

Cubism

- Cubism started in **1907**, and included artists such as **Pablo Picasso**, **Georges Braque** and **Salvador Dali**.
- It involved splitting the subject of the painting into separate fragments from different viewpoints, influenced by traditional **African tribal masks**, which are highly stylised and unnatural. As Picasso described it: "A head is a matter of eyes, nose, mouth, which can be distributed in any way you like."
- Cubism developed in two primary stages:
 - **Analytical cubism (1907-1912)** was more severe and used darker, less saturated colours. (See *Girl with a Mandolin*, right)
 - **Synthetic cubism (1912-1914)** used simpler shapes and brighter colours. (See *Guitar*, right)



Pablo Picasso, 1913, *Guitar*



Pablo Picasso, 1910, *Girl with a Mandolin*

Painters and Paintings

Pablo Picasso

Pablo Picasso was born in Malaga, Spain, on the 25th of October 1881 and died on the 8th of April 1973. His father, Jose Ruiz y Blasco was a painter, an art teacher and a professor of art at the Escuela Provincial de Bellas Artes. He met Braques in 1907 and together they founded Cubism. **Les Femmes d'Alger (O.K. Version)** (more information about this artwork on earlier pages in this book) was Picasso's first experimentation with the style as a Proto-Cubist painting.



Georges Braque, 1913, *Violin and Sheet Music on a Table (Petit Oiseau)*



Pablo Picasso, 1907, *Les Femmes d'Alger (O.K. Version)*

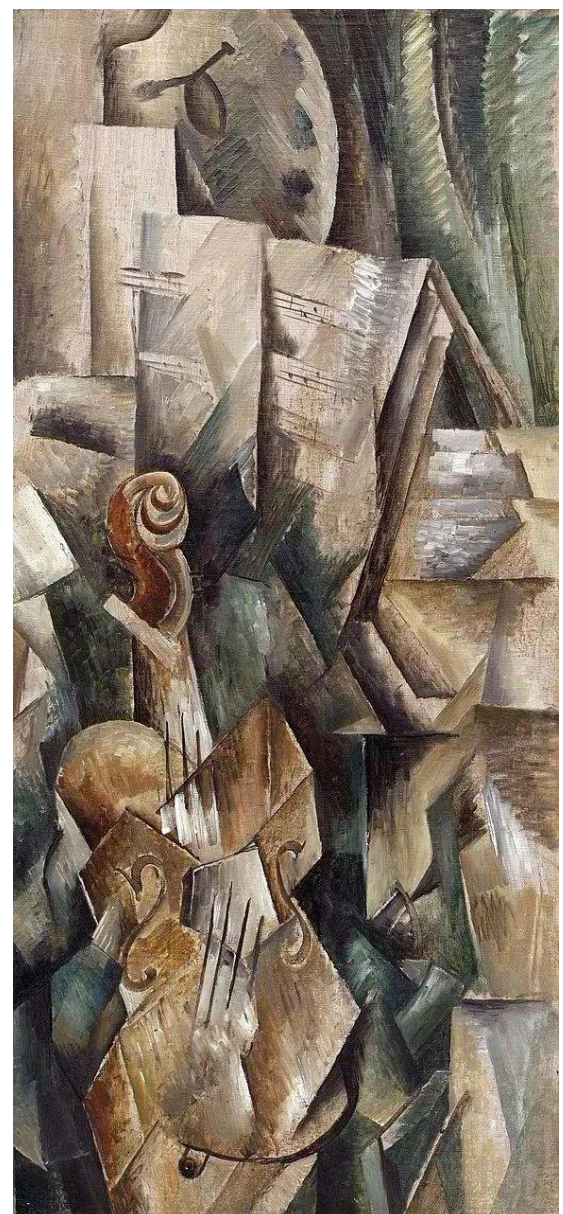
Georges Braque

Although Braque started painting in the style of Fauvism, once he met Picasso, he began to further develop the Cubist style instead. Braque was the main inventor of **analytical cubism**, adding pieces of newspaper or advertisements to his paintings.

Cubism continued after the First World War but experienced a decline in the mid-1920s.



Pablo Picasso, 1921, *Three Musicians*



Georges Braque, 1909, *Violin and Palette*