Masters of painting, for example Leonardo, Rembrandt, Bierstadt produced many works that enriched Western society and culture. “The Thinker”, “The Night Watch”, “The Rocky Mountains” are one of them. They did this by demanding of themselves the highest standards of excellence, improving works of previous generation masters, aspiring to the highest quality attainable.

But now standards of Art have fallen. Quality replaced by simplicity. Art workers in the late 19th century was divided on two big groups: Impressionists (beginning of aesthetic relativism) and Académie des Beaux-Arts (classical standards). The first generation or so of impressionists produced a lot of good works (“Water Lily Pond”, “Dance at Le moulin de la Galette”). But with each new generation standards fell more and more and was replaced by personal expression in 20th century.

Without aesthetic standards, we have no way to determine quality of artwork. Where once artists applied their talents to scenes of integrity from history, literature, religion and etc., many of today’s artists use their art to make shocking statements. Another problem is in the community: the museum leads, gallery owners, critics who are sponsoring and enable production of this works.

We can make our opinions know and felt, supports organizations like the Art Renewal Center and advocate the teaching f classical art appreciation in schools.