



Portraits, Pears, and Perfect Landscapes:

Investigating *Genre* in the Visual Arts: Assessment Worksheet

Student Name _____ Date _____

Fill out the following chart by writing the name of the genre of each painting in the middle column. Use the last column to explain why you believe this painting belongs to this genre.

Painting	Genre	Explanation
George Bellows' <u>Club Night</u>	Genre	Depicts daily life; the subject is "low" rather than lofty; not idealized
<u>Cosimo I di'Medici</u> by Bonzoni's workshop	Portrait	The painting focuses on a person rather than an event or action
Bingham's <u>Fur Traders Descending the Missouri</u>	History, but with significant aspects of genre and landscape painting	This is an imagined scene from the history of the United States and the fur trader in American historical lore conveys symbolically the idea of the country's growth; the figures are idealized rather than specific fur traders. This image does also contain aspects which students may identify as part of genre painting, while astute viewers may also note that the image concentrates upon the landscape as much as upon the people. Students should be asked to explain their answers.
Castagno's <u>Youthful David</u>	History	This is an imagined scene depicting David from the Old Testament; while the figure is specific, he was not observed by the artist
Van Gogh's <u>Cypresses</u>	Landscape	This painting focuses on an element of the landscape of Southern France where the painter was working.
Tiepolo's <u>A Dance in the Country</u>	Genre	Depicts daily life; images of amusement were common in genre paintings.
Beardon's <u>Tomorrow I May be Far Away</u>	Genre	Depicts daily life; figures are not idealized.

Gauguin's <u><i>A Farm in Brittany</i></u>	Landscape	This painting focuses the interplay of the farmhouse and the fields in Brittany, where Gauguin worked.
De Gheyn's <u><i>Vanitas ...</i></u>	Still Life	Focuses on an arrangement of inanimate objects.
Lamb's <u><i>The Emancipation Proclamation</i></u>	History	The subject of this painting is allegorical- in this case the woman in the chariot is an allegorical representation of the Emancipation Proclamation.
Velazquez's <u><i>The Needlewoman</i></u>	Genre/ Portrait	This painting contains elements of both genre and portrait paintings. It depicts a specific person engaged in one of her daily activities. The image is not idealized.
Degas' <u><i>The Old Italian Woman</i></u>	Genre/ Portrait	This painting contains elements of both genre and portrait paintings. It depicts a specific person engaged in one of her daily activities. The image is not idealized.