

Van Gogh was born on March the 30<sup>th</sup> 1853, in Groot-zundert. His father at first wanted him to be an art dealer so at sixteen he started work at the Goupil Galleries he worked there for three years. From 1870 to 1873 then, at the more important branch for two years. It is said that he was totally uninterested in his job as an art dealer. This probably affected him in a bad way as he had been working as an art dealer for five years and he disliked this very much. So he left the gallery and returned home in 1876. It helped him a lot because place to place to seek out new ideas and to fill his dreams. This is when he became more highly influenced in painting and art. He moved to a Belgium mining district. It was a period in which he wore himself out, mentally and physically. In 1880 he decided to devote his life to painting, this is where Vincent Van Gogh's life as we now know it truly began. This is where his problems began: his family didn't approve of his idea to go into his artistic life. Then he moved to Brussels to study and then on to Ermen. Also he experienced his unhappy love affair. He then stayed 2 years in Nuenen, working extremely hard; but he was deeply affected by the attempt of Margot Begemann, a neighbour, to commit suicide. Then his father died and he had no money. In May 1889 he entered the mental asylum at saint-remy-de-provence, only two months later he suffered a severe attack of madness and shot himself. He died two days later on July 29, 1890 with Theo. and his friend Gachet by his side.

I feel that he had no one as an influence but  
maybe a hodgepodge of friends and his main influence  
himself.