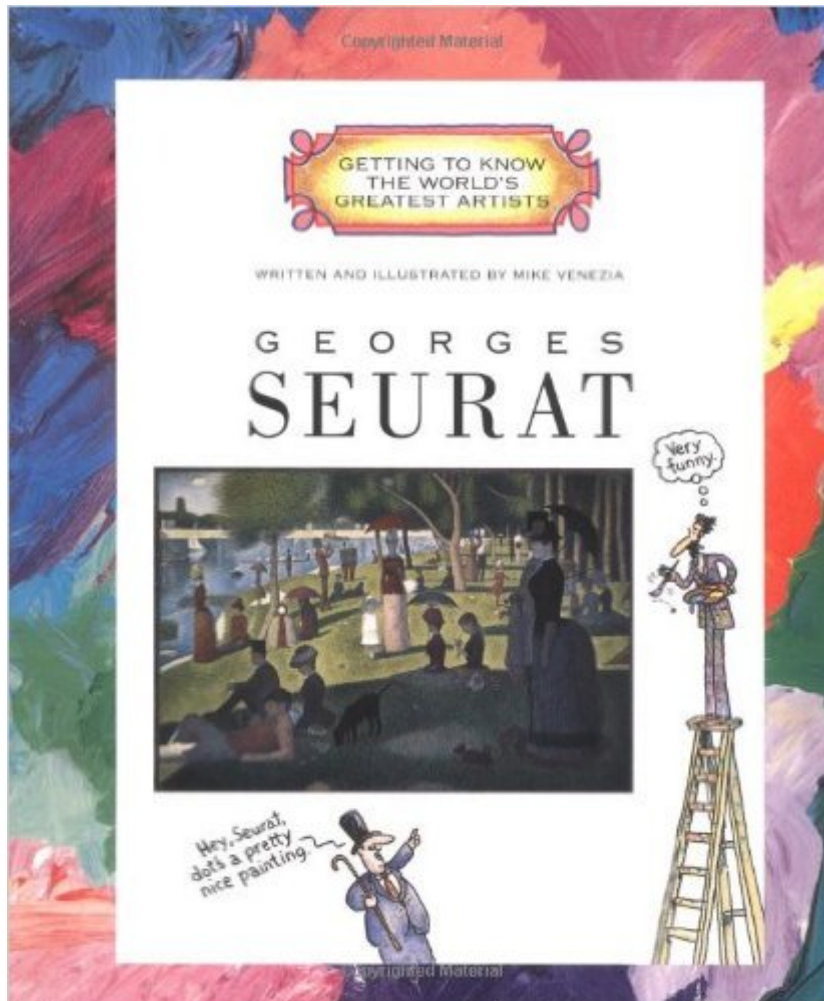


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# Georges Seurat (Getting To Know The World's Greatest Artists)



## Synopsis

Clever illustrations and story lines, together with full-color reproductions of actual paintings, give children a light yet realistic overview of each artist's life and style in these fun and educational books. Were his brilliant paintings a trick of the eye or a stroke of genius? Get to know the life and work of Post-Impressionist Georges Seurat -- inventor of Pointillism.

## Book Information

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Series: Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #168,967 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art > History #90 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Art

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

I think that Mike Venezia has finally found a painter whose style he cannot imitate, but can still joke about. Georges-Pierre Seurat was a French painter and the founder of Neoimpressionism, best known for "Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" (thanks to Ferris Bueller more than Stephen Sondheim, I am sure). If there is one word associated with Seurat's work it would be "pointillism," which has to do with the style he developed of using small dots of pure color juxtaposed together to create a fusion of colors in the mind's eye. So I was thinking that in his Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists series that Venezia might working is some pointillism in some of his cartoons. But in case you were wondering, pointillism is hard work. So on the front cover of this book while Seurat is working on his famous painting some guy comes along and says "Hey, Seurat, dot's a pretty ice painting" (a joke that I am sure loses something in French). On the

back cover cartoon Venezia works himself into Seurat's famous painting with all of the figures turning to look (and glare) at him for intruding on their pleasant afternoon with his lawn chair, loud music, chips, and drinks. This book provides the key biographical details of Seurat's life, but it is the development of his peculiar painting style that Venezia emphasize more. So the art history lesson here is what young readers will take away from reading this book. There are sixteen drawings and paintings representing the entire course of Seurat's career, along with three studies for "Une Baignade, Asnieres" to go along with two studies and one detail from "Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte." There is also a drawn portrait of Seurat by Ernest J. Laurent to go along with works by great artist from the past that Seurat studies at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris by Raphael, Eugene Delacroix, and Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, and those by the Impressionist artists Camille Pissarro, Claude Monet, and Pierre Auguste Renoir that inspired Seurat to do better. There are also five of Venezia's cartoons that talk about his artwork and the device Seurat's father made for the arm he lost in a hunting accident to attach knives and forks to the end of his arm. Venezia is a graduate of The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, which is where "Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" is on display. The Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists series is both educational and entertaining, and Venezia always makes good on his promise to use fun to introduce children to art and artists. The pointillism drawings and paintings are surely beyond the skill (and patience) of most of us, but young readers should appreciate the drawings Seurat made to explore the importance of shapes and form done with a smeary graphite-and-clay crayon on bumpy paper, and I think they can understand the basic principle of having tiny dots of different colors next to each other to create a different color when they are blended by the human eye. This is a fascinating series and I am always happy to discover there are volumes about artists that I have missed. Venezia has tackled not only Seurat but also Paul Dezanne, Edward Hopper, Monet, Picasso, Renoir, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Vincent Van Gogh and Grant Wood--and those are just the artists whose works are on display at the Art Institute of Chicago (which I am going to see again this week because that is what I do when I have occasion to drive through Chicago).

The fascinating facts of the artist's life are enhanced with comic book style illustrations as well as copies of the artists work. This author takes what could be a very dry subject and makes it entertaining and informative. This book, and the remainder of books in this series, are an obvious resource for an art teacher's library but would make a terrific "outside the box" addition to any classroom teacher's library.

The Venezia series of books and videos are absolutely wonderful! We use them in our art history program for schools. I liked this book as it represents the artist well and understandably for elementary aged students.

Love these series. Although the target age is above our current level (my son is 4) my son is totally obsessed with Seurat and will sit for this book over and over. Cute illustrations and I wish I could buy them all!

my kids know more about artists at 7 and 8 than I did after college and they're still telling me new interesting things they read in these books. The books are great substitute for the videos that are extremely expensive. I can actually afford to collect the books but if you get a chance to rent the videos from the library do. My kids love them... i love them too. its really cute and funny and if you're not careful you'll learn something without trying.

Another great book in the "Getting to Know" series. These books are the backbone of my planning of a K - 4 fine arts curriculum, but would be useful at any age level or a great addition to a home library.

Mike Venezia captures a child's interest with his creative style and amusing illustrations in these wonderful books that tells the story of a particular artists life. Written so that a child is engaged and will return to read the story again and again. I've have purchased several of Mr Venezias books and am never disappointed. Well done.

I use these for teaching to kids in art classes. They love the comics in them, the pictures keep them interested, and they are very educational. I am a HUGE fan! Most books in the series cover the artist, art style, and pertinent art history.

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