



---

## **Andy Warhol Lecture Hoax**

*Andy Warhol, the controversial "Peter Pan of Pop Art" actually may never have appeared at the University....*

*Although a mop-headed "swinger" who claimed to be Warhol created a mild furor during and after an appearance in the Union Ballroom Oct. 2, extensive evidence has suggested he was not Warhol "in the flesh."*

*His presentation was the first cause for suspicion. Advertised as an "illustrated lecture," the program consisted of a polemical film and a stale question and answer period during which "Warhol" was hardly the brilliant and dynamic genius his advertising indicated. To the question "What role do you play in the production of your films?" he replied carelessly, "I start them, I think."*

*At a reception after the program, two members of the Art Department staff who had met Warhol in New York claimed the artist and "guest of honor" was not Warhol.*

**-- From story in the *Daily Utah Chronicle*, Jan. 31, 1968**

*Andy Warhol, the controversial pop artist, has never been to the University of Utah. Instead, Alan Midgett, a University of Oregon actor, took his place. . . .*

*In a statement from New York, Warhol justified the hoax by saying "because I don't really have that much to say, he was better than I am... he was what the people expected. They liked him better than they would have me because I have been going on tours since then, because they would rather have someone like that than me." . . .*

*[Said Warhol's manager, Paul Morrissey]: "Andy Warhol thought that his substitute would be better for public consumption. Like a person that was younger and better looking and better spoken. . . . He used the medium of the lecture circuit, you might say, in an original way."*

**-- From story in the *Daily Utah Chronicle*, Feb. 8, 1968**