

Artist Fact Sheet

**Andy
Warhol**
1928-1987



Andy Warhol was born in Pennsylvania, USA. He was the fourth child of Andrej and Julia Varhola, who had emigrated from Miko (now called Mikova), located in today's Slovakia. As a child, Andy Warhol had a serious illness called Sydenham's chorea, and he later developed a fear of hospitals and doctors. While he was ill, Warhol drew, listened to the radio and collected pictures of movie stars.

After leaving school, Warhol studied Commercial Art at the Carnegie Institute of Technology. He moved to New York City to begin a career in magazine illustration and advertising. He began using silk screen printmaking to make images. This involves pushing ink through a screen to create an image. It can be used to make lots of copies of the same image.



Warhol used this printmaking technique to make artworks that used a repeated image from popular culture, often in different colours. He made pictures of soup cans and coke bottles. He made paintings of American celebrities such as Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley. He founded his studio, "The Factory", where lots of artists, writers and musicians would visit him.

Andy Warhol died in New York in 1987. He left nearly all of his money (more than \$20 million) to the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. In his will, he stated that the mission of the foundation would be to "foster innovative artistic expression and the creative process".

Work: Marilyn (1962), Muhammad Ali (1977), Campbell's Soup Cans (1962)



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