



Art Project Plan

SELF-PORTRAITS

Wow!

BASED ON THE ARTWORK OF ROY FOX LICHTENSTEIN

Grades: 4-7

Time: Two to three lessons, 45 minutes each

Project:

1. Introduce students to the American artist Roy Fox Lichtenstein and show reproductions of some of his work concentrating on his most famous Pop Art paintings. Discuss paintings; how they look like enlargements of a printed page with the dot pattern visible. Can the students see those colors in his paintings? Discuss his use of words in his paintings and what role did the typography play in conveying mood or message?
2. Tell the students that they will be creating their self-portrait in the style of Roy Lichtenstein that will include one positive word that describes them. They will not have to come up with their own descriptive word – a fellow student will provide it. Write each student's name on a slip of paper and drop into a bowl. Then have students draw a name. Each student will provide one positive word to describe the person whose name was drawn. Going around the room have each person tell the word that they have selected to describe the person whose name they have drawn. Each student will use the word provided as a description in their painting.
3. Use a pencil to sketch out self-portrait on KidsArt Fairs paper. Be sure to include the descriptive word.
4. Have students use medium and broad tip markers to color their individual self-portrait. Use dots as Lichtenstein did to add color to his paintings.
5. When portraits are complete, have each artist sign their work in the lower right-hand corner. Use the Signature Template as a guide to position their signature where it will be visible when framed.
6. In small groups, students show their paintings to classmates and ask each other questions about the project.



Teacher-Prepared Sample Artwork in KidsArt Fairs Gallery-Style Frame

Artist Bio:

Roy Fox Lichtenstein (1923–1997) was born and raised in New York City. He is most famous for his Pop Art paintings that look similar to a panel in a comic book. He began his first Pop Art paintings using cartoon images and techniques derived from the appearance of commercial printing featuring thick outlines, bold colors, and dots. This phase would continue to 1965 and included the use of advertising imagery suggesting consumerism and homemaking. His first work to feature the large-scale use of hard-edged figures and dots was *Look Mickey* in 1961. This piece came from a challenge from one of his sons, who pointed to a Mickey Mouse comic book and said; "I bet you can't paint as good as that, eh, Dad?" Two of his most famous works are *Drowning Girl* (1963) which was transformed from a story in DC Comics' *Secret Hearts* and his painting titled *Whaam!* (1963) which was inspired by a 1962 Issue of DC Comics' *All-American Men of War*. More information is available at www.lichtensteinfoundation.org.

Materials:

- KidsArt Fairs paper
- Broad-tip markers in black and primary colors (red, blue, yellow)
- Slips of paper