

Gauguin's art was, and is, hugely influential. He smashed the established Western canon, ignoring rules handed down over the centuries, trading Renaissance picture-box perspective for multipoint perspective, distorting scale and privileging decorative line over believable solidity, employing color emotionally rather than realistically and pioneering the assimilation of indigenous themes into Western art. His depictions of the Holy Family as indigenous Polynesians had Paris in uproar. His conceptual approach and stylistic simplification fanned out through Henri Matisse and the Fauves through Bonnard, Vuillard and the Nabis, influencing Edvard Munch and also Ludwig Kirchner, the leading figure of the Die Brücke group of German expressionists.