Rembrandt van Rijn	(1606 - 1669) An artist considered to be the best Dutch painter of his time. He is known for dark, emotionally charged paintings and subtle, detailed portraits. Major works: Anatomy Lesson of Dr Tulp, 1632; The Blinding of Samson, ca. 1636; The Sampling Officials of the Draper's Guild, 1662.
The Sampling Officials of the Drapers' Guild	A circa 1662 group portrait by Rembrandt that is a prime example of his use of delicate light and subtle details. Rembrandt's portrayal of the individual traits of each person heightens the relationships among the figures.
genre art	A style of artwork in which everyday scenes are depicted, often with great detail and subtle symbolism. It was first popular in 17th-century Holland.
Johannes Vermeer	(1632 - 1675) A Dutch painter best known for his ability to create genre scenes with realistic light and detail through his use of underpainting and glazing. Also known as Jan Vermeer. Major works: The Girl with the Pearl Earring, 1655; The Milkmaid, ca. 1657.
The Milkmaid	A circa 1657 genre painting by Jan Vermeer that depicts a housemaid pouring milk. The activity represents a model of domestic virtue, painted here using realistic human form and idealized light.
glazing	A technique in which paints are thinned and applied in many layers to a previously painted surface, resulting in the appearance of reflected light.
underpainting	A painting used as a base for glazing or further painting.