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David Hockney: A Comprehensive Overview of the Renowned British Artist

Introduction

David Hockney is a name synonymous with innovation, creativity, and influence in the world of contemporary art. As one of the most significant British artists of the 20th and 21st centuries, Hockney's diverse body of work spans painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, and digital art. His distinctive style, characterized by vivid colors, innovative techniques, and a keen sense of perspective, has captivated audiences worldwide. This article delves into the life, artistic journey, major works, and legacy of David Hockney, providing a thorough understanding of his contributions to modern art.

Early Life and Education

Birth and Background

- Born on July 9, 1937, in Bradford, West Yorkshire, England.
- Grew up in a working-class family with a keen interest in art from a young age.

Educational Path

- Attended Bradford School of Art (1953-1957).
- Studied at the Royal College of Art in London (1959-1962).
- During his time at RCA, Hockney developed his distinctive style, experimenting with color and perspective.

Artistic Style and Influences

Signature Techniques

- Use of bold, vibrant colors.
- Exploration of perspective and space.
- Incorporation of multiple viewpoints within a single work.

Major Influences

- European Old Masters, especially Caravaggio and Velázquez.
- American pop art, notably Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein.
- Photography and cinema, influencing his approach to perspective and narrative.

Major Works and Artistic Milestones

Early Works

- "The Second Marriage" (1963): An early example of his experimentation with perspective.
- "A Bigger Splash" (1967): Iconic painting capturing a California swimming pool scene with vibrant colors and a sense of immediacy.

Innovations in Photography

- Pioneered the use of photo collages, termed "joiners," blending multiple images to create a composite artwork.
- Notable works include "Pearblossom Hwy., 11-18th April 1986," showcasing his innovative approach to capturing space.

Digital Art and Modern Techniques

- Embraced digital technology, creating works using iPads and computer software.
- Projects like "Bigger Trees Near Warter" (2007), a massive landscape created from numerous smaller paintings.

Themes in Hockney?s Art

Landscape and Nature

- Celebrates the beauty of the natural world.
- Frequent depiction of California landscapes, reflecting his time living in Los Angeles.

Portraiture

- Portraits of friends, family, and self-portraits exploring identity.
- Notable portraits include those of artist and friend, Henry Geldzahler.

Memory and Perception

- Investigates how humans perceive space and memory.
- Use of multiple perspectives to evoke personal and collective memory.

Hockney?s Impact and Legacy

Influence on Contemporary Art

- Pioneered the integration of traditional and digital media.
- Inspired a new generation of artists to experiment with perspective and technology.

Recognition and Awards

- Order of Merit (1997).
- Companion of Honour (2003).
- Numerous exhibitions worldwide and major retrospectives at prominent museums.

Advocacy and Personal Life

- Openly gay, Hockney has been a vocal advocate for LGBTQ+ rights.
- His personal experiences often influence his artistic themes.

Where to Experience Hockney?s Work

Museums and Galleries

- Tate Britain and Tate Modern, London.
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
- The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

Major Exhibitions

- "David Hockney: A Bigger Picture" (2012).
- "Hockney" retrospective at the Royal Academy of Arts (2017).

Conclusion

David Hockney's artistic journey exemplifies a relentless pursuit of innovation and expression. From his early explorations in England to his groundbreaking work in California, Hockney has continually pushed the boundaries of art. His mastery across multiple mediums, combined with his ability to capture the nuances of perception and memory, cements his position as a pivotal figure in contemporary art. Whether through vivid paintings, inventive photography, or digital compositions, Hockney?s work continues to inspire and influence artists and audiences alike. His legacy is a testament to the power of creativity and the enduring relevance of vibrant, thoughtful art.

Keywords: David Hockney, British artist, contemporary art, Hockney paintings, photo collages, digital art, landscape art, portraiture, art influence, art legacy, modern artist, art exhibitions, innovative techniques

David Hockney: A Master of Innovation and Vision in Contemporary Art

Throughout the history of modern art, few figures have managed to continually redefine their style and challenge conventional boundaries as effectively as David Hockney. An influential British artist, Hockney's career spans over six decades, characterized by his mastery in painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, and digital art. His innovative approach combines a keen sense of color, a deep fascination with perspective, and an enduring curiosity about the possibilities of technology, making him a pivotal figure in the evolution of contemporary art.

Early Life and Artistic Beginnings

Born on July 9, 1937, in Bradford, England, David Hockney exhibited a passion for art from a young age. Growing up in post-war Britain, his early exposure to the arts was shaped by his supportive family and the vibrant cultural scene of the 1950s. He attended the Royal College of Art in London, where he began to develop a distinctive style that would later influence generations.

Key Influences in Hockney's Early Years:

- The vibrant colors and pop culture of 1960s London
- The works of Henri Matisse and European Fauves
- The American Abstract Expressionists
- The burgeoning pop art movement, notably Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein

Artistic Evolution and Major Phases

David Hockney?s career can be divided into several distinct phases, each marked by experimentation and innovation.

The Pop Art Period

In the 1960s, Hockney gained recognition as part of the pop art movement, blending elements of popular culture with fine art. His portraits, such as Peter Getting Out of Nick's Pool (1966), showcase his mastery of capturing leisure, youth, and the vibrant energy of Southern California.

Characteristics of this phase include:

- Bright, bold colors
- Use of commercial techniques and media
- Focus on celebrity culture and personal identity

The Californian Years and Landscape Exploration

Moving to Los Angeles in the late 1960s, Hockney's work became deeply influenced by the Californian landscape. His series of swimming pool paintings, such as A Bigger Splash (1967), epitomize his fascination with water, light, and space.

Notable works and themes:

- Pool scenes capturing sunlight and reflections
- Emphasis on perspective and optical effects
- Exploration of personal memory and perception

The Portraiture and Digital Innovation

In the 1980s and 1990s, Hockney expanded into portraiture, creating intimate and innovative representations of friends, family, and colleagues. He also embraced new technologies, experimenting with photocollage, Polaroids, and later, digital painting.

Key innovations include:

- The use of photocollage or "joiners" to depict multiple perspectives simultaneously

- Incorporation of digital tools like the iPad and iPhone for creating art
- Challenging traditional notions of perspective and representation

Artistic Techniques and Styles

David Hockney is renowned for his versatility and mastery of various mediums. His work often defies traditional conventions, favoring experimentation and technological integration.

Use of Color

Hockney?s vibrant palette is one of his signature traits. He employs color not just for realism but to evoke emotion, atmosphere, and movement. His keen eye for color harmony enhances the sensory impact of his works.

Perspective and Space

One of Hockney?s major contributions is his exploration of perspective. Unlike classical linear perspective, he often models multiple viewpoints within a single piece, creating a sense of depth and dynamism.

Photocollage and "Joiners"

A hallmark of Hockney?s innovative approach is his use of photocollage, where he combines multiple Polaroids or photographs to form composite images that challenge traditional single-point perspective. These "joiners" reveal the complexity of perception and the fluidity of time and space.

Digital Art and Technology

In recent years, Hockney has embraced digital tools, creating artworks on the iPad and iPhone. His digital landscapes and portraits demonstrate his ongoing curiosity and adaptability.

Impact and Legacy

David Hockney's influence extends beyond his art; he has inspired countless artists and contributed significantly to the discourse on perception, technology, and the role of the artist in society.

Key Contributions to Art

- Pioneering the use of technology in fine art
- Challenging traditional perspectives and representation

- Bridging fine art and popular culture
- Opening dialogue on the nature of perception and memory

Awards and Recognitions

Over his prolific career, Hockney has received numerous honors, including:

- Companion of Honour (CH) in the UK
- Order of Merit (OM)
- Multiple honorary degrees
- Major retrospectives at prominent museums worldwide

Notable Works and Exhibitions

Some of David Hockney?s most acclaimed works include:

- A Bigger Splash (1967)
- Peter Getting Out of Nick?s Pool (1966)
- Bigger Trees Near Warter (2007)
- The Arrival of Spring in Woldgate, East Yorkshire (2011)

Major exhibitions:

- "David Hockney: A Bigger Exhibition" (2013?2014)
- "David Hockney: 82 Portraits and 1 Still-life" (2016)
- Retrospectives at the Tate Britain, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Centre Pompidou

The Future of Hockney?s Art

As of 2023, David Hockney continues to create and innovate, exploring new digital realms and revisiting themes of nature, perception, and memory. His work remains vital in contemporary discussions about the intersection of art, technology, and human experience.

Why David Hockney Matters

In an era where art constantly evolves through technological advances, David Hockney stands as a testament to creativity, adaptability, and the unending pursuit of new ways to see and interpret the

world. His ability to blend traditional techniques with modern innovations ensures his relevance for generations to come.

Final Thoughts

Whether through his vivid landscapes, groundbreaking photographs, or digital images, David Hockney continues to inspire and challenge audiences worldwide. His work invites us to reconsider our perceptions, embrace change, and see the world through a more colorful, multifaceted lens.

In summary:

- A pioneer of pop art and digital innovation
- A master of color, perspective, and perception
- An artist whose work bridges tradition and modernity
- An enduring influence on contemporary art and culture

David Hockney?s art exemplifies the limitless possibilities of human creativity, making him a true icon of the 20th and 21st centuries.

QuestionAnswer Who is David Hockney and why is he considered a significant figure in art history? David Hockney is a British painter, draftsman, printmaker, stage designer, and photographer known for his contributions to the pop art movement and for pioneering innovative techniques in painting and digital art. His vibrant style and exploration of perspective have made him a highly influential figure in contemporary art. What are some of David Hockney's most famous artworks? Some of David Hockney's most renowned works include 'A Bigger Splash,' 'Portrait of an Artist (Pool with Two Figures),' and 'Mr and Mrs Clark and Percy.' His vibrant swimming pool scenes and colorful portraits are particularly celebrated. How has David Hockney contributed to digital art and technology? David Hockney has embraced digital tools by creating artworks using iPads and iPhones, exploring digital collage, and experimenting with technology to push the boundaries of traditional art. His digital works have gained significant attention and have been exhibited worldwide. What themes does David Hockney commonly explore in his artwork? Hockney often explores themes of landscape, portraiture, sexuality, and the effects of technology on perception. His vibrant use of color and innovative perspectives reflect his interest in capturing the essence and immediacy of his subjects. Has David Hockney received any major awards or honors? Yes, David Hockney has received numerous awards, including the Order of Merit from the UK, the Queen's Award for Arts, and the Companion of Honour. His work has also been exhibited in major museums worldwide and is part of many prestigious collections. What influence has David Hockney had on contemporary art? Hockney's innovative use of color, perspective, and technology has inspired countless contemporary artists. His experimentation with digital media and his vibrant style have helped shape modern trends in both fine art and digital art communities. Where can I see David Hockney's art in public

collections? Many major museums and galleries worldwide hold David Hockney's works, including the Tate Modern in London, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Centre Pompidou in Paris. His pieces are also featured in numerous private collections. What recent projects or exhibitions has David Hockney been involved in? Recently, David Hockney has been involved in digital art exhibitions showcasing his iPad and iPhone creations, as well as retrospectives of his work in major museums globally. He continues to produce new works, exploring themes of landscape and technology.

Related keywords: art, painter, British, contemporary, portrait, landscape, California, digital art, photography, printmaking

Hockney s pictures

Hockney S Pictures

Hockney?s Pictures: Exploring the Vibrant World of David Hockney?s Art

hockney s pictures are more than just images on canvas; they are vibrant windows into

the mind of one of the most in?uential British artists of the 20th and 21st centuries. David Hockney?s work spans decades and mediums, o?ering viewers a rich tapestry of color, perspective, and innovation. Whether you?re a seasoned art lover or just beginning to explore modern art, diving into Hockney?s pictures reveals a fascinating blend of traditional techniques and groundbreaking digital experimentation.

The Unique Style Behind Hockney?s Pictures

David Hockney?s artistic style is immediately recognizable. His use of bold colors, clear lines, and playful compositions sets his work apart. Unlike many artists who focus on realism or abstraction alone, Hockney strikes a balance, often combining both in his

paintings and drawings. His pictures frequently depict everyday scenes?swimming pools, portraits, landscapes?but with a twist that challenges conventional perspectives.

A Master of Perspective

One of the most intriguing aspects of Hockney?s pictures is his innovative use of perspective. Instead of adhering strictly to single-point perspective, which dominates traditional Western art, Hockney experiments with multiple viewpoints within a single image. This approach, sometimes called ?joiners,? involves piecing together multiple photographs or drawings to create a composite image that captures the complexity of seeing from di?erent angles over time.

This technique is evident in works like ?Pearblossom Hwy., 11-18th April 1986,? where Hockney assembled dozens of Polaroid photos into a single expansive landscape. The result is a dynamic, almost cinematic view that challenges how we perceive space and time.

Vivid Use of Color

Color is a cornerstone of Hockney?s pictures. His palette is often bright and saturated, evoking strong emotional responses. From the cool blues and turquoise of his famous pool paintings to the warm, sun-soaked hues of his Yorkshire landscapes, Hockney?s color choices do more than depict reality?they invite viewers to feel the atmosphere and mood of the scene.

His use of color also re?ects his fascination with the e?ects of light and environment, which can be seen in series like ?A Bigger Splash,? where the interplay of water, sunlight,

and shadow creates a sense of movement and tranquility simultaneously.

Exploring Iconic Hockney Pictures

David Hockney?s oeuvre includes many iconic pieces that have become staples in contemporary art discussions. Let?s take a closer look at some of the standout pictures that have de?ned his career.

A Bigger Splash

Perhaps one of Hockney?s most famous works, ?A Bigger Splash? (1967) captures the moment just after a swimmer plunges into a California pool, leaving a dramatic splash of water suspended in mid-air. This picture exempli?es his fascination with capturing moments in time and his skill at rendering light and water.

The painting?s ?at planes of color and crisp lines highlight the mid-century modern aesthetic while also demonstrating Hockney?s ability to transform a simple subject into a visually compelling narrative.

Portraits and People

Beyond landscapes and pools, Hockney has produced a remarkable body of portrait work. His pictures often explore the intimacy and personality of his subjects, from friends and family to fellow artists. His portraits are notable for their psychological depth and vibrant color schemes, which breathe life into each image.

One striking example is his series of portraits of his mother, where Hockney captures the passage of time and emotional nuance through subtle shifts in expression and tone.

Digital Innovations in Hockney?s Pictures

In recent years, Hockney has embraced digital technology, creating pictures using iPads and other tablets. This shift has allowed him to experiment with new textures, layering techniques, and colors in ways that traditional media cannot easily replicate.

His digital pictures maintain the boldness and clarity of his earlier work but add an element of immediacy and ?uidity. Fans and critics alike have praised these digital creations for their fresh, contemporary feel while staying true to Hockney?s signature style.

Understanding the Themes in Hockney?s Pictures

Hockney?s pictures often engage with themes of memory, perception, and the passage of time. These concepts are woven into the fabric of his art, inviting viewers to not just see but to re?ect.

Memory and Time

Many of Hockney?s compositions, especially his photo collages and multi-perspective works, explore how memory reconstructs rather than records reality. By assembling multiple views into one image, he mirrors the way our minds piece together experiences rather than capturing a ?xed moment.

This thematic focus resonates deeply in his later works, where aging, nostalgia, and personal history become prominent motifs.

The Celebration of Everyday Life

Another key element of Hockney?s pictures is the celebration of ordinary moments. His

depictions of swimming pools, gardens, and domestic interiors elevate the mundane to the extraordinary. This focus encourages viewers to appreciate the beauty in their surroundings and ?nd joy in simple pleasures.

Tips for Appreciating and Collecting Hockney?s Pictures

For those interested in delving deeper into Hockney?s art, here are some useful tips to enhance your experience or even start a collection.

Visit exhibitions and galleries: Seeing Hockney?s pictures in person allows you

1.

to appreciate their scale, texture, and color nuances that digital reproductions often miss.

Explore

di?erent

mediums:

Hockney?s

work

spans

painting,

drawing,

2.

photography, and digital art. Understanding his use of various media enriches your

appreciation of his versatility.

Read about his techniques: Learning about his use of perspective and color

3.

theory can deepen your understanding of the creative choices behind each picture.

Consider prints and editions: Original works by Hockney can be prohibitively

4.

expensive, but limited edition prints and lithographs o?er a more accessible way to own a piece of his artistry.

Follow auction and gallery news: Staying informed about upcoming sales and

5.

exhibitions can help collectors make informed decisions about acquiring Hockney?s pictures.

The Lasting Impact of Hockney?s Pictures on Contemporary Art

David Hockney?s pictures have not only enriched the British art scene but have in?uenced artists worldwide. His fearless experimentation with form and technology continues to inspire new generations to explore the boundaries of visual expression.

By blending traditional painting with photography and digital tools, Hockney has expanded the de?nition of what pictures can be. His legacy is a testament to the power of innovation combined with a deep love for capturing the world?s beauty.

Whether through his iconic pool scenes, intimate portraits, or vibrant landscapes, Hockney?s pictures invite us to see the world through a lens of color, curiosity, and

creativity.

Question

Answer

Who is David Hockney and

why are his pictures

signi?cant?

David Hockney is a renowned British artist known for his

contributions to the pop art movement. His pictures are

signi?cant for their vibrant colors, innovative techniques,

and exploration of perspectives, making him one of the

most in?uential contemporary artists.

What mediums does David

Hockney use for his

pictures?

David Hockney uses a variety of mediums including oil

paints, acrylics, watercolors, and digital tools like the iPad

to create his pictures, showcasing his versatility and

adaptability to new technologies.

What themes are

commonly found in

Hockney's pictures?

Common themes in Hockney's pictures include landscapes, portraits, swimming pools, and domestic interiors, often emphasizing light, color, and perspective.

How has digital technology in?uenced Hockney's pictures?

Digital technology has allowed Hockney to experiment with new forms of expression. He famously uses iPads and digital drawing apps to create pictures, blending traditional art with modern technology to produce vibrant and dynamic works.

Where can one view David Hockney's pictures?

David Hockney's pictures can be viewed in major art galleries and museums worldwide, including the Tate Britain in London, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and through various exhibitions and online platforms.

What is the signi?cance of Hockney's painting 'A Bigger Splash'?

?A Bigger Splash? is one of Hockney's most iconic pictures, capturing the moment of a splash in a swimming pool. It exempli?es his use of vivid colors and simpli?ed forms to depict Californian life and the play of light on water.

How do Hockney's pictures re?ect contemporary art trends?

Hockney's pictures re?ect contemporary art trends through their bold use of color, incorporation of technology, and exploration of multiple perspectives, blending traditional techniques with innovative approaches.

What impact has David Hockney's pictures had on popular culture?

David Hockney's pictures have in?uenced fashion, design, and visual culture, inspiring artists and designers with their distinct style and helping to popularize modern British art globally.

Hockney?s Pictures: An Analytical Exploration of the Artist?s Visual Legacy

hockney s pictures have long captivated audiences worldwide, embodying a unique

blend of vibrant colors, innovative techniques, and a distinctive approach to perception and space. David Hockney, a seminal ?gure in contemporary art, has consistently pushed the boundaries of traditional painting and photography, creating works that challenge viewers? understanding of representation and reality. This article delves into the intricate qualities of Hockney?s pictures, exploring their historical context, stylistic evolution, and the ways in which they continue to in?uence the art world.

The Evolution of Hockney?s Pictures: From Pop Art to Photographic Collages

David Hockney emerged in the 1960s as a leading ?gure of the Pop Art movement, a time when popular culture and commercial imagery began permeating ?ne art. Early works such as "A Bigger Splash" (1967) encapsulate his fascination with Californian landscapes and the interplay of light on water, rendered in bold, ?at colors. These pictures reveal Hockney?s meticulous attention to surface and form, combining realism with a stylized simplicity that appeals to both art connoisseurs and casual observers.

As his career progressed, Hockney?s pictures evolved in complexity and medium. The 1980s marked a signi?cant shift as he embraced photography and experimented with photo collages, or ?joiners.? These works, composed of multiple Polaroids or prints arranged to depict a single scene from various perspectives, challenge conventional notions of linear perspective and single-point viewpoint. Instead, Hockney?s pictures in this period o?er a fragmented, dynamic vision of space and time, inviting viewers to

engage with the subject matter more actively.

Innovative Use of Technology in Hockney?s Work

One of the de?ning aspects of Hockney?s pictures is his embrace of technological innovation. Beyond traditional painting and collage, he has explored digital tools such as the iPad and iPhone to create art. This adaptation underscores his commitment to evolving his artistic practice alongside contemporary technological advances.

The iPad drawings, for example, demonstrate a ?uidity and immediacy that contrast with the labor-intensive processes of earlier works. These pictures maintain Hockney?s characteristic vibrancy and compositional clarity while incorporating the tactile and interactive possibilities of digital media. This fusion of old and new expands the accessibility and relevance of his pictures to a broader, digitally savvy audience.

Visual Themes and Symbolism in Hockney?s Pictures

Hockney?s pictures are rich with recurring motifs and thematic concerns, often re?ecting his personal experiences and geographic in?uences. The swimming pool, for instance, emerges repeatedly as a symbol of leisure, modernity, and the Californian lifestyle. His portrayals of pools?pristine blue, sun-dappled, and inviting?contrast with the more intimate, introspective interiors and portraits that populate other works.

Portraiture holds a signi?cant place in Hockney?s oeuvre. His pictures of friends, family, and himself reveal a keen psychological insight and an exploration of identity through color, composition, and gesture. The layering of multiple viewpoints in portraits, akin to his photographic joiners, enhances the sense of depth and complexity in human

relationships.

Color and Composition: Signature Elements

A hallmark of Hockney?s pictures is the deliberate use of color to convey mood and spatial dynamics. His palette ranges from luminous pastels to intense, saturated hues, each choice carefully calibrated to the subject and setting. Color becomes a tool for emotional resonance as much as for visual structure.

Compositionally, Hockney frequently employs unconventional perspectives and cropping, which disrupt traditional pictorial space and invite active interpretation. Whether in landscape or portrait, his pictures challenge the viewer to reconsider how scenes are framed and experienced, re?ecting his ongoing dialogue with the history of Western art and its conventions.

Impact and Reception of Hockney?s Pictures in Contemporary Art

David Hockney?s pictures have had a profound impact on both contemporary art and popular culture. His ability to merge accessibility with intellectual depth has earned him critical acclaim and commercial success. Museums around the world, including the Tate Britain and the Centre Pompidou, have showcased his works in major retrospectives, highlighting their enduring signi?cance.

Critics often praise Hockney?s pictures for their innovation and emotional expressiveness, though some have debated the commercial appeal of his bright, seemingly straightforward imagery. Nevertheless, his in?uence extends beyond painting and

photography, inspiring generations of artists to explore new media and perspectives.

Comparative Analysis with Contemporary Artists

When compared with contemporaries such as Andy Warhol or Roy Lichtenstein, Hockney?s pictures stand out for their lyrical quality and nuanced engagement with space and perception. Unlike Warhol?s often mechanical repetition or Lichtenstein?s comic-strip stylization, Hockney?s work is deeply rooted in observation and personal experience, even as it incorporates elements of popular culture.

Furthermore, Hockney?s pioneering use of digital technology pre?gured current trends in art-making, positioning him as a forward-thinking ?gure whose pictures continue to resonate in an era dominated by visual media and digital consumption.

Pros of Hockney?s Pictures: Innovative use of perspective, vivid color palettes,

1.

interdisciplinary approaches combining painting and photography.

Cons: Some critics argue a certain commercial gloss or repetition in themes; digital

2.

works sometimes seen as less 'authentic' by traditionalists.

Collecting and Exhibiting Hockney?s Pictures

The market for Hockney?s pictures remains robust, with many pieces commanding high prices at auction. Collectors value both his early paintings and recent digital works, re?ecting the breadth and adaptability of his artistic vision. Exhibitions often emphasize

the chronological and thematic development of his pictures, allowing audiences to trace his evolving methods and interests.

Museums and galleries also highlight the educational potential of Hockney?s pictures, o?ering insights into the intersections of art, technology, and cultural identity. His works serve as case studies in art history courses and are frequently discussed in scholarly publications for their contributions to contemporary visual culture.

As Hockney continues to produce new pictures, the dialogue between past and present, tradition and innovation, remains central to understanding his legacy. Whether through a large-scale acrylic painting or a digitally rendered landscape, his pictures invite ongoing exploration and appreciation.

David Hockney, pop art, portrait paintings, landscape art, British artist, photo collage, swim pool paintings, contemporary art, vibrant colors, modernism

Read the full article online: Hockney s pictures