

Pop Art



Andy Warhol

Introduction

Andy Warhol was a very experienced artist in the Pop Art era. The work he created explored the relationship of expression, advertising and celebrity culture. He was born at Pittsburgh on August 6th, 1928 and died on February 22nd, 1987. Pop art is characterized by vibrant, bright colours. Primary colours red, yellow. Recognizable imagery utilizes images and icons from popular media and products. This includes commercial items like soup cans, road signs, photos of celebrities, newspapers, and other items popular in the commercial. Recognizable imagery utilizes images and icons from popular media and products. This included commercial items like soup cans, road signs, photos of celebrities, newspapers, and other items popular in the commercial world. Even brand names and logos were incorporated.

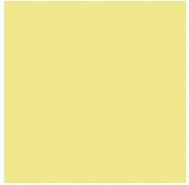


Artwork

The pop art artwork called Marilyn Monroe was created by Andy Warhol. The artwork is a silkscreen painting that was depicting the famous celebrity Marilyn Monroe. The painting consists of 50 images; Silk-screening was the technique used to create this painting. It was in Studio 54, the ultimate Manhattan nightclub that made headlines during the 1970s, that Warhol found many of his celebrity sitters.



Art Elements



Colour: In the artwork Marilyn Monroe, the art element Colour is shown through the whole artwork. Bold and warmer tones are mainly used in the back ground, eyes/eyeshadow and the hair. The colours are accompanied by a black shade that is placed on top of the hair and neck. It shows the highlights from the light as the black represents it. The colours also represent a positive era when she was still alive, which is what Warhol wants to leave that effect on the audience.

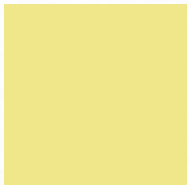
Tone: Tone is represented by the dark tones that are implemented as subtle dark shades are scattered throughout the bright vibrant colours. Varied shades of black represent the light and it compliments the more bold colours that are the centre piece.

Art Principles



Emphasis: the emphasis of the painting is directed to Marilyn Monroe's face. The placement and colouring of the artwork allows the audience to be drawn to the key aspects of her face like her eyes, etc. She is also placed quite large in the centre of the painting which is the primary focus.

Proportion: the proportion of the artwork has a sense of realism as it has copied how Marilyn Monroe's face looks and created a more exaggerated version. It is very proportional and realistic as well and it really ties in all the colours and the bold background.



Analyse how the artist has developed aesthetic qualities in the artwork through the use of art elements and principles

Warhol uses dynamic bold colours that stand out against the black shade. He uses different shade of pink and a vibrant yellow for the hair. This art work gives off a positive and memorable vibe as she was loved and I feel this art work makes the audience remember her in a positive way. The tone in the artwork uses a harsh black shade that represents the light and shadow. A sense of darkness and sorrow is represented slightly around the bright vibrant colours as her death was very very tragic. the emphasis of the painting is showed through the main focus point of the art work which is Monroe's face and one of the qualities are happiness or relief. As you can see she looks quiet calm in the painting which is the mood it represents, also the colours give off a bright positive vibe as well. Finally, the proportion of the face give a dramatic and out-going feel to it and it very important it the primary focus of the painting.



Materials

The materials that he used in the artwork Marilyn Monroe was a screen printing frame, emulsion, acetate, ink and pre stretched canvas. Warhol's main method of art was screen- printing. Stretching the canvas prior to screen printing creates more clear and better results.

Techniques

Warhol uses photographic images for his screen-prints. The screen is prepared using a photographic process, and then different coloured inks are printed using a rubber sponge to press the paint onto the painting through the screen.

Processes

1. Coating your silk screen with emulsion and let it dry for 4 hours.
2. Print the image on the clear paper (acetate)
3. After you have the image you need to expose place the image and the screen on an exposure unit
4. Wash the screen out
5. Place screen on top of canvas , then clamp the canvas and screen down.

Historical and Cultural context

Culture is all aspects of life, the totality of meanings, ideas and beliefs shared by individuals within a group of people. Culture is learned, it includes language, values, norms, customs. Different events that have happened in the mid-20th century is the Russian revolution, the war in Europe and the economic depression.

● The history behind Marilyn Monroe:

Marilyn Monroe has been searching for happiness but unfortunately she had never found it. Marilyn Monroe died from a drug overdose and no one knows if it was accidental or on purpose. Andy Warhol says "When Marilyn Monroe happened to die that month, I got the idea to make screens of her beautiful face the first Marilyn's." The work was a commentary on the relation between Monroe's life and death.

● The history behind Pop Art:

Pop art is a type of movement that originated in the mid-20th century. Artists incorporated all different kinds of objects such as, cans, paper and uncommon objects. The pop art movement was significant because it signalled a revolution in artists' perceptions of what constitutes essential source material. It was a trend that aimed to bring fine art closer to the general public by employing imagery that common people could understand and relate to.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the pop art period was a very popular and expressive form of art. In my opinion I feel Pop Art is the most interesting and expressive artwork. It's also able to deliver messages and can create very unique artworks. The Marilyn Monroe painting is very meaningful and the colors are so different but still work very well together. Pop art is so unique and a more modern movement of art.



Bibliography

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