115. OLYMPIA. ÉDOUARD MANET. 1863 C.E. OIL ON CANVAS.
Transition from REALISM to IMPRESSIONISM

Imperfect, harsh style depicting a woman in a manner that does not fit the classical “ideal” and ethereal image of the body

Flatly painted, poorly contoured, abrupt shift in tonality, lacking depth and washed out

No vanishing point or recognizable perspective-hard to understand in space

Loose, choppy brush strokes (clearly a painted representation)
FUNCTION

- To rebel from previous convention and depict harsh realities of Parisian life
- To show ordinary people and unglamorous prostitution
- A commentary on racial divisions and the class system in Paris
内容

- 裸体女性躺在躺椅上，脚边有只黑猫
- 她以冷漠、空洞、冷漠的表情盯着观众
- 描绘了巴黎卖淫的世界
- 描绘了边缘化人士，而不是传统的中产阶级和贵族人物
A black female servant stands behind her holding a bouquet of flowers (a gift for the prostitute from a client)

- Highlights the french colonial mindset and injustice in society

- The stark contrast of the black skin from the white highlighted racial division
This is a salon painting (academic painting) that defied tradition, creating an artistic revolution. This received extreme negative reviews from critics in 1865 at the Parisian Salon.

It “bewildered” the Parisians and was seen as scandalous and an insult to tradition, caused unease amongst viewers because he shamelessly and obviously depicts a defiant looking prostitute, which unnerved viewers.

Both a nude prostitute and a black maid were seen as inferior.
Manet mocked the revitalization of classical style by using a contemporary, ordinary subject. He suggested that the classical past no longer had relevance in the modern world. Manet rejected controlled brush strokes and seamless illusionism.

Time of the industrial revolution (linked to the separation from the outdated, classical past)

He recreated the Venus of Urbino but Manet’s creation was believed to be disrespectful and insulting to it.
Manet referred to as the father of impressionism, his “rebellious” style inspired future work.

Considered the first modernist painter in his technique and subjects.

Manet’s realist predecessor was Gustave Courbet and drew inspiration from Velasquez and Goya and Dutch painters.
LATE EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS

CONTEXT

▸ IMPRESSIONISM

▸ BROOM
  ▸ Brilliant color
  ▸ Rapid brush strokes
  ▸ Oblique (slanting) composition
  ▸ Outdoor light
  ▸ Modern moments
The model was Victorine Meurent.

Manet highlighted the injustice of colonial viewpoints, the anxieties of the class system (since many rural people moved to the growing cities), and the uncertainty of the modern world.

“Olympia” was a common name for prostitutes.