

Cottingham, Robert (b.1935)
Brooklyn, New York

EDUCATION/INFLUENCES

- Studied at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn from 1959-1964
- Had a brief early career in advertising
- Influenced by photographs and their “zoom views”

BIG IDEAS/THEMES

- Paints uniquely American subject matter, especially neon signs, shop fronts and movie marquee of cities and downtowns as cultural icons
- Interested in society’s use of language as a means of persuasion
- Photo-realist
- Plays of line and movement
- Glorifies devalued objects

KIA WORK-Art, color lithograph, 1992

- “Zoom view” work of neon sign typical of his work
- Devalued object made the focus of the work
- Celebrates urban iconography and energy
- Strong use of bright, vivid colors

