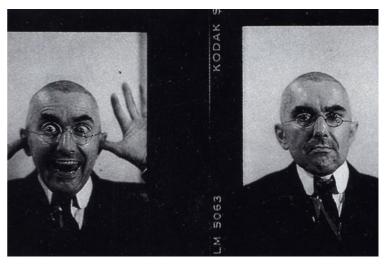
# **ART HISTORY - FLUXUS**











### **ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE**

- Fluxus was a loosely organized group of artists that spanned the globe, but had an especially strong presence in New York City.
- George Maciunas is historically considered the primary founder and organizer of the movement, who described Fluxus as, "a fusion of Spike Jones, gags, games, Vaudeville, Cage and Duchamp."
- The persistent goal of most Fluxus artists was to destroy any boundary between art and life.
- Fluxus artists used humor to express their intent and, along with Dada,
  Fluxus was one of the few art movements to use humor throughout history.

'EVERY MAN IS A PLASTIC ARTIST WHO MUST DETERMINE THINGS FOR HIMSELF.'

Joseph Beuys

## **KEY ARTISTS AND IDEAS**







George Maciunas

Joseph Beuys

Yoko Ono

### **GEORGE MACIUNAS**

He wrote "The First Fluxus Manifesto" in 1963, managed the movement's headquarters and mailing list and was largely responsible for bringing the movement into existence in the first place.

### JOSEPH BEUYS

Beuys's diverse body of work ranges from traditional media of drawing, painting, and sculpture, to process-oriented, or time-based "action" art. Beuys is especially famous for works incorporating animal fat and felt.

### YOKO ONO

Drawing from an array of sources from Zen Buddhism to Dada, her pieces were some of the movement's earliest and most daring. With unprecedented radicalism, she rejected the idea that an artwork must be a material object.

#### **CONTEMPORARY ARTIST - YAYOI KUSAMA**

- When Kusama began to see hallucinations as a child, her way of coping with the bizarre phenomena was to paint what she saw.
- In much the same fashion as Kusama uses art to process hallucinations, she also uses her work to confront personal phobias.
- Today, Kusama reigns as one of the most unique and famous contemporary female artists, operating from her self-imposed home in a mental hospital.

