LABBEASY

FREEBIE: Keith Haring

Worksheet for drawing a figure after
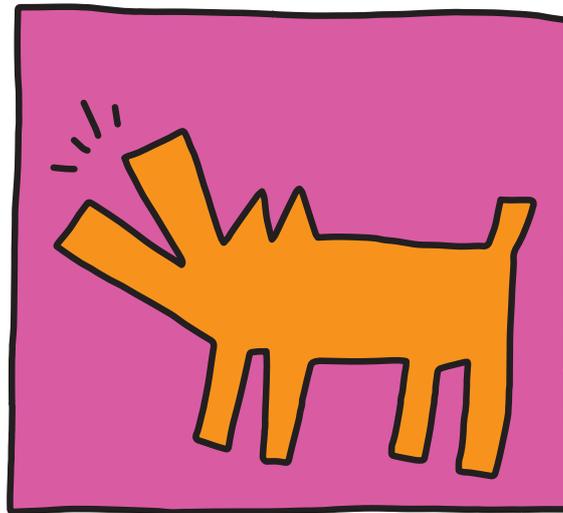Keith Haring

FREEBIE-4161-EN

Keith Haring

Keith Haring (1958 - 1990) was heavily influenced by graffiti, which had its roots in the 1970s. Graffiti was, initially, a form of political protest – people sprayed slogans and messages on walls and public buildings. Later on came more pictorial representations and, especially, comic figures.

Everybody knows Keith Haring's graffiti: Crawling babies, barking dogs, and figures in motion that he painted in the New York Metro stations. His best works were those that he quickly scrawled 'guerrilla' style on walls in the New York Metro, and yet they disappeared from the rough tunnels of New York long ago.

In contrast to the artists of the graffiti scene, who were often preoccupied with repeatedly painting their 'tags' (signatures), Haring developed a versatile symbolic language that calls to mind coded messages. As such, most of his paintings are untitled.

Central to his paintings is the simple figure of an outlined person. Keith Haring worked with kids a great deal in workshops and his expressive symbols and simple messages immediately resonate with kids, which is why they like his spontaneous figures. These simple figures – which are almost always in motion and often painted in bright reds, blues, and yellows – vibrate with hope and enthusiasm; they're figures with which kids can easily identify.

Children, with their inexhaustible imaginations, were also his favorite audience. He claimed that he himself was still a child, and that he could make any kid laugh: His trademark symbol was a happy baby – 'The Radiant Child'.

Keith Haring died at the age of 31 from an AIDS-related illness and is today considered one of the world's most significant pop-art artists.
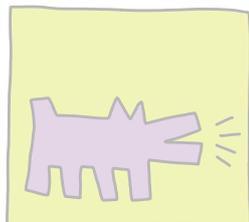
Micha Labbé

Keith Haring

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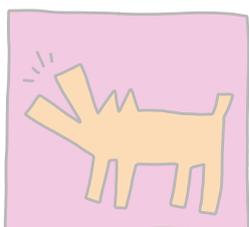
Hip-Hopper I
Page 4

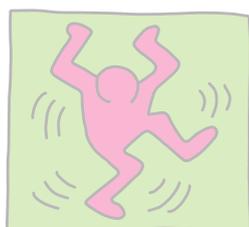**Barking Dog II**
Included in full version

Vibrating Dog
Included in full version

Dancing Dog
Included in full version

Barking Dog I
Included in full version

Hip-Hopper II
Included in full version

Flying Man
Included in full version

Jumping Man
Included in full version

Breakdancer
Included in full version

Sliding Man
Included in full version

Running Man
Included in full version

Couple
Included in full version

Ball Player I
Included in full version
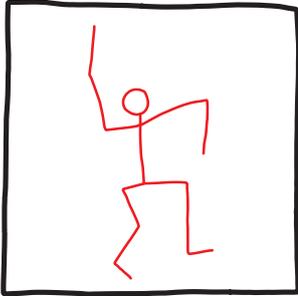
Ball Player II
Included in full version

Radiant Child
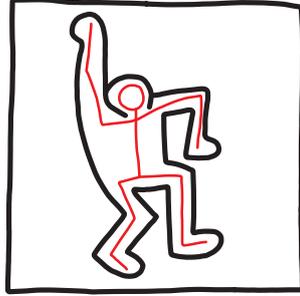Included in full version

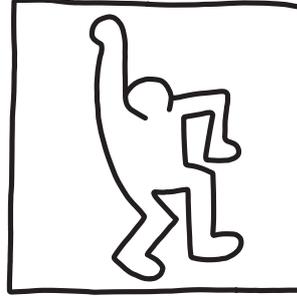**Dancer with Baby**
Included in full version

HIP-HOPPER I

1. Using a pale pencil, copy the stick figure from the first example image into the large area below.

2. Using a pencil, draw the bold outline of the figure and then go over it with a thick, black felt-tip pen.

3. Erase the pencil marks with a soft eraser. Color in the figure and the background with strong, bright colors using felt-tip pens, colored pencils or paints.

4. Using a black felt-tip pen, draw on the movement lines and then cut out the picture.