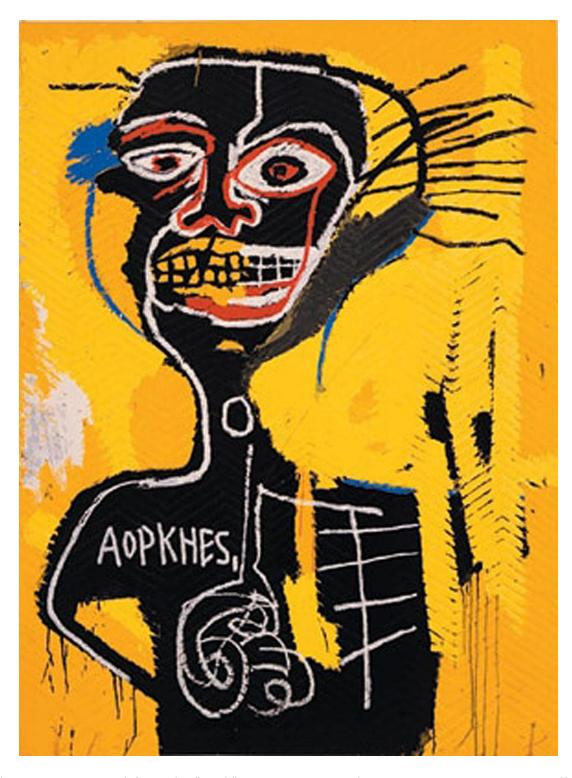
## JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT



Jean-Michel Basquiat emerged from the "Punk" scene in New York as a gritty, street-smart graffiti artist who successfully crossed over from his "downtown" origins to the international art gallery circuit. In a few fast-paced years, Basquiat swiftly rose to become one of the most celebrated, and possibly most commercially exploited, American "naif" painters of the widely celebrated Neo-Expressionism art movement.