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Andy Warhol: A Life in Pop, Part 2

A New Look for a Blockbuster Show of Iconic portfolios from the Bank of America collection

Two rare groups of major works are added along with iconic paintings on canvas of Marilyn,

Campbell's Soup and Jackie Kennedy



Roslyn Harbor, NY— What could be better than a comprehensive Andy Warhol retrospective? How about a second version of a popular exhibition, which adds two rare groups of brightly colored works (*Space Fruit* and *Grapes*) to the iconic images of Campbell's Soup, Marilyn, Flowers and Jackie Kennedy. The Nassau Museum has refreshed its hit show (sky-high attendance since opening last May) by adding works that are not usually seen in Warhol retrospectives. With their incandescent colors and delicate draughtsmanship (Warhol transforms the photographs with both line and color), these two portfolios, on view until November 8, add a whole new dimension to our knowledge of the artist.

Nobody since Picasso has meant more to the course of art history than Andy Warhol (1928-1987). Many visitors have already enjoyed *Andy Warhol Portfolios: A Life in Pop | Works from the Bank of America Collection*, a vibrant and important exhibition that includes his signature icons from his earliest paintings to his innovations in silkscreen printing. The collection features the most famous images in Pop art, from the Campbell's soup can and Marilyn Monroe, pioneering works made in the 1960s, to the later Space Fruit series. The portfolios are on loan through the Bank of America Art in our Communities® program, and will reach a Long Island audience, including thousands of schoolchildren in local districts, who have never before had a local museum show dedicated to Andy Warhol. As Angela S. Anton, president of the Museum's board of trustees, comments, "We are absolutely thrilled to partner with the Bank of America, a longtime generous supporter of our education and exhibition efforts, on this fabulous show."

Warhol's appeal is uniquely universal. He is as popular with the public as he is with scholars (who elevate him to the status of philosopher through his "transfigurations of the commonplace"). He seized the powerful tools of media and advertising right then in his own moment and, with an artistic alchemy that never fails to astonish, he returned the Campbell's soup can to the supermarket aisle with the new aura of an artistic masterpiece.



Andy Warhol, *Campbell's Soup II: New England Clam Chowder*, 1969, screenprint on paper, 13/250 Courtesy of the Bank of America Collection and the Bank of America Art in our Communities Program © 2021 The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc. / Licensed by Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

The refreshed version of the show brings works on canvas to the Museum, including two haunting portraits: Marilyn Monroe and Jackie Kennedy, which radiate the energy of icons. The works on canvas are courtesy of Dr. Harvey Manes, a museum trustee and donor who was just honored as the Collector of the Year by the prestigious Hamptons Fine Art Fair, where his book on the art market was featured. Dr. Manes has generously offered six works from his private collection, one of the most important repositories of art on Long Island, including these major pieces by Warhol. As wildly popular as he is worldwide, there was always something essentially American about the achievement of Warhol, a native of Pittsburgh, making the round trip between low and high, or between the remote and the ordinary (*Space Fruit* is a fantastic example of how he managed this in one work).

This show, which will offer valuable lessons for thousands of school children as well as the general public, offers an historically important opportunity to teach a new generation about the importance of Warhol, and to open those who may be familiar with many of his works to a brand-new interpretation of a familiar figure. Even in person, Andy Warhol was an otherworldly presence whose rapid-fire production and mass-media ubiquity left an impression of distance, the way the celebrities he portrayed seemed to come from another world. One of the many strengths of this deep dive into his career is the way it draws him more closely to us. The portfolios reveal the process that Warhol perfected, and the Museum installation. Theme and variations bring us closer to the mind in creation, as we watch a basic idea develop in the hands of the artist. The six versions of the *Space Fruit* and *Grapes*, for example, cycle through color palettes as dramatically varied as the serial landscapes of Claude Monet, with a sprinkling of diamond dust to dazzle the viewers.

"At Bank of America, we believe in the power of at arts to help economies and communities thrive, particularly here on Long Island. While these vital institutions have been deeply impacted by the pandemic, their work remains as important as ever," said Connie Verducci, Bank of America NYC-Long Island Market Executive. "It is our honor to support the Nassau County Museum of Art through Bank of America's Art in our Communities program and bring some of Andy Warhol's most iconic and thought-provoking works to Long Island."

## **About Art in our Communities®**

The Bank of America Art in Our Communities Program was established in 2009 in order to share the company's art collection with the widest possible audience. Comprising the art collections of the predecessor banks that are now part of Bank of America, the program offers museums and nonprofit galleries the opportunity to borrow complete or customized exhibitions at no cost. The public is able to enjoy new art installations at its local museums, while the museums themselves are able to generate vital revenue. Since 2009, more than 140 exhibitions have been loaned through this one-of-a-kind program.

## **About the Museum**

Nassau County Museum of Art is located at One Museum Drive in Roslyn Harbor. The museum is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors (62 and above) and \$5 for students and children (4 to12). Media Contact: Charles Riley, (516) 484-9338 x 37, criley@nassaumuseum.org

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