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Impression, Sunrise by Claude Monet is a painting representative for the impressionist movement that has wooed the artistic society at the time and continued to impress the generations to come. The painting is a beautiful combination of contrasting colors and prominent brush strokes that draws the viewer in and manages to capture his/her admiration. This way, the portrayed image appeals to our deepest emotions and memories, making us long for a peaceful sunrise by the seaside, while admiring the majestic, yet simple beauty of the sea and the sky.

The colors green and blue create the impression of a misty landscape and a somewhat mystical atmosphere. These are the colors of the almost-gone night, still persistent in the thick morning air, but contrasting with the new and vibrant sun, that sheds its splendid light over the surrounding areas. The powerful sun seems to give life to the still and cold surroundings. This way, the painting bears the beauty, the calmness and the promise of a new day and a new beginning. It makes me feel inspired and at the same time, it makes me marvel at the unpretentious and uncomplicated beauty of nature.

Since it is only an impression, this representation of a sunrise in a French port transmits the idea that impressive, beautiful and majestic moments are ephemeral and might last for a very short time, while the only way to immortalize them is to create vivid impressions of them. We have to observe the world around us and never stop wonder - and the memories will saturate later. At the same time, the gorgeous sunlight fighting through the morning mist suggests the hope and promise that every new beginning bears within. Impression, Sunrise is a work of art that instantly catches our attention and remains impregnated in our memory through its strong, contrasting colors as well as through the feelings of promise and brief fulfillment that it stirs into the viewer’s mind and soul.

## Works Cited

Kleiner, Fred S. Gardner’s Art through the Ages: A Global History. Wadsworth: Cengage Learning, 2011. Print.
Yurasits, Jamie. " Analysis of Claude Monet’s Impression, Sunrise." Incite, Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship. . 2011. Web. 21. Sept. 2012.