



ANDY WARHOL (1928-1987)**Diamond Dust Shoes (Black and White)****F&S II.255**

Signed and editioned verso, " 18/60 Andy Warhol" Stamped verso, "© Andy Warhol 1980"

screenprint with diamond dust

40 x 59 1/2 in. (45 1/8 x 64 7/8 x 1 5/8 in.)

101.6 x 151.13 cm (114.62 x 164.78 x 4.13 cm)

18/60

1980

39239

PROVENANCE:

Ronald Feldman Fine Arts Inc., New York
Private Collection

LITERATURE:

Warhol, A., Feldman, F., Defendi, C., & Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts (2003)

Andy Warhol prints: A catalogue raisonne : 1962-1987. New York:

D.A.P./Distributed Art Publishers in association with Ronald Feldman Fine Arts. p. 120-121

Andy Warhol is synonymous with American art in the second half of the 20th century and is known for his iconic portraits and consumer products, mixing popular culture and fine art, redefining what art could be and how we approach art. While many of Warhol's works may not represent famed individuals, his depictions of inanimate objects elevate his subjects to a level of celebrity. Warhol first depicted shoes early in his career when he worked as a fashion illustrator and returned to the theme in the 1980s, combining his fascination with consumerism and glamour. With his constant desire to fuse high and low culture, Warhol chose to highlight something that is so ubiquitous as shoes. The subject can denote poverty or wealth, function, or fashion. Warhol glamorizes the pile of footwear, covering them with a patina of glitzy diamond dust, further blurring the meaning between utilitarian need and stylized statement piece.

Andy Warhol — who famously said that, "In the future, everybody will be famous for 15 minutes" — was known for his portraits of influential and powerful celebrities, business people, and socialites. He was obsessed with wealth and fame. Warhol was a commercial illustrator before he found fame. For him, success in business was also art. He was a visionary who predicted a consumer society. As he assembled a motley cast of studio assistants and "Superstar" actors at his Factory studio in New York, Warhol himself became a pop culture icon — and eventually one of the most important artists of the 20th century. Warhol began making silkscreen paintings in 1962, because the process was faster and felt more like an assembly line than the traditional approach. He removed himself as much as he could from the process, leaving "the production" of his ideas to others who could reproduce images many times, with only slight differences. To create these works, Warhol would select photographs from newspapers and magazines, send them to a printer to be enlarged on silk screens, and

then direct Factory assistants to lay the screens over canvases and apply one or two colors with a squeegee. Color was significant in his portraits, and his style became as identifiable as the personalities in the pictures. Warhol's commentary on consumer and celebrity culture made him a controversial figure — both celebrated and panned by critics, collectors, curators and, eventually, the general public. Today, Warhol's paintings are mostly held by institutions, which continually feature him in solo and group exhibitions, as well as in installations of their permanent collections. The ongoing fascination with his work and legacy contributes to his high market value and reinforces the icon status he had always hoped to gain.

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