

1890s



1896

The first modern Olympic Games are held in Athens, Greece. 1896 Olympics, silver winner's medal

1890 • 1891 • 1892 • 1893 • 1894 • 1895 • 1896-1897 • 1898 • 1899

1890

The Dreyfus Affair: Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish military officer, is convicted of treason for selling documents to the Germans. Anti-semitism, distrust of the Republic, and the interference of the Catholic Church in political affairs all play a role in this scandal. In 1896 the real spy is found, but the French army keeps its mistake hidden and Dreyfus captive on Devil's Island, with no pardon until 1899.



This 1898 French board game of the Dreyfus Affair depicts the events and principal characters, including Dreyfus himself, his military accusers and judges, anti-Semitic politicians and leaders, and Dreyfus supporters such as the eminent French writer, Emile Zola.



1893

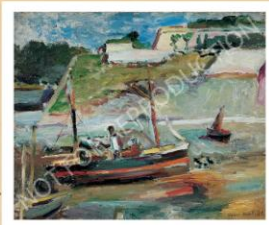
New Zealand becomes the first country to give women the right to vote in national elections.



1895

Siegfried Bing opens his famous gallery La Maison de l'Art Nouveau, showcasing decorative arts in the new Art Nouveau style, which utilizes sinuous natural forms as motifs.

Dragonfly brooch by René Lalique. René Lalique is recognized as one of France's foremost Art Nouveau jewellery designers, creating innovative pieces for Siegfried Bing's new Paris shop, La Maison de l'Art Nouveau.



1896-1897

Henri Matisse
The Palace, Belle Ile



1890s

Ladies' fashion of the era
Ladies of the Wheel, Delineator Magazine, 1896



1892

The first immigrants pass through Ellis Island.

1895

Auguste and Louis Lumière premiere the first motion film.



The world's first film poster, advertising the Lumière brothers' cinematograph, showing a famous comedy *L'Arroseur*. Arroné, 1895.

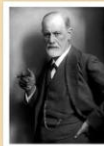


1896

Henry Ford drives his first automobile through the streets of Detroit, Michigan.

1899

Americans tap their toes to ragtime music based on lively African-American syncopated rhythms. Black composer Scott Joplin, "The King of Ragtime," writes *Maple Leaf Rag*.



Sigmund Freud

1895

Studies in Hysteria by Josef Breuer and Sigmund Freud launches an Age of Analysis.

1893

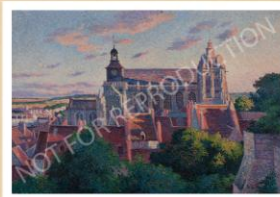
World's Columbian Exposition (also called the Chicago World's Fair) is held in Chicago to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the New World.



"The Chicago Wheel," built and designed by W.G. Ferriss, is the original Ferris Wheel. It is the centerpiece of the Chicago World's Fair and is intended to rival the Eiffel Tower in grandeur.

1894

Artist Maximilien Luce, who has strong anarchist convictions, is arrested for possible involvement in the June 24 assassination of the President of France, Marie François Sadi Carnot. (He is later acquitted and released.)



Maximilien Luce, *The Cathedral at Gisors, View of the Ramparts, 1898*



1900-1905

Paul Cézanne,
Trees and Rocks Near Chateau Noir



1901

The Eastman Kodak Company introduces the Brownie, a low-priced, point-and-shoot, hand-held camera.

1900

The Exposition Universelle (A World's Fair) is again held in Paris. Among the achievements featured are the Eiffel Tower, the Paris Metro and the 100-meter tall Grande Roue de Paris Ferris Wheel.



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1905 Photo of the Gertrude Käsebier and Clarence H. White exhibition at the Little Galleries of the Photo-Secession, February 1906

Alfred Stieglitz opens The Little Galleries of the Photo-Secession in New York, later called Gallery 291. The gallery debuted the work of pioneering photographers such as Stieglitz, Steichen, and Käsebier, and introduced European modernist works by Matisse, Cézanne, and Duchamp to the United States.

1901

The first Nobel Prizes are awarded in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace.



1905

Albert Einstein publishes his *Theory of Relativity*, establishing that the speed of light is constant, and that space and time are not absolute, but are relative to the position of the observer.



Albert Einstein, ca. 1905



1900s

Ladies' fashion of the era

1900s

1903

Orville and Wilbur Wright fly the first powered plane in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.



1905

Inspired by art nouveau motifs, architect Hector Guimard designs the now-iconic entrance ways to the Paris Metro.



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1905

Composer Maurice Ravel's *Une Barque sur l'Océan* (A Boat on the Ocean) premieres.



Maurice Ravel, ca. 1905

1903

French fashion designer Paul Poiret opens his design house. He becomes best known for freeing women from corsets, and for his technique of draping, emphasizing structural simplicity over traditional tailoring.



Fashion Design by Paul Poiret

1907

Pablo Picasso heralds the advent of Cubism with his painting *Les Femmes d'Alger*.



1900-1910

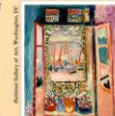
The Arts and Crafts movement, a British reform philosophy that eschewed the poor quality goods that resulted from mass production, takes hold in America. The simple lines of furniture that Stickley become increasingly popular.



Living room, ca. 1905 from *The Craftsman* magazine, published by Gustav Stickley



Gustav Stickley, *Armchair, ca. 1903*



Henri Matisse, *Open Window, Collioure*



André Derain, *Charing Cross Bridge, London*



Maurice de Vlaminck, *The River Seine at Chatou*

1905

The first exhibition of the Fauvist artists is held in Paris at the Salon, d'Automne. Among the group is Henri Matisse, André Derain, and Maurice de Vlaminck.