Women Artists throughout history

Hildegard of Bingen

The Middle Ages encompass one of the most exciting periods in English History. The names of famous Medieval women scatter the History books - they were mostly queens and princesses. But what about the women who were not of noble birth? Who were these Medieval women who became famous despite the dominance of men during this era? The following biography information provides basic facts and information about the key dates and events in the life of Hildegard of Bingen who was famous as Poet. composer and as a Saint.

Short Biography profile and facts about the life of Hildegard of Bingen

The following biography information provides basic facts and information about the life and history of Hildegard of Bingen a famous Medieval character of the Middle Ages:

Nationality: German

Also Known as: The Sibyl of the Rhine and Prophetissa Teutonica

Lifespan: 1098 - 1179

Time Reference: Lived during the reigns of the English Kings: William Rufus, King Henry I, Stephen and Henry II

Date of Birth: She was born at Rheinhesse in Germany in 1098

Family connections : She was the tenth child of Hildebert and Mechthild von Bermersheim, minor nobility of the Holy Roman Empire. Hildegarde of Bingen was was dedicated at birth to the church

Early Life and Education: At age of 8 her aristocratic family sent Hildegarde to be educated by an anchoress named Jutta von Spanheimat a Monastery in Disibodenberg near Rheinhesse

Career: Hildegard of Bingen took the veil and made her nun's vows at the age of 15. A convent was built next to the Monastery and Hildegarde became the Abbess. She then founded a convent at Bingen

The visions of Hildegarde of Bingen: Hildegarde suffered from terrible migraines which many believed led to her visions. She confided the visions only in Jutta and in a monk named Volmar. The visions clarified the meaning of major Biblical and religious texts. She documented this in the Scivias.

Date of Death: Hildegard of Bingen died in 1179 at the age of 82 years of age

Accomplishments or why Hildegard of Bingen was famous: Hildegard produced major works of theology and visionary writings - the Scivias. Hildegard of Bingen was also believed to have been the illustrator of the Scivias and therefore one of the few identifiable women artists of the Middle Ages. She was also famous for writing sacred music and also wrote about natural history and medicine. Hildegard of Bingen wrote the Liber simplicis medicinae (Simple Book of Medicine) in 1160.

She is famous for writing and composing the music for a medieval morality play called the Ordo Virtutum.

Hildegard was so well respected that she was consulted by and advised bishops, popes and kings.

These accomplishments gave Hildegard of Bergen the name of the 'Sibyl of the Rhine'