### **David Hockney**

David Hockney is a British artist known for his colourful paintings, drawings, printmaking, photography, and stage designs.

He is one of the most influential contemporary artists, often inspired by landscapes, portraits, and modern life.

He is particularly famous for his vibrant depictions of swimming pools and bright Californian landscapes.



## Childhood

- David Hockney was born on July 9, 1937, in Bradford, England.
- He was the fourth of five children and shared a bedroom with his brothers.
- He grew up in a creative and supportive family, where his father encouraged his artistic talents.
- As a child, he loved drawing and often painted in his spare time.
- Hockney showed a strong interest in art from a young age and dreamed of becoming an artist.
- His mother, Laura, was a strong influence and encouraged kindness and creativity.
- During school, Hockney would sometimes skip other subjects to focus on drawing.
- He worked in hospitals as a young man during his National Service, which helped fund his art studies.

### Education

- Hockney attended Bradford Grammar School, where he excelled in art.
- He later studied at Bradford College of Art, where he honed his skills.
- In 1959, he attended the Royal College of Art in London, one of the most prestigious art schools in the world.
- He became known for his unique style, blending realism and abstract elements.

- While at the Royal College of Art, he was awarded a gold medal for outstanding achievement.
- He challenged traditional art education methods, famously refusing to complete a written essay and instead submitting artwork.
- Hockney was influenced by modern artists such as Picasso and Matisse during his studies.
- He experimented with different materials and styles during college, shaping his bold and colourful approach.

#### Career

- Hockney moved to Los Angeles in the 1960s, where he created some of his most iconic works.
- He experimented with photography, creating 'joiners' collage-like photo compositions.
- Hockney has also worked as a stage designer for ballet, opera, and theatre productions.
- His work has been exhibited in major galleries worldwide, and he is considered one of the most influential British artists of the 20th century.
- He returned to Yorkshire in the 1990s, where the English countryside became a major inspiration for his later work.
- In the 2000s, he began using iPads and digital tools to create art, embracing new technology.
- His retrospective exhibitions have broken attendance records in London, Paris, and New York.
- Hockney continues to work and experiment, even into his 80s, showing a lifelong commitment to creativity.

## Quotes from the Artist:

- "Art has to move you and design does not, unless it's a good design for a bus."
- "I draw, therefore I am."
- "You must plan to be spontaneous."
- "I am always learning."

## Artwork

# A Bigger Splash



Mr. and Mrs. Clark and Percy



Portrait of an Artist

Garrowby Hill





The Arrival of Spring in Woldgate (a series)

