

American MASTERS

20
years

thirteen
WNET NEW YORK

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press information

Quote sheet

A Production of
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AMERICAN MASTERS Andy Warhol



*Nearly 20 years after his death, artist Andy Warhol continues to provoke discussion. Below, several people interviewed in **AMERICAN MASTERS Andy Warhol** offer their insight into the controversial, enigmatic artist. The two-part film premieres Wednesday, September 20 and Thursday, September 21 at 9 p.m. (ET) on PBS (check local listings).*

Irving Blum, art dealer

So along with everything else, Andy was doing nothing less than reinventing cinema, from the beginning, and taking you through the whole process on his own terms.

Vincent Fremont, filmmaker

I think the reason he has such staying power and there isn't a proper understanding of him is because he was so complex, yet he said he was so simple...He was one of the most complex people I ever met.

Stephen Koch, writer

He was this poor boy, from an immigrant family – from a very deprived immigrant family...who was carried to very considerable success on the strength of his talent alone. That's in itself very interesting. We say it should happen a lot. It doesn't always happen, but it happened to him.

Wayne Kostenbaum, writer

He was, you know, ethnic Polish, with a bad nose and St. Vitus Dance and blotches, et cetera, who was gay and really, really swish and had a freaky mother and was bad with people, was probably dyslexic, a little autistic...and yeah, it would be really nice to become Lana Turner. And art let him do that.

Neil Printz, art historian

If we needed to find a visual form just to distill what it's like to have been alive in the last 50 years, the image would come somewhere from the corpus of Andy Warhol.

Billy Name, photographer

The Factory – how to explain the impact of it, what it felt like – is really rare, something that probably hasn't happened in this century, in the art scene. It was just the ultra salon, but in the days of acid trips. It was high-powered lightning bolts, Velvet Underground, Andy Warhol, superstars all in like a three-year period – it was a peak. Anyone who came to New York from Europe – the Stones had to, you gotta go to the Factory, you know? Or from California – Jim Morrison comes – you gotta go to the Factory, you know? Someone would bring you to the Factory, if you were famous in any way. It was just the burner was always on.

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Thirteen/WNET New York is one of the key program providers for public television, bringing such acclaimed series as *Nature*, *Great Performances*, *AMERICAN MASTERS*, *Charlie Rose*, *Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly*, *Wide Angle*, *Secrets of the Dead*, and *Cyberchase* - as well as the work of Bill Moyers - to audiences nationwide. As the flagship public broadcaster in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut metro area, Thirteen reaches millions of viewers each week, airing the best of American public television along with its own local productions such as *The Ethnic Heritage Specials*, *The Thirteen Walking Tours*, *New York Voices*, and *Reel New York*. With educational and community outreach projects that extend the impact of its television productions, Thirteen takes television "out of the box." And as broadcast and digital media converge, Thirteen is blazing trails in the creation of Web sites, enhanced television, CD-ROMs, DVD-ROMs, educational software, and other cutting-edge media products. More information about Thirteen can be found at: www.thirteen.org.

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