

Contents

FOREWORD	7	Deserted
CHAPTER I		THE MAKING OF AN ARTIST 1853-1883
	15	The Family 1853-1875
	21	Van Gogh's Other Art <i>The Letters</i>
	31	The Religious Maniac 1875-1880
	42	"No beginning but in God" <i>Van Gogh and Religion</i>
	56	First Steps as an Artist 1880-1881
	65	Van Gogh's Early Models
	75	Family Life <i>The Hague</i> 1882-1883
	90	Art and Responsibility <i>Commitments for the Future</i>
	99	No Soul, No Self <i>Drente</i> 1883
CHAPTER II		THE YEARS IN NUENEN 1883-1885
	106	An Artist Pure and Simple <i>The First Year</i>
	130	Progress <i>The Weavers Series</i>
	144	"With all my strength" <i>Winter</i> 1884-1885
	159	Painting as Manifesto <i>The Potato Eaters</i>
	178	Understanding and Suspicion <i>Summer and Autumn</i> 1885
	194	Colour and the Finished Work <i>Evolving a Theory of Art</i>
CHAPTER III		CITY LIFE 1885-1888
	208	The Antwerp Interlude <i>Winter</i> 1885-1886
	221	A Dutchman in Paris 1886-1888
	241	Through the Window 1886
	263	Isms, Isms, Isms <i>The 1887 Watershed</i>
	283	The Far East on His Doorstep <i>Van Gogh and Japonism</i>
	301	The Unity of Art and Life
CHAPTER IV		PAINTING AND UTOPIA
		ARLES, FEBRUARY 1888 TO MAY 1889
	313	Arles: The Heart of Japan
	325	Personal Impressionism <i>Orchards in Blossom</i>
	339	Under a Southern Sun <i>May to August</i> 1888

357	Working without Painting	<i>Van Gogh's Drawings</i>
375	Enchantment and Affliction	<i>The Night Paintings of September 1888</i>
391	The Dream of an Artists' Community	<i>September and October 1888</i>
415	Aesthetic Subtlety	<i>Van Gogh and Symbolism</i>
435	Genius and Error: Gauguin in Arles	<i>October to December 1888</i>
459	Art and Madness	
479	The Supportive Power of Pictures	<i>January to May 1889</i>

CHAPTER V

	"ALMOST A CRY OF FEAR"	
	SAINT-RÉMY, MAY 1889 TO MAY 1890	
497	The Monastic Life	
511	Olives, Cypresses and Hills	<i>Van Gogh's Compacted Landscape</i>
529	The Portraits	
539	Space and Colour	<i>Metaphors of Paradox</i>
557	Exhibitions and Criticism	<i>Van Gogh's First Successes</i>
569	Selfhood and Otherness	<i>Homage to the Masters</i>
585	Ways of Escape	<i>The Final Months in Saint-Rémy</i>
601	Reverence and Awe	<i>Van Gogh and Nature</i>

CHAPTER VI

	THE END	
	AUVERS-SUR-OISE, MAY TO JULY 1890	
629	On Doctor Gachet's Territory	
647	Frieze Art	<i>Van Gogh's "Art Nouveau"</i>
663	"I wish it were all over now"	<i>Suicide</i>
689	A Revolution in Art: Modernism	

APPENDICES

696	VINCENT VAN GOGH
	A CHRONOLOGY 1853-1890
718	Bibliography
724	Index of Paintings
732	Index of Names
736	Comparative Table of Catalogue Numbers