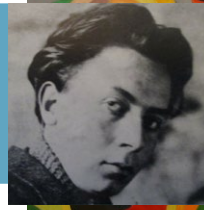
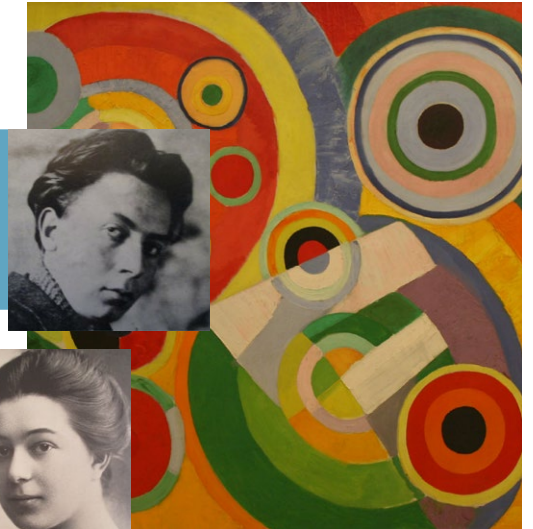


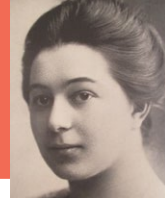
Abstract Artists

Fact Sheet

Robert Delaunay
1885 - 1941



Sonia Delaunay
1885 - 1979



Robert Delaunay was born in Paris to a rich and important family. After his parents divorced he lived with his Aunt and Uncle. His family were happy that he wanted to be an artist and gave him money to help him on his way so he was able to work as a professional painter when he was just 19.

Sonia Delaunay was born, Sara Élievna Stern, in Ukraine to a poor family. At age 5 her family sent her to live in Russia with her rich uncle and aunt. Her talent for art was noticed at school and she went on study at Art Academies in Germany and France. Sonia held her first solo art exhibition in 1908.

In 1909 Robert and Sonia met and they got married in 1910. Together they travelled around Europe. They worked closely with other artists, developing new theories about light and colour and how, as painters, they could best express them through art.

Robert and Sonia Delaunay supported each other and often worked together. As they thought of new ideas, they developed a new style of painting, called Orphism. Orphism is a kind of abstract art that uses very bright colours and lots of simple shapes like circles, triangles and squares. The Delaunays wanted their work to express joy, movement and music.



Together the Delaunays expressed their new style through painting, textiles, interiors, and, in the theatre, stage and costume design. They are remembered as one of the most successful husband and wife teams in art.

Work: Compilation