



ALBRECHT DÜRER

DESIGNER'S FULL NAME: Albrecht Dürer

DESIGNER'S PSEUDONYM/NICKNAME: Leonardo of the North

GENDER: Male

YEAR BORN: 1471

COUNTRY IN WHICH DESIGNER BORN: Germany

YEAR DIED: 1528

COUNTRY IN WHICH DESIGNER DIED: Germany

RACE | ETHNICITY | RELIGION | POLITICAL ALIGNMENT

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE AFFECTED EITHER THE ARTIST'S LIFE EXPERIENCE OR WORK BECAUSE IT/THEY PROVIDED A CHALLENGE AT THE TIME, PLEASE EXPLAIN.

Most work from the time period Albrecht lived in was religious. The Protestant Reformation also happened while he was alive and that affected the art produced at that time

DID THIS DESIGNER DO NOTABLE WORK IN FIELDS OTHER THAN WHAT WOULD TODAY BE CONSIDERED GRAPHIC DESIGN? EXPLAIN.

He was a painter, drawer, engraver, a mathematician, etc - a Renaissance man. Because he lived through the Renaissance, Albrecht did many things such as printmaking, painting, and even progressed scientific beliefs about Rhinos through his drawings.

FOR WHAT IS THIS DESIGNER MOST NOTED? EXPLAIN.

He is known as a printmaker. He would make copies of his work and share them with others. The work he did with woodblock printing was revolutionary. This was mainly due to the fine lines he was able to carve into the block. After he died many looked to his work for inspiration.

IS THERE ANYTHING CONTROVERSIAL ABOUT THIS DESIGNER? EXPLAIN.

He had some controversy within himself in his later years with religion. There was a theme of destroying religious art brought on by the Peasants' War, so he decided to make and support fewer religious works.

EXPLAIN THIS DESIGNER'S EDUCATION/TRAINING, INCLUDING ACADEMIC, APPRENTICESHIPS, AND /OR MENTORSHIPS.

Dürer started a goldsmith apprenticeship with his father at the age of 13. However, by age 15 he was apprenticed under Michael Wolgemut, a painter who became famous for teaching Albrecht. Dürer traveled in order to learn from different areas of art, especially in Italy.

DID THIS DESIGNER PROMOTE A SPECIFIC IDEOLOGY IN HIS/HER WORK? EXPLAIN.

He did not specifically promote a specific ideology, but they did change based on his inspiration. For example, many of his works hold a more religious ideology, but others showed his interest in the human body and proportions.

WHY IS THIS DESIGNER VIEWED AS ICONIC IN THE HISTORY OF GRAPHIC DESIGN?

Since he was a printmaker, Dürer worked with type and layouts. He was one of the first to apply mathematics in a visual way.

IS THERE ANY OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO KNOW ABOUT THIS DESIGNER?

No.

YOUR NAME: Mihye Walker

STATE YOUR EDUCATED OPINION OF THIS PERSON AND THE QUALITY/IMPORTANCE OF HIS/HER WORK. EXPLAIN WHAT INFLUENCE - OR LACK OF INFLUENCE - THIS WORK HAS HAD ON YOUR OWN.

Albrecht Dürer was an accomplished artist. He was skilled at painting, engraving, printmaking, writing, and many others. Born in Germany in 1471, many called him Leonardo of the North, after Leonardo Da Vinci. In the beginning he apprenticed as a goldsmith under his father, but he soon realized his affinity for painting. He was creating masterpieces in painting during his early years and he began an apprenticeship under Michael Wolhemut. After this, Dürer traveled around Europe in order to glean from other artists. He spent time in Italy and brought what he had learned up to the north. He made many copies of his work by printmaking. Many copies of his original work were made by others and sold as the original. Even though his health was declining and eyesight was worsening in his later life, he never stopped working. Dürer wrote treatises, about scientific topics and drew illustrations to go along with them. He died in 1528 in Germany, the same place he was born.

One of his well-known works is the Study of the Hands of an Apostle. This was created in 1508 with ink and blue paper he made himself. Because the church controlled the art commissioned during this time, most art pieces from the Renaissance were religious. Furthermore, the majority of the population was religious, including Dürer. As he was alive during the Protestant Reformation, the production of his art was affected by the changes. There were more changes as the German Peasants' War brought on a trend of destroying religious art. After this, he made fewer works of that category to avoid controversy.

Dürer contributed greatly to the artistic world. He took a significant part of progressing woodblock printmaking. He contributed to scientific beliefs about rhinoceros through a woodcut he made. This woodcut was made in the image of a drawing done by a German Merchant. In his version, Dürer added armor and texture to the animal's skin. Scientists would use his drawings as a reference for decades after it was created. Dürer was also a mathematician and fascinated with the proportions of the human body. He was one of the first to apply math in a visual way.

Albrecht Dürer deserves the fame he already has. His contributions to the world are informational, but I am not in awe of Dürer. Because I have seen and heard of others alike, he is not someone who I strive to become. I still think he is a skilled artist, but when I look at his artwork it does not make me stop and think about every little detail. I do think he became an excellent typographer. His layouts are visually pleasing. Many others look to his work for inspiration and I can understand how he can be inspiring. His work should be noted and he should be widely recognized for his hard work and talent. Albrecht Dürer was revolutionary in the art world and many have and will look to him with respect and admiration.

And there it is.

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