

Hey Kids, Meet Hieronymus Bosch

Netherlands Renaissance Artist (1450-1516)

Hieronymus Bosch was born Hieronymus van Aken around 1450. He was born, and lived his entire life in and around s-Hertogenbosch, a city in the Duchy of Brabant in the Netherlands. The name he was to later sign his works with came from the city in which he was born. He was the fourth of five children in a family of painters, and it is believed that his father, Anthonius van Aken, or his uncle taught him to paint.



In 1481 Bosch married Aleid van de Meerenne. Soon after they moved to the nearby town of Oirschot, to live in a house that she had inherited from her family.

Bosch was one of the most important medieval Dutch painters. His art was filled with moral images and messages. One of his most popular works is his triptych (three panels) *The Garden of Earthly Delights*. The left panel is an image of the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve and many wondrous animals. The middle panel depicts earthly delights with numerous unclothed figures, fruit and birds. The panel on the right is an image of hell, with images of people being punished for their sins. When the panels are closed, Bosch offers an image of God creating the Earth.

Hieronymus Bosch died in 1516. Fewer than 25 paintings remain today. The works that remain are significant in the history of art, and continue to influence artists from generation to generation.

