



KEITH HARING

A RADIANT LEGACY

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**ON VIEW: OCTOBER 12, 2024-
MARCH 24, 2025**

Keith Haring: A Radiant Legacy at the Museum of Pop Culture highlights the extraordinary career of Keith Haring (1958–1990), whose bold lines, vivid colors, and iconic symbols defined the cultural pulse of his time. Featuring over 240 works spanning Haring's prolific 1980s career, his early works, and personal items, the exhibition provides an in-depth look at the evolution of his iconic visual vocabulary.

Haring's work transcended the easy marketability of his art by reflecting the artist's fervent activism and democratic beliefs. An advocate for nuclear de-escalation, civil rights, child welfare and AIDS awareness, Haring spent his career making posters, public art and charitable commissions in support of these vital causes.

Their struggles entered his murals and massive wall paintings, leading one prominent critic to liken his work to "contemporary history paintings" chronicling the plights of late twentieth-century society. Success offered Haring an "entry pass to the world" and he used it to reconnect with the public, collaborating with neighborhood kids while championing the idea that art should belong to everyone.

Haring died from AIDS-related complications at only thirty-one-years-old, a fact that tends to enshroud most conversations about the artist's meteoric career.

Keith Haring: A Radiant Legacy, however, focuses on the indelible impact of Haring's exuberant life, which, through the incomparable body of work in these galleries, continues to inspire today.

EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

Social Activism and Public Art: Contributions to AIDS awareness, anti-apartheid movements, and other social justice causes.

Iconography and Symbolism: Signature symbols like the Radiant Baby and Barking Dog, and the use of bold lines and vivid colors.

Cultural Impact and Legacy: Influence on contemporary art, dedication to community involvement, and the enduring popularity of his work.

A section curated by MOPOP's Youth Advisory Board (YAB), featuring works by local youth artists inspired by Haring's legacy.

The exhibition leans into the idea of an art gallery with nods to the playfulness and colorful iconography of Keith Haring's artwork without competing with it.

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Keith Haring: A Radiant Legacy is a Single Source Traveling Exhibition provided by PANART Connections, a Private Collection.