

**.MY FAVE ART WORK.****Bina Aziz, gallery owner**

To choose a favourite painting is like choosing your favourite child, but Pierre August Renoir was an inspiration to me as a child. One of my favourite works of his is *Le Bal au Moulin de la Galette* – a 1876 oil on canvas. This painting is housed at the Musee d'Orsay in Paris and is one of Impressionism's most celebrated masterpieces. The pieces that are generally attributed to be the first impressionist paintings are those produced by Renoir and Monet during the summer of 1869.

What's interesting about this work is with which the happiness and pleasure the working class are all dressed up, enjoying themselves. It depicts the movement of change and optimism in France and is a perfect representation of what life was in Paris in those days.

The painting depicts a typical Sunday afternoon at Moulin de la Galette in the district of Montmartre in Paris. In the late 19th century, working class Parisians would dress up and spend time there dancing, drinking, and eating into the evening. Its vibrant composition, richness of form, fluidity of his brush strokes, lighting effect and the depth shown in this painting is awesome. It makes me feel like bringing the painting alive and being part of that celebration!

—As told to Riddhi Doshi

Did you know?

Renoir's paintings are on display in several museums around the world and he remains one of the most popular artists. In 1990, his painting sold for \$78.1 million.