

GALERIE NÄCHST ST. STEPHAN ROSEMARIE SCHWARZWÄLDER

JUDIT REIGL

Biography

Painter Judit Reigl (French, born in Kapuvár, Hungary, 1923) is renowned for groundbreaking work that defies the boundaries between figuration and abstraction. Reigl grew up in Budapest and studied there at the Academy of Fine Arts. After a narrow escape across the border between Hungary and Austria in 1950, she settles in Paris. Her educational travels to Rome and around Italy were formative for the young artist and helped to ground her artistic vision. In 1954 André Breton invited Reigl to exhibit in his gallery *A l'étoile scalée* and wrote about her early Surrealist-style work. She opted however to move on along her own trajectory, breaking with Surrealism, and eventually established her studio in Marcoussis, near Paris. Critical acclaim, including publications and the 1964 Guggenheim and 1967 Carnegie Award, as well as solo gallery and museum exhibitions followed, in Paris and internationally. In 1987, she participated at the Biennale di Venezia (Pavillon international).

Over 60 years of a prolific pointing career, these exhibitions punctuated the stages of Reigl's artistic research in experimental series, comprising: *Éclatement* | Outburst 1955-1957; *Centre de Dominance* | Center of Dominance and *Présence* | Presence 1958-1959; *Guano* 1958-1965; *Écriture en masse* | Mass Writing 1959-1965; *Épreuve d'apesanteur* | Weightlessness; *Écritures d'après musique* | Writings after Music, and *Gestes* | Gestures 1965-1966; *Homme* | Man 1966-1972; *Drap/Decodage* | Drope/Decoding 1973; *Déroulement* | Unfolding 1973-1980; *Suites de Déroulement* | Unfolding Continued 1980-1985, including *l'Art de la fugue* | Art of Fugue 1980-1982; *Volutes, Torsades, Colonnes, Méta* | Volutes, Twists, Columns, Metal 1982-1983, and *Hydrogène, photon, neutrinos* | Hydrogen, Photon, Neutrinos 1984-1985; *Entrée - Sortie* | Entrance/Exit 1986-1988; *Face à...* | Facing ... 1988-1990; *Un corps ou pluriel* | Body in the Plural 1990-1992; *Hors...* | Out... 1993-1999; *Un corps sans prix* | Priceless Body 1999-2001; *11 septembre 2001* | September 11, 2001 and *Ensuivant* 2001-2007; *Déroulement (phase IV anthropomorphie)* | Unfolding (Phase IV-Anthropomorphism), 2008; *Déroulement* | Unfolding (Abstract) 2010-2011; and *Oiseaux* | Birds 2012.

Major institutional exhibitions (selection): Kunstverein, Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany (1961); Rétrospective 1952-1972, M. J. C. de la Vallée de Chevreuse, Bures-sur-Yvette, France; travelled to I. N. P. E., Marly le Roi, France (1972); Maison de la Culture, Rennes, France (1974); A.R.C. 2, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France (1976); Musée de Peinture, Grenoble, France (1976); Musée d'Evreux, Ancien Evêché, France (1985); Centre d'Arts Contemporains, Orléans (1989); FRAC Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand, France (1989-1990); Musée de Brou, Bourg-en-Bresse, France (1992); Donation Goreli, Centre Pompidou, Paris (1994); Abbaye de Beaulieu-en-Rouergue, Ginals, France (1999); Múcsarnok Kunsthalle, Budapest (2005); MODEM Centre for Modern and Contemporary Arts, Debrecen, Hungary (2010); Musée des Beaux-Arts, Nantes (2010); Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest (2014); Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin (2016)

Reigl's work is in the collections of major museums: Albertina, Vienna, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, and Musée de Brou among others in France; Tate Modern in London; MoMA, the Guggenheim, and the Met in New York; the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston; the Cleveland Museum of Art; the Toledo Museum of Art; Albright Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo; Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Arts, Hungarian National Gallery, and Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest.

In February 2016, the Allen Memorial Art Museum in Oberlin, Ohio, inaugurated Reigl's first museum retrospective in the USA: Judit Reigl: Body Music. In March 2016, five Parisian galleries rendered homage to Judit Reigl in a joint exhibition. She continues to live in her studio outside of Paris where she has worked since 1963.

Awards: Guggenheim International Award (New York City, 1964), Carnegie Award (Pittsburgh, 1967-68), Commander's Cross of Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary (Budapest, 2008), Kossuth Prize (Budapest, 2011)