

Q: What is the French Academy in Rome?

A: The French Academy in Rome was a branch of Paris's Royal Academy of Painting and Sculpture. During the seventeenth century, when the Academy was founded, Rome was a very important artistic center and France's most important artists travelled to and studied in Rome. The French Academy in Rome provided the official presence of French art in this major artistic capital.

Tags: [Artistic Movements](#), [French Baroque](#), [Rome](#), [The Academy](#), [travel](#)

Q: Why did Louis XIV establish the Royal Academy of Fine Arts?

A: Louis XIV sought to regulate and control art and artists in France. He wanted to assure that art would conform to a Classical style and would work to glorify French royalty (i.e. himself). The Royal Academy of Fine Arts trained artists in these very specific ways.

Tags: [artistic training](#), [Classicism](#), [Louis XIV](#), [Royal Academy of Fine Arts](#)

Q: Who was Vitruvius?

A: Vitruvius was an architect and architectural theorist from ancient Rome. He wrote detailed architectural treatises and theorems in his famed "Ten Books on Architecture." These books were influential, because they were among the few sources of knowledge of ancient architecture available to later generations of architects. His writings were especially revered by the Renaissance architect, Andrea Palladio, who was in turn influential on the English Baroque architect Inigo Jones.

Tags: [Architecture](#), [artistic influence](#), [English Baroque](#), [inigo jones](#)

Q: Who was John Webb?

A: John Webb was one of Inigo Jones's most important pupils. He worked as an assistant on Jones's plans for the Banqueting House at Whitehall, and after Jones's death, he took on some of the most important commissions in England, including Belvoir Castle and Greenwich Palace.

Tags: [Architecture](#), [artistic genres](#), [artistic training](#), [English Baroque](#), [inigo jones](#), [John Webb](#)

Q: William Hogarth is sometimes described as a literary artist. What does this mean?

A: William Hogarth created scenes that had a strong narrative character; there were many small details within his paintings that helped tell a story. Consider, for example, the details in *The Breakfast Scene* that suggest the immorality of the man and woman depicted: the unkempt home, the stack of unpaid bills, the dog sniffing the cap of the man's mistress in his pocket, and so on. Additionally, his images were often serialized, meaning they came out in sections much like chapters of a book. His satirical approach to art was also very much in line with the literary tradition developing in England during his lifetime.

Tags: [artistic themes](#), [English Baroque](#), [Satire](#), [William Hogarth](#)