

ROY LICHTENSTEIN: - Biography

Roy Lichtenstein was born in New York City in 1923. Lichtenstein studied at the Ohio State University where he learned about visual psychology and optical illusion.

During his early years Lichtenstein's early work was in an American Realist Tradition, gradually giving way to more modernist approach under influence of cubism and abstract expressionism, Lichtenstein also experimented with found objects.

In the 1950's he worked as a freelance commercial and graphic artist, before becoming a teacher where he worked first at New York State College of Education and then at Rutgers University. By 1964 Lichtenstein was beginning to become an established full-time artist and he had already made a stir with his large hand painted canvases reproducing commercial comic-strip frames.

In 1963 he moved to New York, and was commissioned by the architect Phillip Johnson to produce large format paintings for the New York State Pavilion at the worlds fair in New York. He was given a retrospective at the Solomon.R.Guggenheim museum, New York and again in 1975 at the Centre National d'art Contemporain, Paris.

In 1979 he received his first public commission for a sculpture, he made the **Mermaid** for the Theatre of Performing Arts, Miami Beach Fl and painted the series **American Indians**.

In 1981 the St. Louis Art Museum organised a comprehensive retrospective of his work, which toured the U.S.A, Japan and Europe.

In 1985 he produced a mural for the Equitable Centre, New York and in 1987 he had a retrospective of his drawings at the Museum of Modern Art, New York and at the Kunsthalle, Frankfurt (1988).

Lichtenstein continued to work up until his death of Pneumonia in 1997.

Famous works of Lichtenstein include: -

"In the car"

"Anxious girl"

"As I Open Fire"

"Anxious Girl"

"Drowning Girl"

"Whaam!"