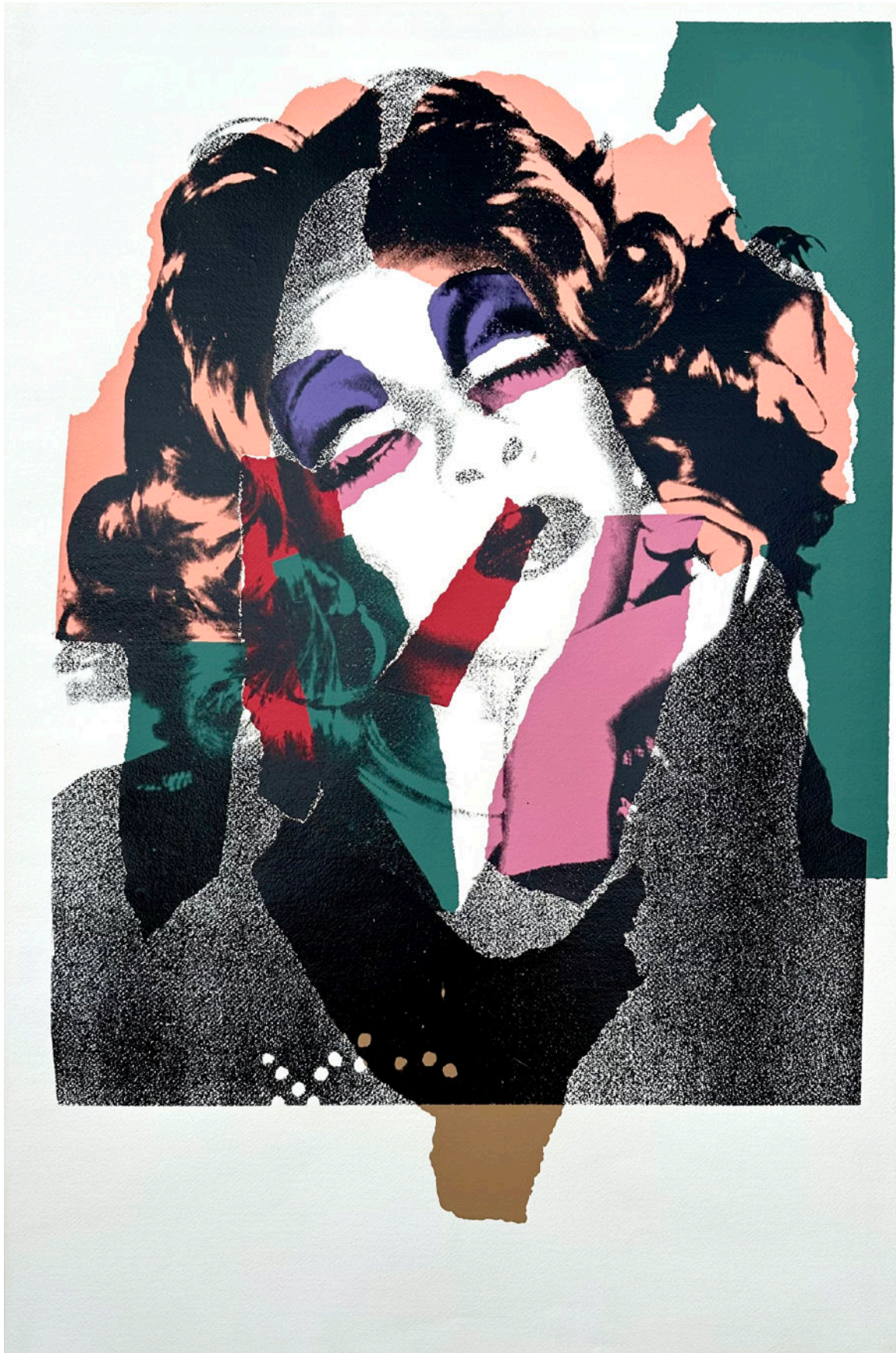
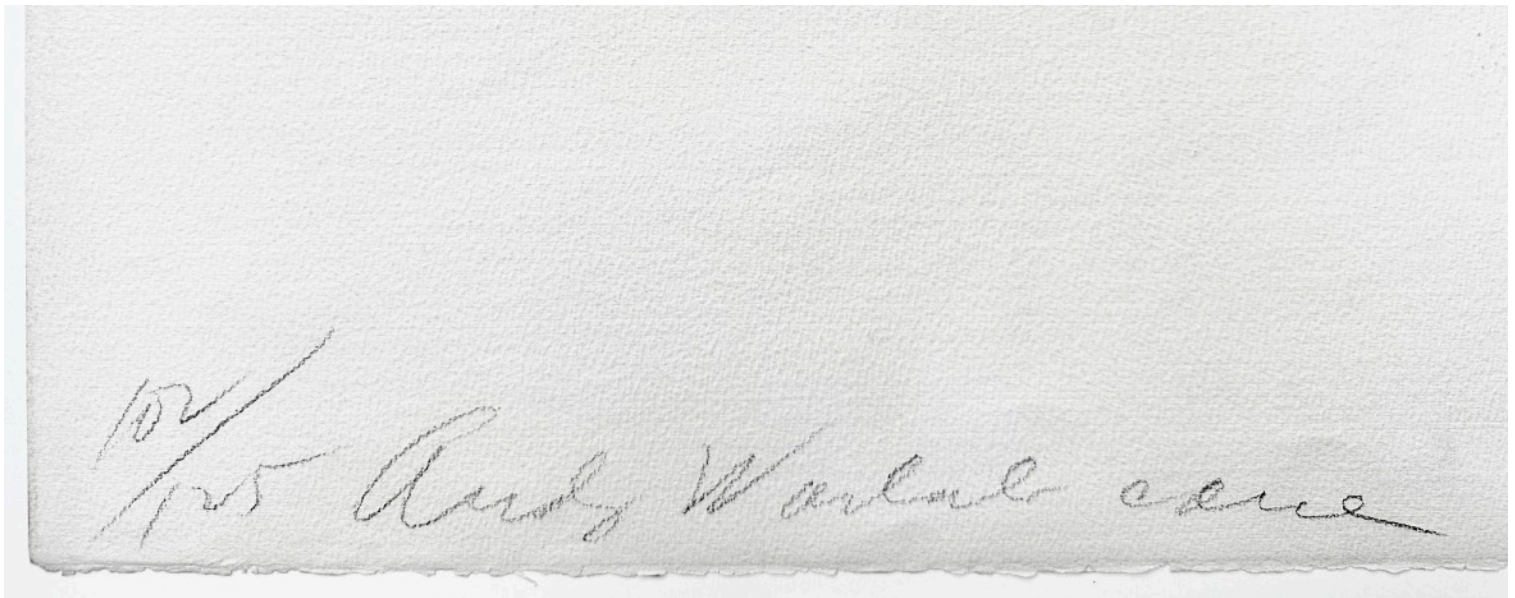




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Andy Warhol- Ladies and Gentlemen, 1975 FS II.128





Andy Warhol- Ladies and Gentlemen, 1975 FS II.128

Medium:

Screen print on Arches paper

Edition:

Numbered from an edition of 125, aside from 25 Artist Proofs marked 'AP,' 1 Printer's Proof marked 'PP'

Signature & Numbering:

Hand signed and dated by Andy Warhol in pencil on verso
Numbered 102/125 in pencil on verso

Dimensions:

Paper size: 110.5 x 72.4 cm (43 1/2 x 28 1/2 in)

Catalogue raisonné:

Feldman & Schellmann- Andy Warhol Prints: A Catalogue Raisonné 1962-1987. Catalogue number: FS II 128

Condition:

In beautiful original condition with deep, bright colors.
Full sheet with no restorations, tears or folds.
Very faint horizontal lines in the upper part of the artwork due to old (removed) taped, some handling creases. An exceptional fresh copy of one of the most sought after works from the serie 'Ladies and gentlemen.'

Provenance:

Coming from a French private collection who purchased the work in the '90's at a Parisian gallery.

Frame:

Unframed

Youtube presentation video:**Essay**

This artwork, titled Ladies and Gentlemen 128 by Andy Warhol, is part of the artist's Ladies and Gentlemen portfolio, created in 1974. Originally intending to focus on capturing renowned drag queens in New York City, Warhol's project evolved into a localized documentation of the queer community, particularly highlighting the personalities from the Gilded Grape disco club that opened that same year. The resulting Ladies and Gentlemen series, though less recognized, played a significant role in bringing transgender expression into the public consciousness.

Notably, Ladies and Gentlemen 128 stands out within the portfolio as one of the most impactful pieces. Adhering to the same stylistic approach as its counterparts, the print utilizes color blocks strategically placed to mirror the subjects' expressions and convey their movements onto the canvas. What

distinguishes Ladies and Gentlemen 128 is the vivid and pastel color palette, creating a visually striking and attention-grabbing effect. These colors exude a diva-like aura, portraying a remarkable display of self-confidence and an almost ethereal elevation. The subject's detached gaze, coupled with the lightness of peach and purple tones, suggests an individual perhaps a bit too immersed in their own self-assuredness—an attitude sought after by both the Gilded Grape members and the Factory in their pursuit of the latest "cool" factor.

For this piece and others in the series, Warhol encouraged subjects to dress up and pose according to their preferences, resulting in a collection of powerful and spontaneous Polaroids. While many of the subjects remain relatively unknown, the series sheds light on prominent figures in the transgender community, such as civil rights activist and drag queen Marsha P. Johnson, featured in Ladies and Gentlemen 133.

The inspiration for the series came from Italian art dealer Luciano Anselmino, a protege of Alexander Iolas, with whom Warhol had previously collaborated. Although the concept originated from another source, Warhol personally selected the Gilded Grape and delegated his assistant Ronnie Cutrone and Interview magazine editor Bob Colacello to scout for drag queens. Warhol maintained a level of anonymity, never formally introducing himself or revealing his true identity to the subjects.

Unlike his earlier works, which often involved using other people's photographs, Warhol began taking his own Polaroid photos after a copyright dispute over his Flowers series. This setback led to fortuitous consequences, inspiring socially prescient collections like Ladies and Gentlemen, along with iconic celebrity portraits such as the Mick Jagger series and other notable works from the 1970s and '80s.

In essence, Ladies and Gentlemen 128 encapsulates quintessential Warhol aesthetics, showcasing his fundamental design techniques prevalent during the peak of his career. The transgressive nature of the series underscores Warhol's individuality and his willingness to challenge artistic boundaries.



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