

Ashley Ramos

PODCAST SCRIPT: TAKASHI MURAKAMI

Takashi Murakami is a Japanese contemporary artist that is known for his distinctive art style and bright color palette.

He was born in Japan in 1962 and now resides in Tokyo where he curates exhibits for his art company *Kaikai Kiki*.

Murakami studied at the Tokyo University of Arts where he pursued a degree in Nihonga, traditional Japanese painting, but later switched his focus to contemporary art.

In the early 2000s, Murakami created a new art movement called "Superflat", a Japanese Contemporary art movement that emphasizes bold outlines, flat colors, and lack of perspective.

Murakami is most notably known for his signature bold character "Flowers" which is a smiley sunflower that has bold colors and winking eyes.

He has had a multitude of collaborations from retail companies like Supreme, and Louis Vuitton to Celebrities like Pharrell and Billie Eilish.

Murakami's art is often sought after as his artwork sells for thousands of dollars. It is also of the most reproduced art by sellers.

In 2020 Murakami went public that his art company *Kaikai Kiki* is on the verge of bankruptcy due to the COVID 19 pandemic. He will be releasing a documentary about his failures that he hopes will give other artists courage and advice on not what to do.