



Andy Warhol



Who is Andy Warhol?

Andy Warhol was born 'Andrew Warhola' in 1928 in Pennsylvania (USA). His parents were from a part of Europe that is now part of Slovakia. They moved to New York in the 1920s.

Warhol became a popular American print artist. He helped create a style of art called Pop Art. Warhol printed pictures of ordinary objects. He also printed famous people. He did most of his painting during the 1960's. This was an exciting time in popular culture. New kinds of music, art, books, and movies were being created. This inspired Warhol to look at art in a new way, however because it was so different to what had been created before, many people didn't take his work seriously.

Andy began his career as a commercial artist. These are people, who design things for advertisements. His drawings appeared in many fashion magazines. One thing Warhol was known for was, despite making a lot of money, he still dressed in torn, sloppy clothes. His friends called him, "Raggedy Andy."

Famous work



Warhol liked to paint many pictures of the same thing. In 1962, a famous actress named Marilyn Monroe died. That same year he made a series of pictures of her.



Later that year, a friend suggested Warhol paint something that was so common that people didn't see it as art. Warhol loved to eat soup, so he decided to paint cans of Campbell's Soup. There were many flavours of Campbell's Soup at that time. Warhol bought all the different kinds, then he spent hours copying the cans onto a white background. He painted the cans 32 times on one canvas! Each can was slightly different from the next.

Find out more about pop art using the link below.

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/what-is/pop-art>



Andy Warhol's style

Warhol was known for his personal style of bright white hair, a lot of black clothing and sunglasses. He liked to experiment with his personal style and made a lot of self-portraits.



Warhol liked making prints because it meant he could create multiples of the same image. Screen-printing is a printing process that can create lots of artworks that look the same. Sometimes Warhol would switch colours around and present a group of prints with contrasting colours together.

Example Questions

- 1) Where was Andy Warhol from?
- 2) Andy Warhol was a Pop Artist. What does this mean?
- 3) How would you describe Warhol's artwork?
- 4) What did Andy Warhol do before he became a famous artist?



Challenge

Can you use Andy Warhol's printing and colourful art style to create your own piece of pop art. You could do this digitally, or print using paints. See examples below.

