

WHAT IS POPART?



ANDY WARHOL

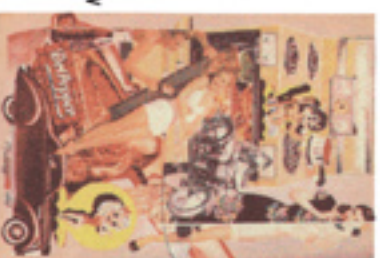
MARILYN 1964

POPART was a visual art movement that began in the mid 1900's. The majority of the work that was produced came from either USA or Britain. For all pop artists it was important to put art on a level where everyone could understand it. They believed that art had become too elite and pompous and so they rebelled against the old fashioned art establishment and made images, which they considered, to be "plain speaking", modern and a reflection of the social times.

The name **POP ART** is shortened from the term **POPULAR ART**. The work made was a mixture of printing, painting, collage and sculpture. Most artists used everyday or "mass culture" items. They either took that item and put it in a new context, duplicated it or made it extremely big. Most works comment on life, politics, literature and of course popular culture at the time.



Two good examples of collage work are David Hockney's photographic collage *Peart Blossom Highway* 1986 (above) and on the right Eduardo Paolozzi's *Drink Doctor* Pepper Collage 1948. In both works the artists show items seen everyday.



James Rosenquist illustrates the way some artists in the Pop Art years made larger than life images. *World's Fair Mural*, 1964 is a perfect example of a painting that fits this description.



Roy Lichtenstein made gigantic paintings of cartoons like this one *M-Meronaise* which he painted in 1965. The painting looks like a huge screen print as the image is entirely made up of small dots.



Claes Oldenburg produced many famous sculptures during the Pop Art era. His sculptures were not only created to be shown in the museums but also in public spaces such as parks and courtyards like this giant clothespeg below



One of the most famous artists of the time was Andy Warhol. He used a method known as silk screen printing and he mass produced his work so that the Art work no longer had to be a "one off". There could be a hundred copies of the same art piece.

He was also known for his repetition of everyday objects and famous people. In this way he demystified his subject.



Andy Warhol's 100
Campbell's Soup
Can 1962