

# VINCENT VAN GOGH

■ I am seeking, I am  
striving. I am in it with  
all my heart.



Size: 28 1/2 x 36 1/4 in (72.4 x 92.1 cm)

## Le café de nuit (The Night Café)

In a letter to his brother written from Arles in the south of France, van Gogh described the Café de l'Alcazar, where he took his meals, as "blood red and dull yellow with a green billiard table in the center, four lemon yellow lamps with an orange and green glow. Everywhere there is a clash and contrast of the most disparate reds and greens." The clashing colors were also meant to express the "terrible passions of humanity" found in this all-night haunt, populated by vagrants and prostitutes. Van Gogh also felt that colors took on an intriguing quality at night, especially by gaslight: in this painting, he wanted to show how "the white clothing of the café owner, keeping watch in a corner of this furnace, becomes lemon yellow, pale and luminous green."

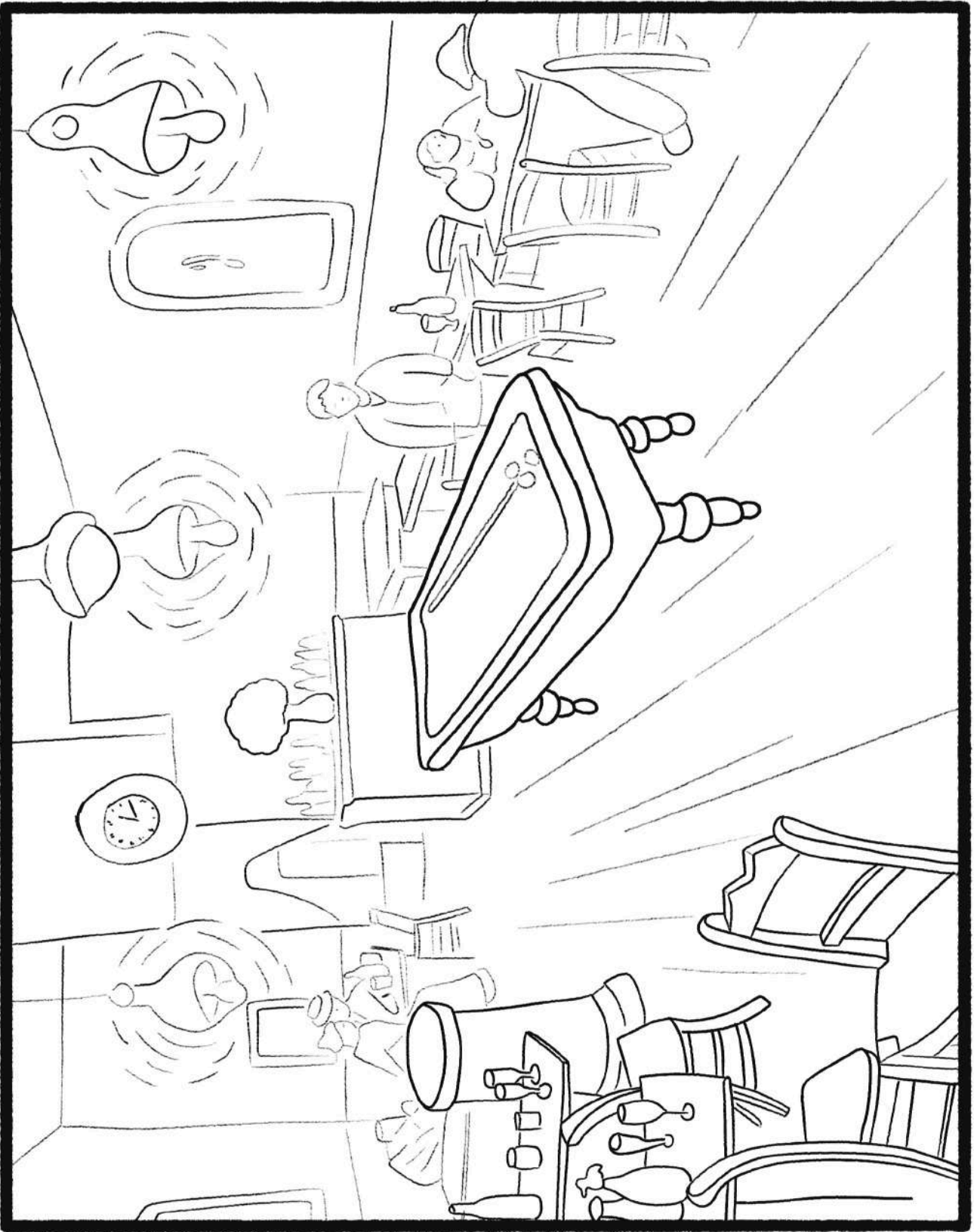
### INTERESTING FACT

Van Gogh was particularly influenced by Japanese woodblock prints. In some cases he even made copies.

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Vincent Van Gogh (b. 1853)  
Le café de nuit (The Night Café), 1888  
Oil on canvas

# PALETTE

The palette, a flat surface crafted from materials like wood, plastic, or glass, serves as an essential tool for artists to mix and organize their paints while working on their artworks, enabling them to blend colors, adjust tones, and control paint consistency before application onto the canvas or paper.

