

## Rheumatoid Arthritis and the Hands of the Artist

saul ostrow

I have been asked by a student of medical illustration to inquire after the names of artists who may have suffered Rheumatoid Arthritis.

I think Matisse did but I can't think of anyone else --

Thank you for your help with this matter,

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Professor Ostrow,

I'm a medical illustration student in my fifth year here at CIA. My BFA topic is "Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) and the Hands of the Artist." I want to analyze an artist's work over time and make correlations between his artistic production and the progression (over years) of the arthritis.

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-Tony James Riley  
Student of Medical Illustration  
Cleveland Institute of Art

Reference:

Q: Rheumatoid Arthritis and the Hands of the Artist. In: ArtHist.net, Oct 7, 2003 (accessed Mar 12, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/25920>>.