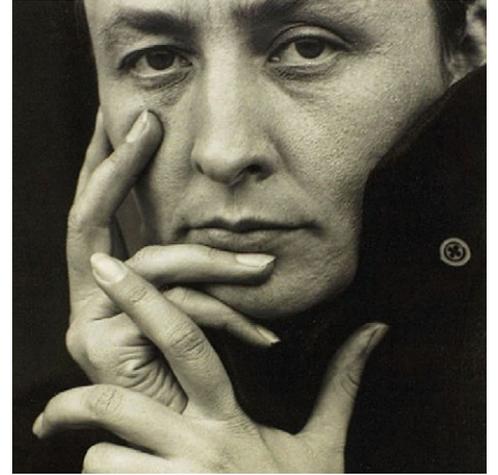
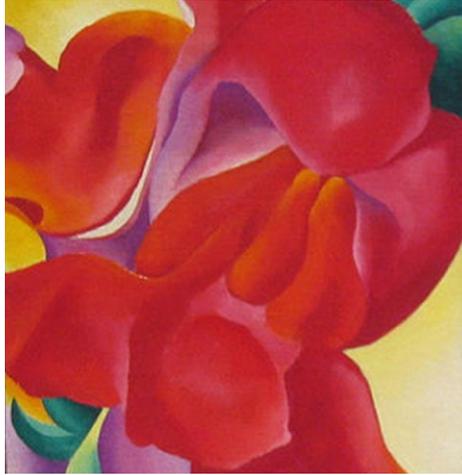


Georgia O'Keeffe

1887 - 1986



Georgia Totto O'Keeffe was born on 15th November 1887 in Wisconsin, USA. She was one of seven children, and her mother encouraged Georgia's interest in art. The landscape in Wisconsin was very important to Georgia, which became evident in her later work. She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and had her first gallery show in 1916.

Georgia began experimenting with painting close up views of flowers. She used oil paints in vibrant, bold colours. Painting the flowers at such a close range makes the viewer see the object in a completely different way.

In 1929, O'Keeffe visited New Mexico and was amazed at the landscape; the incredible rock formations, the unusual light, the bones of animals dried out by the sun and the Navajo culture.

Georgia O'Keeffe began to lose her eyesight in 1972, and painted her last unassisted painting. She wrote a book and in 1977, at 90 years old, said; "I can see what I want to paint. The thing that makes you want to create is still there."

Georgia O'Keeffe is recognised as being a pioneer of American modernism. She was highly praised for her art, which was unusual for a woman in a male-dominated art world. She died on 6th March, 1986 aged 98 years old.

Georgia O'Keeffe painted thousands of paintings in her lifetime. The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum opened in Santa Fe in 1997; it displays over 3000 of her works.