green fields and blue water—I'd love to go there.

Japanese art is famous for landscape paintings. You can often see sea and sky, and mountains and trees. Andō Hiroshige worked in the nineteenth century and he's one of Japan's most famous artists. He printed and sold thousands of beautiful prints in his lifetime. However, he was poor when he died.

Beatriz Milhazes is a Brazilian artist from Rio de Janeiro. She's famous for her colorful paintings of flowers and interesting shapes. She also makes sculptures with different types of natural and man-made materials. Personally, I like all her work, though I prefer her paintings.

Vincent van Gogh, the famous Dutch artist, made eleven paintings of sunflowers. They were his favorite paintings because he loved the color yellow. I prefer his other paintings, but many people love these ones. Nowadays, you see them on cards, postcards, and T-shirts. Van Gogh died with no money, but in 1987, someone bought the last sunflower painting for \$49 million.

¹landscape (n) /'lændskəp/ a painting of an area outside (with trees, rivers, mountains, etc.)

3 Read the article and match each artist to the photo of their art (1–4).

4 Read the article again. Check (✓) the sentences that are true for each artist, according to the information in the article.

	Stanislaw Witkiewicz	Andō Hiroshige	Beatriz Milhazes	Vincent van Gogh
1 This artist draws the natural environment.	✓	✓	✓	✓
2 This artist is living now.				
3 This artist is European.				
4 This artist also makes sculptures.				
5 This artist is famous for paintings of flowers.				
6 This artist didn't have money when he died.				