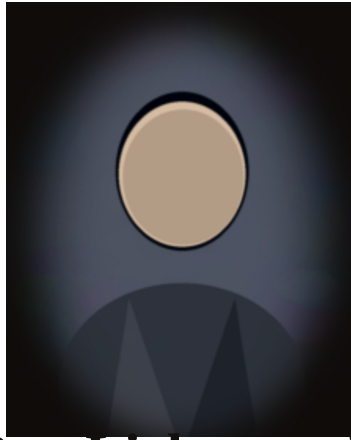




Roy Lichtenstein

October 27, 1923 - September 29, 1997

New York, New York

Roy Fox Lichtenstein - American Pop artist who enlarged comic-book Ben-Day dots into museum-scale mirrors of mass culture - died in New York City on September 29, 1997. He was seventy-three. Born October 27, 1923, in Manhattan, he studied at the Art Students League and Ohio State, served in World War II, then taught and painted through Abstract Expressionism before a single comic panel cracked the style open.

Whaam!, Drowning Girl, and a parade of blondes, pilots, and household appliances turned mechanical reproduction into handmade irony. Critics argued appropriation; collectors argued for wall space; Lichtenstein kept refining the grammar of dots, thick outlines, and speech balloons until parody became a classical language of its own. Later series riffed on Monet, Picasso, and Chinese landscapes with the same deadpan precision. He worked methodically in studios that looked more like print shops than garrets.

New York Presbyterian Hospital closed a career that had remade the look of late-century American art. He died of pneumonia following chemotherapy, leaving canvases that still stop pedestrians mid-stride.

Upper West Side childhoods taught comic pages; Columbus classrooms taught discipline. He proved that a benday screen could carry as much thought as a brushstroke manifesto.

He died in New York City on September 29, 1997. Somewhere a speech balloon still hangs in the air, waiting for the next perfectly chosen click?.

Lichtenstein's gift was cool astonishment - making the printed page monumental without losing the joke. Notice

Nearby keeps the death date so September 29 remembers the Manhattan-born painter who made Pop look permanent.

Services

Died in New York City, September 29, 1997. Pop artist; Whaam!; Drowning Girl; Ben-Day dot paintings.

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