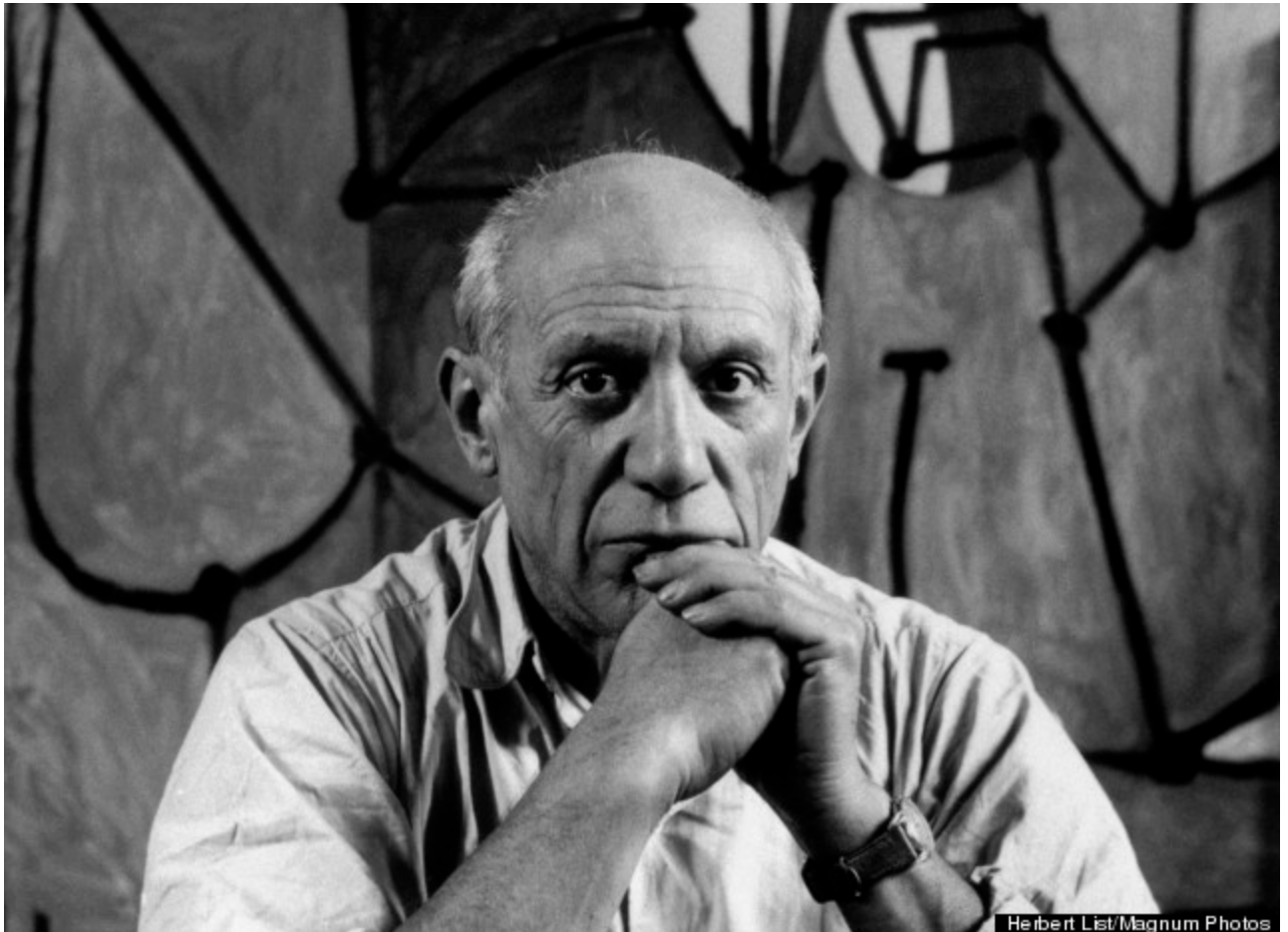


Pablo Picasso (25 October 1881 – 8 April 1973) was a Spanish painter, sculptor, printmaker, ceramicist, stage designer. As the one of the greatest and most influential artist of the 20th century, he is known for co-founding the Cubist movement, the invention of constructed sculpture, the co-invention of collage.



This painting, **Les Femmes d'Alger (O.J.)**, was painted in 1907. It's one of the most famous examples of cubist painting. He used distortion of female's body and geometric forms in an innovative way, which challenged the expectation that paintings will offer idealized representation of female beauty.

It also shows the influence of African art on Picasso.

This painting is a large work and took 9 months to complete. He created hundreds of sketches and studies to prepare for the final work. He painted it when he was just 25 years old. The title of the painting came from one of the streets in Barcelona – Avignon. Picasso was born in Spain, and it was a brothel over there.

The dominant colors are shades of orange, blue, and white. Nowadays, the painting stays in the Museum of Modern Art in New York.



Les Femmes d'Alger Marks a radical break from traditional composition and perspective in painting. It depicts five naked women with figures composed of flat, splintered planes and faces inspired by Iberian and African masks. The compressed space the figures inhabit appears to project forward in jagged shards.

Picasso plays with the tradition that makes the female nude a symbol of natural purity, the subjects of his painting are prostitutes.

They're like shattered pieces of glass, they sharp and look a little bit dangerous. The painting is so large so the figures are life size.



One of the sketches.

It's resemblance to the Large Bathers of Paul Cézanne.





It's also a resemblance of Statue Oviri of Paul Gauguin.

When it first was exhibited In 1916, the painting was regarded as immoral.

QUIZ

1. When the painting was painted?
2. Where did the name of painting came from?
3. How long it took to paint the picture?
4. What's the subject of painting?
5. Where the painting is located right now?

SOURCES

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<http://www.moma.org/collection/works/79766>

[http://modernism.research.yale.edu/wiki/index.php/Les_Demoiselles_d'Avignon_\(The_Young_Ladies_of_Avignon\)](http://modernism.research.yale.edu/wiki/index.php/Les_Demoiselles_d'Avignon_(The_Young_Ladies_of_Avignon))

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Les_Demoiselles_d%27Avignon

DICTIONARY

distortion - zniekształcenie

resemblance - podobieństwo

regarded as immoral - traktowane za niemoralne

marks - oznacza

depicts - przedstawia

splintered - rozbity

compressed - sprężone

figures - postacie

appears to project forward - wydają się wystawać do przodu

jagged shards - poszarpane kawałki

brothel - burdel