

# Wassily Kandinsky

## Schhuakeln

**Born:** December 16th 1866  
(Moscow, Russia)

**Died:** December 13th 1944 (Paris,  
France)

Kandinsky is a Russian painter  
and art theorist.

Considered the pioneer of abstract  
art.

### The Birth of Abstract Art

Late one night in 1908,  
Kandinsky came across an  
incredible picture in his art  
studio. The picture was a  
collection of coloured shapes like  
he'd never seen before and he  
loved it. He soon realised it was  
one of his own paintings just up-  
side down. From then on, Kan-  
dinsky spent the rest of his career  
trying to capture this style.



### Abstract Art

Abstract art  
uses visual  
language of  
shape, form,  
colour and line  
to create a  
composition which may exist  
with a degree of independence  
from visual  
references in the world.

### Did you know?

In the year of 1886 he went to  
Moscow and entered the Faculty  
of Moscow University,  
graduating with honours.

Was a Professor of Law at  
Dartmouth University

Instead of painting things as he  
actually saw them Kandinsky used  
shapes and  
colours to express how he felt  
about life.

Kandinsky believed that the world  
could be tough, exciting, happy and  
sad all at the same time. With these  
ideas Kandinsky created a whole  
new type of painting called abstract  
art.

Other artists questioned Kandinsky's  
work at the time and asked how  
could something have any meaning  
if it did not look like  
anything. Below is a painting by  
Kandinsky called Schuakeln, this  
painting is representation of the  
way Kandinsky viewed the world.

