

## The Trinity College Dublin Art Collections

**Artist:** David Hockney  
**Title:** *Hollywood Bowl - Alecto Editions*  
**Medium:** limited edition poster

b. 1937, Bradford

David Hockney is considered one of the most important English artists of the twentieth century. A prolific painter, print-maker, photographer and stage designer, he was born in Bradford in 1937, and educated at local schools. In 1953 he enrolled in the Bradford College of Art, and in 1959 he became a student at the Painting School of the Royal College in London, where he quickly gained the notice of teachers and critics alike.

Hockney soon felt the need to create meaningful artworks, focusing on ideas of vegetarianism and homosexuality in his work. He also inscribed lines of his favourite poetry into the canvas, and most famously explored his own personal sexual orientation in his art, writing words such as "queer" and 'unorthodox lover' in some of his paintings. After moving to California in the early 1960s, Hockney's work began to focus on images of tanned, athletic young men in bright, sunny locations, inspired by the people he met in Santa Monica and Venice Beach. It was during this time that Hockney developed the naturalistic, almost hyper-realistic, style which he is best known for today.

As previously mentioned, Hockney worked in a variety of mediums. He earned huge acclaim for his series of prints "A Rake's Progress," which updated Hogarth's famous suite of prints of the same name, into a modern, autobiographical tale told through recognisable imagery. He was also interested in working with new technologies, such as laser jet copiers, and began sending drawings to friends via fax machines. He was thrilled with this new way of communication. Much of the appeal lay in the fact that these newly produced images had no financial value at all.

Hockney was influenced by the works of Matisse, Alan Davie, and Picasso, but never directly quoted their works. His work is housed in many prestigious collections around the world, including the Art Institute of Chicago, Art Gallery of New South Wales Australia, the British Museum, the National Portrait Gallery in London, Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Information contained in this article is from [www.groveart.com](http://www.groveart.com) and [www.davidhockney.com](http://www.davidhockney.com),

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This information has been compiled by Art Collections assistants, interns, and volunteers  
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