



FACT SHEET

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Exhibition:

Warhol: Flowers in the Factory

Dates:

Feb. 11-June 30, 2018

Venue:

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida

Admission:

All-access admission to the gardens and the exhibition is free for members; \$25 for adults (ages 18 and up); \$15 ages 4-17 and free for children 3 and under.

Media Preview:

Thursday, Feb. 8, 11 a.m.

RSVP to Mischa Kirby at mkirby@selby.org

Significance:

Warhol: Flowers in the Factory highlights Pop artist Andy Warhol's surprising interest in exploring, preserving and celebrating nature. Selby Gardens provides a matchless context for showcasing Warhol's conservationist leanings.

This immersive exhibition examines Warhol's work through the lens of flowers and nature, emphasizing the artist's natural sensibilities through dynamic horticultural interpretations of his work. Observing Warhol's *Flowers* alongside the nature that inspired him encourages a mutually enriched experience of art and the natural world. The second exhibition in the Jean and Alfred Goldstein Exhibition Series at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, the series connects fine arts exhibitions to nature and to the botanical collections in the gardens.

Content: Warhol's particular interest in plants will be illustrated in this colorful exhibition featuring four iconic Warhol silkscreens of hibiscus, on loan from Williams College Museum of Art, from the original series of 10 flower silkscreens produced in the mid-1960s. Two prints by Warhol, entitled *Poinsettias*, on loan from the private collection of Sarasota art patron Flora Major, as well as additional loans of Warhol works from the Williams College Museum of Art, including lithographs and an artist book, will also be on view.

Archival photographs of Warhol's studio, the Factory, contrasted with his forays into natural imagery; facsimiles of his preparatory drawings that reveal his process for creating the flower screenprints through his signature grids; and select images from the 1960s that recall the "Flower Power" era and provide historical context for Warhol's concerns round out the exhibition.

The Warhol aesthetic will also take over the conservatory and gardens, with vivid plant and floral displays by Selby horticulturalists, emphasizing the seriality and modular design of Warhol's work. The plants to be featured include hibiscus, periwinkle, bromeliads, poinsettia and tillandsia.

Curator: The exhibition is curated by Dr. Carol Ockman, curator at-large for Marie Selby Botanical Gardens and Robert Sterling Clark Professor of Art at Williams College.

Programming: **Exhibition Keynote Breakfast: Warhol's Flower Power**
Dr. Carol Ockman, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens Curator-at-Large, joined by special guest James Warhola, artist/illustrator and nephew of Andy Warhol
Feb. 12, 8:30 a.m.
Focusing on Warhol's first silkscreens of brilliantly hued flowers from the early 1960s, Dr. Ockman will address Warhol's work methods, sources and the question of meaning in his work before turning to the artist's surprising concern for nature in both his art and life.
James Warhola will host a book signing following the breakfast.
\$50 for Friends of the Gardens and Associates; \$75 general admission

Variations on a Theme: Andy Warhol and Hibiscus
Dr. Larry Dorr, The Smithsonian Museum of Natural History
March 14, 12 p.m.
In 1964, Warhol began a series of paintings entitled *Flowers*. A photograph of a species of Hibiscus published in *Modern*

Photography was his original source. After a brief discussion of the purported identity of Warhol's Hibiscus, Dr. Dorr will focus on the great diversity in this well-known genus.

Free with general admission

Warhol's Nature

Dr. Chad Alligood, Chief Curator of American Art at The Huntington

April 11, 12 p.m.

Although Warhol is well-known for his responsiveness to popular culture and advertising, he simultaneously explored the natural world through his work, depicting landscapes, flora and fauna in innovative and surprising ways. Dr. Alligood will examine works from every decade of Warhol's long career, from his earliest drawings as a commercial illustrator through later paintings of flowers and wildlife.

Free with general admission

Additional associated programs, horticulture and studio art classes, performing arts presentations, and special events have been planned in conjunction with the exhibition. For more details, please visit selby.org/programs.

Credits:

Warhol: Flowers in the Factory has been made possible by generous support from Amicus Foundation, Betsy and Doug Elder, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, and State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. Additional exhibition support has been provided by Gerri Aaron, Maryann & James Armour, Better-Gro, BMO Private Bank, The Doris M. Carter Family Foundation, Margot and Warren Coville, Drs. Andrew and Judith Economos, Gold Coast Eagle Distributing, Ernest R. Kretzmer, Flora Major, Katherine and Frank Martucci, So Staged, Visit Sarasota County and Williams Parker Harrison Dietz & Getzen. Further support has been provided by Beverly and Bob Bartner, Linnie E. Dalbeck Memorial Foundation, Dart Foundation, Marcy and Michael Klein, and The Woman's Exchange, with additional support from Teri A Hansen, Maria and Allen Heise/Aimee and Chris Cogan, and Charlotte and Charles Perret.

About Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens is the only botanical garden in the world dedicated to the display and study of epiphytes – plants that grow on other plants without harming them such as orchids, bromeliads, gesneriads and other tropical plants – with a focus on botany, horticulture and environmental education. Open to the public since 1975, it was founded as a result of Marie Selby's

generous bequest of her home and property to the community in 1971 to establish a botanical garden “for the enjoyment of the general public.” Education programs for all ages and special events are offered at the tropical, urban oasis on Sarasota Bay year-round. Ongoing research of and exploration for tropical plants attracts worldwide attention of international scholars and plant enthusiasts.

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