VISUAL ESSAY: ARTS AND CULTURE



1 Josef Albers and students of his photography class in the cabbage patch near the Studies Building of Black Mountain College, 1944.



2 The Mona Lisa returns to The Louvre after the war, Paris, 1945.



3 Two school children view Sidney Noland's painting *Ned Kelly at Stringy Bark Creek* at the South Melbourne Arts Festival, Melbourne, 1946.



4 Willem de Kooning sitting next to one of his Woman paintings in his studio, New York, 1946. Photograph: Harry Bowden.



5 Group photograph of the participants of the *Høst* exhibition of Dutch artists, Copenhagen, 1948. Back row f.l.t.r: Sixten Wiklund, Ernest Mancoba, Carl-Henning Pedersen, Erik Ortvad, Ejler Bille, Knud Nielsen, Tage Mellerup, Aage Vogel-Jørgensen and Erik Thommesen. Middle row: Karel Appel, Tony Appel, Christian Dotremont, Sonja Ferlov with her son Wonga, and Else Alfelt. Front row: Asger Jorn, Corneille, Constant and Henry Heerup.



6 Members of the artists' group Gelanggang Seniman Merdeka including Mochtar Apin, Baharudin en Asrul Sani and Chairil Anwar, Jakarta, 1948.



7 A Piet Mondrian's studio at 15 East 59th Street after his death, with Victory Boogie Woogie (unfinished; 1942-4), February 1944, Photograph: Harry Holtzman



8 Israeli sculptor Zeev Ben Zvi working on the Holocaust memorial at Mishmar HaEmek, 1945.



9 The All-Union Exhibition takes place at the Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, 1946.



10 Lucio Fontana visits the ruins of his studio which was destroyed by bombs during the Second World War, Milan, 1946.



11 Participants from Israel and Palestine at the 24th edition of the Venice Biennale, Venice, 1948.



12 The *Third General Exhibition of Plastic Arts* takes place at the Sociedade Nacional de Belas Artes, Lisbon, 1948.



13 All six founding members of the Progressive Artists' Group photographed during their exhibition, Bombay, 1949. f.l.t.r. (back row): M. F. Husain, S. K. Bakre, S. H. Raza. (Front row): F. N. Souza, K. H. Ara, H. A. Gade.



14 Whilst visiting from Paris, Shafic Abboud and a companion named Jacqueline partake in a field trip organized by the Académie libanaise des Beaux-Arts, Choueifat, 1950.



15 Aldo Turchario, Raffaele Leonporri, Antonello Trombadori and Renato Guttuso pose in front of the painting La Battaglia di Ponte dell'Ammiraglio in Guttuso's studio at the Villa Massimo, Rome, 1951.



16 Isamu Noguchi visits buildings, ruins and construction works in Hiroshima, 1951 [f.l.t.r.: Isamu Noguchi, Kenzo Tange, Tsutomu Hiroi, Michio Noguchi.]



17 The members of the Brazilian Grupo Ruptura, 1952. [f.l.t.r: Lothar Charoux, Anatol Wladislaw, Kasmir Fejer and Waldemar Cordeiro.]



18 An exhibition of works by Rafael Soriano opens at the Caseta del Parque Central, Havana, October 1950 [Group photograph with Loló Soldevilla (fourth from left), Rafael Soriano (sixth from left), Wifredo Lam (fourth from right), and others.]



20 A view of the studio of Seniman Indonesia Muda (SIM) during a visit by President Sukarno, Yogyakarta, 1955.



22 Installation of works by Alexander Calder at the second edition of the São Paulo Biennial, 1953.



19 Jackson Pollock and Lee Krasner in the studio, 1950 [Long Island, New York, 1950]. Photograph by Hans Namuth.



21 Group photograph of participants of an exhibition of the Movimento per l'Arte Concreta at the Libreria Salto, Milan, 1951 [F.l.t.r: Giulia Mazzon Sala, Regina Bracchi, Salto Jr., Gianni Bertini, Luigi Veronesi, Bruno Munari, Giuseppe Salto, Nino di Salvatore, Galliano Mazzon, Gillo Dorfles, and Gianni Monnet.]



23 Reg Butler in his studio, sculpting Working Model for the Monument to the Unknown Political Prisoner, Berkhamsted, c.1955.



24 Artist Dong Xiwen and Mao Zedong view works together with academy administrators during a visit to the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, 1953.



25 Mahmoud Hammad, Adham Ismail, Fathi Muhammad and other students from the Middle East pose for a photograph with the Director at the Scuola dell'arte della medaglia, Rome, 1954.



26 The Surrealist Group including Man Ray, André Breton, Alberto Giacometti and Wifredo Lam reconvene at the Café de la Place Blanche three decades after their first activities together, Paris, 1953



27 Installation view of Sandú Darié and Luis Martínez Pedro's two-person exhibition at the Pavilion of Social Sciences, University of Havana, Havana, 1955.



28 Anwar Jalal Shemza and Safdar Ali (right) attend the opening of an exhibition of the Lahore Arts Group, Murree, 1954



29 Alberto Giacometti in his studio, Paris, 1954.



32 Ben Enwonwu works on a sculpture in the studio he shared with William Reid Dick, London, mid 1950s.



30 Pablo Picasso's *Massacre in Korea* is displayed on the streets of Warsaw, 1956.



31 The Fifth Exhibition of the New Horizons Group opens at the Tel Aviv Museum, 1953.



33 The Jikken Kōbō group perform the ballet *Eve Future* in collaboration with the Matsuo Akemi Ballet Company at the Haiyūza Theater, Tokyo, 1955.



Vladimír Boudník during one of his actions on the streets of Prague, 1959.



Pinot Gallizio, Asger Jorn, Piero Simondo, and friends at work at the Experimental Laboratory, Alba, September 1956.



Members of the Seniman Indonesia Muda (SIM) group work on the relief *Flora and Fauna of Indonesia* at the Kemayoran International Airport, Jakarta, 1957.



The Group 2 show, created by Richard Hamilton, John McHale and John Voelcker, is installed at the exhibition *This is Tomorrow* at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, 1956.



Rauschenberg in his Front Street Studio with *Interview* (1955), *Untitled* (c. 1954), the second state of *Monogram* (1955–59; second state 1956–58), *Bed* (1955), and *Odalisk* (1955/1958), New York, 1958.



Teachers and students work on a mural at the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, 1958.



40 Gutai members at the *Outdoor Gutai Art Exhibition*, Ashiya Park, Ashiya, 1956. [Top row: Tanaka Atsuko, Murakami Saburō, Yamazaki Tsuruko; middle row: Mizuguchi Kyōichi, Kanayama Akira, Shimamoto Shōzō; bottom row, f.l.t.r.: Yoshihara Jirō, Sadamasa Motonaga and Horii Nichiei.]



42 K.O. Götz uses a rake to create one of his paintings at his studio, Düsseldorf, 1959.



43 Yayoi Kusama in her New York studio, 1958-59.



41 David Smith and Helen Frankenthaler embrace in Frankenthaler's studio, New York, 1957.



44 Kazuo Shiraga painting with his feet at the 2nd Gutai Art Exhibition, Tokyo, 1956.



45 Victor Musgrave, Anwar Jalal Shemza and the art critic George Butcher at Gallery One, London, 1960.



47 Willem de Kooning speaks at a symposium held at the Judson Center, New York, alongside Isamu Noguchi (seated second right) and Clement Greenberg (seated right), New York, 1961.



46 Gustav Metzger publicly displays his auto-destructive art by spraying hydrochloric acid on colored nylon sheets at his *South Bank Demonstration*, London, 1961.



48 Malangatana (seated on the right on the shelf in the background) relaxes with Pancho Guedes and his family and colleagues at Guedes' studio in Lourenço Marques, 1960.



49 A group of young artists stage *The Wall Exhibition* of *informel* painting as a protest against the more conservative art on display at the *Kukjeon* (National Art Exhibition) inside the Duksoogung Palace, Seoul, 1960.



50 Niki de Saint Phalle creating one of her shooting (Tir) paintings at Galerie Impasse Ronsin, Paris, 1961



Installation view of *the Second Neoconcrete Exhibition* at MEC, Rio de Janeiro, 1960.



53 The members of the Gorgona group at the first New Tendencies exhibition, Zagreb, 1961. [f.l.t.r.: unidentified friend, Josip Vaništa, Radoslav Putar, Ivo Štajner, Matko Meštrović, Slobodan Vuličević, Julije Knifer, Đuro Seder.]



Patty Mucha and Claes Oldenburg performing in *Snap-shots for the City* at Judson Memorial Church, New York, 1960.



Jacques Villeglé tears posters from a wall in Montparnasse, Paris, 1961.



Jeram Patel at work in his studio in the Department of Painting at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, c. 1961.



The American delegation including Nina Simone (third from left) and Hale Woodruff (second from right) arrive for the cultural festival in Lagos, 1961.



Allan Kaprow creates his environment *Stockroom* for the exhibition *Art in Motion* at the Moderna Museet, Stockholm, 1961.



Marta Minujin destroys all of the works she has created during her time in Paris in *La Destruccion* (The Destruction) at Impasse Ronsin, Paris, 1961.



K.G. Subramanyan working on his large-scale mural, the *King of the Dark Chamber*, later installed at the cultural centre Rabindralaya in Lucknow, 1963.



Gulammohammed Sheikh, Himmat Shah and F.N. Souza converse at the Faculty of Fine Arts at the Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, c. 1962.



Testumi Kudo performs *Happenings: Philosophy of Impotence* at the Cinéma-Studio de Boulogne, Paris, 1963.



George Maciunas, Dick Higgins, Wolf Vostell, Benjamin Patterson and Emmet Williams perform Philip Corner's *Piano Activities* during the *FLUXUS: Internationale Festspiele Neuester Musik* at the Städtisches Museum, Wiesbaden, 1962.



Nam June Paik's *Exposition of Music – Electronic Television* opens at the Galerie Parnass, Wuppertal, 1963.



66 A meeting of the "Nouvelle Tendance" group at the GRAV [Groupe de Recherche d'Art Visuel] studio at rue Beautreillis, Paris, 1962. [From left to right: Dieter Hacker; Angel Duarte (Equipo 57); Uli Pohl; François Morellet (GRAV); Carlos Cruz-Diez; Ivan Picelj; Bernard Aubertin; Luis Tomasello; Henk Peeters; Horacio García- Rossi (GRAV); Julio Le Parc (GRAV); Gregorio Vardanega; Jesús Soto; Michelle Yvaral; Martha Le Parc; Jean-Pierre Yvaral (GRAV); Dada Maino; Martha Boto; Mme. Morellet; Francisco Sobrino (GRAV); Joël Stein (GRAV).]



The exhibition *Entartete Kunst. Bildersturm vor 25 Jahren* (Degenerate Art: The Iconoclasm 25 Years Ago) takes place at Haus der Kunst, Munich, 1962.



Dr. Saburi Oladeni Biobaku holds his opening speech at the inauguration of the First International Congress of African Culture held at the National Gallery, Salisbury, 1962.



67 The Third Annual Festival of the Mbari Mbayo club takes place, Osogbo, 1965.



68 David Siqueiros delivers a lecture to fine art students in front of his mural Del Porfirismo a la Revolución three days after being released from Lecumberri prison, Mexico City, July, 1964.



70 Ernst Wilhelm Nay's installation of three Augenbilder (Eye paintings) suspended from the ceiling garners attention at the third edition of the Documenta, Kassel, 1964.



69 Artists and tutors including Elias Zaiat, Mahmoud Hammad, Nassir Chora and Fateh Moudarres judge students works at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Damascus, 1965.



71 Hi Red Center's Cleaning Event (officially known as Be Clean! and Campaign to Promote Cleanliness and Order in the Metropolitan Area) takes place in Tokyo, 1964



72 Celebrated passista Miro with Hélio Oiticica's *Parangolé P02 Flag 01* at the exhibition *Opinião 65*, Museum of Modern Art, Rio de Janeiro, 1965.



75 Tadeusz Kantor's *Cricotage* takes place at the TPSP cafe, Warsaw, 1965 [F.l.t.r.: Zbigniew Gostomski, Wiesław Borowski, Edward Krasiński,]



73 Shigeko Kubota performs *Vagina Painting* as part of the *Perpetual Fluxfest* event held at the Cinematheque in New York, July 1965.



74 Marta Minujin performs *Leyendo las noticias en el Río de la Plata* (Reading the News in the Río de la Plata), Buenos Aires, 1965



76 Revellers enjoy a party at Andy Warhol's studio, the Factory at 231 East 47th Street, New York, August 1965.

CHRONOLOGY OF ARTS AND CULTURE

1944

February

Piet Mondrian dies in New York, leaving his painting *Victory Boogie Woogie* (1942–43) unfinished

March

Max Bill organizes the exhibition Konkrete Kunst (Concrete Art), the first international exhibition of concrete art, at the Kunsthalle Basel. The show subsequently travels around Europe, inspiring the founding of art groups

May

Eugene W. Smith exhibits photographs of the Pacific war zones at the Museum of Modern Art in New York

Halim el-Dabh premiers his experimental manipulated recording *Ta'abir al Zaar (The Expression of Zaar)* at the *Expositions de* l'art indépendant (Exhibition of the Art and



 Works by Pablo Picasso installed at the Salon d'Automne, 1944, the artist's first exhibition in Paris after the end of German occupation

Liberty Group) held at the Lycée Français in Cairo, constituting one of the earliest examples of electronic music

June

The first and only issue of the journal Arturo: Revista de artes abstractas is published in Buenos Aires, and includes Gyula Kósice's essay "La aclimatación artística gratuita a las llamadas escuelas" (The Free Acclimatization to the So-Called Schools) and Rhod Rothfuss's "El Marco: Un Problema de la plástica actual" (The Frame: A Problem in Contemporary Art)

September

The exhibition *La prima mostra d'arte Italia libera* (The First Art Exhibition of a Free Italy) takes place in Rome

October

The Salon d'automne (Salon of Independents), also known as the Salon de la Libération (Salon of Liberty) takes place in the Grand Palais in Paris, with a focus exhibition of Pablo Picasso's work

Jacob Lawrence exhibits his "Migration of the Negro" series at the Museum of Modern Art, New York Jean Dubuffet holds his first solo exhibition at Galerie René Drouin in Paris

December

Wassily Kandinsky dies in Neuilly-sur-Seine

1945

January

Richard Wright publishes his memoir *Black*

Chester Himes publishes *If He Hollers Let Him Go*, detailing the life of an African American shipyard worker in Los Angeles during World War II

The exhibition *The Negro Artist Comes of Age: A National Survey of Contemporary American Artists* takes place at the Albany Institute of History and Art in New York, featuring the work of artists such as Romare Bearden, Jacob Lawrence, Norman Lewis, and Charles White

April

Francis Bacon exhibits his *Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion* at the Lefevre Gallery in London to much controversy

May

Howard Putzel organizes the exhibition A Problem for Critics at 67 Gallery in New York as a challenge for someone to come up with a name to define recent tendencies in US painting

The Expositions de l'art indépendant (Exhibition of Independent Art), the first postwar exhibition of Egypt's surrealist Art and Liberty Group, takes place at the Lycée Français in Cairo, including the work of Ramsès Younan

June

The first postwar exhibition of modern art in Germany takes place at a private house belonging to the artist Hans Uhlmann. Exhibited are classical expressionist works by Jeanne Mammen, Oskar Nerlinger, Hans Uhlmann, Renée Sintenis, and Georg Tappert

Crimes hitlériens (Hitler's Crimes) opens at the Grand Palais in Paris, an exhibition exploring the crimes perpetrated by the Nazis during the war

Germany's first postwar art school, the Hochschule für bildende Künste, re-opens in Berlin

July

The first exhibition of the Kammer der Kunstschaffenden takes place in Berlin, featuring works by Erich Heckel, Karl Hofer, Ernst Wilhelm Nay, Max Pechstein, Karl Schmitt-Rottluff, Gerhard Marcks, and other formerly "degenerate" artists

Augus

The first postwar commercial art gallery, the Galerie Gerd Rosen, opens in a former textile and military supplies shop in Berlin, exhibiting works by Ernst Barlach, Marc Chagall, Lyonel Feininger, Ernst Ludwig

Kirchner, Paul Klee, and other Brücke artists

Georges Henein publishes the pamphlet "Prestige de la terreur" (The Prestige of Terror) a couple of days after the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima

Albert Camus publishes his reaction to the atomic bomb on Hiroshima in the French Resistance newspaper, *Combat*

George Orwell publishes his dystopian novel Animal Farm

September

Jorge Luis Borges publishes his short story "El Aleph" in the Argentinian literary magazine Sur

Roberto Rossellini releases his film Roma città aperta (Rome, Open City)

Karl Jaspers delivers a series of lectures exploring the collective guilt of the German people at Heidelberg University, which are subsequently published as *Die Schuldfrage* (The Question of German Guilt)

October

The Commemorative Exhibition of the Liberation takes places at the National Museum of Contemporary Art at Deoksugung Palace in Seoul

The first issue of the Süddeutsche Zeitung is published in Munich, the first newspaper to receive a license from the US military administration of Bavaria

The inaugural exhibition of Arte Concreto-Invención opens at the house of Dr. Enrique Pichon Rivière in Buenos Aires. Featuring the works of Ramón Melgar, Juan Carlos Paz, Rhod Rothfuss, Estéban Eitler, Gyula Kosice, Valdo Wellington, and Carmelo Arden Quin, the exhibition is considered the first example of concrete art shown in South America

Jean Fautrier exhibits for the first time the series "Otages" (Hostages) he created during the Paris occupation at the Galerie René Drouin

Jean-Paul Sartre delivers his lecture "L'Existentialisme est-il un humanisme?" ("Existentialism is a Humanism") at Club Maintenant in Paris, which would be published the following year.

Alfred Hitchcock releases the film *Spell-bound*, which contains a dream sequence designed by Salvador Dalí

Novembe

Tomás Maldonado and others found the Asociación Arte Concreto-Invención (Concrete-Invention Art Association) in Buenos Aires

The first postwar German art group, Der Ruf, is exhibited for the first time at the Grünen Haus in Dresden

Léopold Sédar Senghor publishes his collection of poems *Chants d'Ombre* (Shadow Songs) in Paris. Predominantly written prior to the outbreak of the War, many of the poems reflect upon the conflict between French and African culture. Charlie Parker records his landmark bebop album Ko-Ko at WOR studios in New York City

December

Francis Newton Souza's exhibition opens at the Bombay Art Society

1946

January

The exhibition Bayerischer Gemälde des 15. und 16. Jahrhunderts (Bavarian Paintings of the 15th and 16th Centuries) opens at Munich's former Haus der deutschen Kunst, which has been now officially renamed "Haus der Kunst"

The All-Union Exhibition takes place at the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow, showing 1,459 works by 555 artists

February

John Cage begins composing his Sixteen Sonatas and Four Preludes for Prepared Piano

Picasso unveils *The Charnel House* (1944–45) at the *Art et Résistance* (Art and Resistance) exhibition in Paris.

May

The first edition of the magazine *Plastic Arts* is published in Seoul

The first Salon des réalités nouvelles (Salon of New Realities) takes place at the Palais des Reaux-Arts in Paris

June

Boris Taslitzky exhibits his "Buchenwald"



2 Visitors admire Albrecht Dürer's self-portrait at the exhibition *Bavarian Paintings of* the 15th and 16th Centuries at Haus der Kunst, Munich, 1946.

series of paintings at the Galerie La Gentilhommière in Paris

Ad Reinhardt publishes his visual essay "How to Look at Modern Art in America" in *PM* magazine

July

The Salon des Réalités Nouvelles is founded in Paris by art lover Fredo Sidès.

August

Tomás Maldonado and other artists publish the "Manifesto invencionista" (Inventionist Manifesto) in the magazine Asociación Arte Concreto-Invención.

The first Madí exhibition takes place at Galería van Riel in the French Institute for



3 The First Exhibition of the Asociación Arte concreto-invención (AACI) opens at the Salón Peuser, Buenos Aires, March 1946

Superior Studies in Buenos Aires, officially launching the movement. Gyula Kosice concurrently publishes the "Madí Manifesto"

The first Ferienkurse für internationale Neue Musik (International Summer School for New Music) is held in Darmstadt

The Erste Allgemeine Deutsche Kunstausstellung (First General German Art Exhibition) opens in Dresden, exhibiting many works by artists previously declared "degenerate"

November

Romare Bearden publishes his essay "The Negro Artist's Dilemma" in the journal Critique: A Review of Contemporary Art

Lucio Fontana and his students at the Altamira academy publish "Manifesto Blan-co" (White Manifesto) pamphlet in Buenos Aires, announcing his aim for a "Spatialist"

László Moholy-Nagy dies of leukemia at the age of fifty-one in Chicago

December

Dylan Thomas publishes his collection of poems Deaths and Entrances, many of which deal with the effects of World War II

1947

Robert Antelme publishes L'Espèce humaine (The Human Race) concerning his experiences in the concentration camps

The group Pelukis Rakyat (People's Painters) is founded in Jogjakarta by the artists Affandi and Hendra Gunawan

Barnett Newman organizes the exhibition The Ideographic Picture at Betty Parsons Gallery in New York and includes works by himself, Pietro Lazzari, Boris Margo, Ad Reinhardt, Mark Rothko, Theodoros Stamos. and Clyfford Still

February

Lee Kwae-dae writes a detailed report on the North Korean art scene in the journal New Paradise

Alberto Burri is repatriated to Italy from the United States after spending almost four years in a prisoner-of-war camp in Hereford, Texas

The Group of Seven exhibit for the first time at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art

Primo Levi publishes Se questo è un uomo (If This Is A Man, also known as Survival in Auschwitz), describing his incarceration in the Auschwitz concentration camp

March

Samuel Kootz organizes the first exhibition of US abstract expressionist art in Europe at the Galerie Maeght in Paris

Otto Frank publishes his daughter Anne's diary as Het Achterhuis (The Diary of a Young Girl)

Willi Baumeister publishes his book Das Unbekannte in der Kunst (The Unknown in Art), championing an art that is universally relevant and an artistic freedom that embodies a responsibility toward humanity

Albert Camus publishes La Peste (The Plague)

The first exhibition of the group Fronte Nuovo delle Arti takes place at the Galleria della Spiga in Milan, featuring work by Renato Guttuso, Renato Birolli, Emilio Vedova, and others

The Musée National d'Art Moderne opens in Paris

August

Arnold Schoenberg completes his composition A Survivor from Warsaw Op. 46, paying tribute to Holocaust victims.

September

Henri Matisse publishes his artist book Jazz

October

Cai Chusheng and Zheng Junli release the film The Spring River Flows East. Now considered a classic of Hong Kong cinema, the film details the trials and tribulations of a family during the Second Sino-Japanese

Ben Enwonwu holds his first solo exhibition at London's Berkeley Galleries

November

The first issue of the quarterly journal Présence Africaine is published by Alioune Diop in Paris

Lucio Fontana publishes his "Primo Manifesto dello Spazialismo" (First Manifesto of Spatialism) in Buenos Aires

December

Kwame Nkrumah publishes Towards Colonial Freedom, a manifesto that called for the introduction of a Marxist-Leninist ideology in African politics

The New Realists exhibition takes place at the Hwa-shin Gallery in Seoul

1948

Léopold Sédar Senghor publishes Anthologie de la nouvelle poésie nègre et malgache de langue française (Anthology of New Negro and Malagasy Poetry in the French Language), which contains the introduction "Orphée Noir" ("Black Orpheus") by Jean-Paul Sartre

Working under the pseudonym André Tamm, K. O. Götz publishes the first edition of the journal Metamorphose, dedicated to "experimental contemporary art and poetry"

Jackson Pollock holds his first solo exhibition at the Betty Parsons Gallery in New York, where he exhibits his famous "drip" paintings

Fei Mu releases the film Spring in a Small

Alberto Giacometti exhibits new works at the Pierre Matisse Gallery in New York; Jean-Paul Sartre writes the preface for the cataloque

February

The definitive version of Yasunari Kawabata's Yukiguni (Snow Country) is published. An integration of nine separately published works, the book is a classic of modern Japanese literature

March

New York's Museum of Non-Objective Painting organizes the exhibition Gegenstandslose Malerei in Amerika (Abstract Art



4 Madí Exhibition at the 3^{éme} Salon des Réalités Nouvelles, Paris, 1948.

in America), which opens at the Staatliche Kunsthalle in Karlsruhe, before later traveling to Düsseldorf, Mannheim, Munich, and Stuttgart

Ismael Rodríguez releases the film Nosotros los pobres (We the Poor)

Sidney Nolan first exhibits his famous "Kelly" series of paintings at the Velasquez Gallery in Melbourne

Willem de Kooning has his first solo exhibition at the Charles Egan Gallery in New York, where he exhibits his black-and-white abstract paintings

Vladimír Boudník conducts his first "Events in the Street" in Prague at the end of April as part of the "Art-Explosionalism" manifesto that he had just published

May
Alberto Burri holds his first solo exhibition at the Galleria La Margherita in Rome

The 24th Venice Biennale opens, the first to be staged after World War II

Norman Mailer's first novel The Naked and the Dead is published, based on his experiences during the Philippines Campaign in World War II

June

The First International Congress of Art Critics is held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris

Ezra Pound publishes The Pisan Cantos

Paul Celan publishes "Todesfuge" ("Death Fugue"), which addresses the horrors of the concentration camps

September

Constant publishes "CoBrA Manifesto" in the journal Reflex #1

Harold Rosenberg publishes his famous essay "The Herd of Independent Minds: Has the Avant-Garde Its Own Mass Culture?" in the journal Commentary

Luchino Visconti releases the film La Terra Trema (The Earth Trembles)

The survey show Overseas Exhibition of South African Art opens at the Tate Gallery in London. It includes the work of fifty-three white South Africans, as well as that of Gerard Sekoto, which garners widespread praise

October

The first performance of Pierre Schaeffer's Cinq études de bruits (Five Studies of Noises) takes place on French National Radio, one of the first public broadcasts of concrete music

The Korean Ministry of Education launches the first Kukieon (National Art Exhibition) as a platform for Korean culture

The first exhibition of the Ofakim Hadashim (New Horizons) group takes place at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art

Alexander Dymschitz, head of the Cultural Division of the Soviet Military Government in Berlin, publishes his two-part essay "Über die formalistische Richtung in der deutschen Malerei" (On Formalist Tendencies Within German Painting) in the newspaper Tägliche Rundschau, providing the first high-profile Soviet assessment of German art and condemning the domination of formalist tendencies within painting

Vittorio De Sica releases the film Ladri di biciclette (The Bicycle Thief)

December

The first exhibition of *Movimento per l'arte concreta* (Concrete Art Movement) is held



5 Participants of the 1st Exhibition of Modern Art, Krakow, 1948

at the Libreria Salto in Milan. The group is comprised of Bruno Munari, Gillo Dorfles, Gianni Monnet, and Atanasio Soldati

Alan Paton publishes Cry, The Beloved Country

Roberto Rossellini releases the film Germania anno zero (Germany, Year Zero)

Barnett Newman publishes his essay "The Sublime is Now" in the journal Tiger's Eye

Tadeusz Kantor organizes the First Exhibition of Modern Art at the Palac Sztuki w Krakowie, featuring works by a young Andrzej Wróblewski, as well as Henryk Stażewski and Alfred Lenica

The nascent Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) holds its second major exhibition, 40,000 Years of Modern Art, at the Academy Cinema in London

1949

January

Max Bill publishes his influential essay "Die mathematische Denkweise in der Kunst unserer Zeit" (The Mathematical Approach in Contemporary Art) in the Swiss journal Werk, in which he argues for an art free from any reference to the existing world

March

Isamu Noguchi holds his first postwar solo exhibition at the Charles Egan Gallery in New York

Vladimír Boudník publishes his program of "explosionalism" at the State School of Graphic Art summer school at Nový Falkenburk. He expands upon this program a couple of weeks later, producing the "Explosionalism Manifesto No. 2"

April

The first volume of Louis Aragon's Les Communistes (The Communists) is published

Hkielmar Lers releases the film *Adamah*, which was shot in Palestine just prior to the establishment of the State of Israel

May

Heinrich Böll publishes his first novella *Der Zug war pünktlich (The Train Was on Time*), focusing on the experience of German soldiers fighting on the Eastern Front

The Ausstellung sowjetischer Malerei (Exhibition of Soviet Painting), a major exhibition of socialist realist painting, takes place at the Haus der Kultur der Sowjetunion in East Berlin

lune

Simone de Beauvoir publishes *Le Deuxième* sexe (The Second Sex)

George Orwell publishes 1984

July

Yukio Mishima publishes his autobiographical novel Kamen no Kokuhaku (Confessions of a Mask)

The All-China Art Workers Association organize the First National Art Exhibition at the Beijing School of Arts; it is the first major exhibition to take place after the end of the war with Japan and the only one held prior to the establishment of the People's Republic of China

The first Exhibition of the Progressive Artists' Group at the Bombay Art Society represents the first major showing of the group's work

August

Claude Lévi-Strauss publishes Structures élémentaires de la parenté (The Elementary Structures of Kinship)

The influential Uruguayan artist and teacher Joaquín Torres García dies

September

The exhibition Der Blaue Reiter München und die Kunst des 20. Jahrhunderts (The Blue Rider Munich and the Art of the 20th



6 CoBrA members bring their works to First International Exhibition of Experimental Artists at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, November 1949.

Century) at Munich's Haus der Kunst represents the first time that artists labeled as "degenerate" before the war are exhibited in the city

The Mexican mural painter José Clemente Orozco dies in Mexico City

Harold Rosenberg and Samuel Kootz organize the influential exhibition *The Intrasubjectives* at the Kootz Gallery in New York, where they show work by William Baziotes, Willem de Kooning, Arshile Gorky, Adolph Gottlieb, Morris Graves, Hans Hofmann, Robert Motherwell, Jackson Pollock, Ad Reinhardt, Mark Rothko, Mark Tobey, and Bradley Walker Tomlin

October

Curzio Malaparte publishes his book La Pelle (The Skin), detailing the myriad social



7 Artists Sessions take place at Studio 35, April 1950, New York [Left to right: James Brooks, Ad Reinhardt, Richard Pousette-Dart, Louise Bourgeois, Herbert Ferber, Bradley Walker Tomlin, Janice Biala, Robert Goodnough, Hedda Sterne, David Hare, Barnett Newman, Seymour Lipton, Norman Lewis, Jimmy Ernst.] Photograph by Max Yavno.

transformations that took place in Italy immediately following the Armitace

Raúl Lozza organizes the *Primera Exposición* de *Pintura Perceptista* (First Exhibition of Perceptivist Painting) at the Van Riel Galería de Arte in Buenos Aires; he also publishes the manifesto "Ante la decadencia y espíritu negativo ..." (Faced with the decline and negative spirit ...) in the catalogue

November

CoBrA artists first show together as a group at the *Exposition Internationale d'Art Expérimental* (International Exhibition of Experimental Art), which is held at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam

1950

Januar

Maruki Iri and Maruki Toshi tour five of the "Hiroshima Panels" to fifty Japanese cities

March

Alina Szapocznikow exhibits her sculptures for the first time at the *VI Exposition des Artistes Juifs* (Fourth Exhibition of Jewish Artists) in Paris

April

The so-called "Artist's Sessions" take place at Studio 35 in New York, attended by two dozen artists who later came to be known as the Abstract Expressionists

Pablo Neruda publishes his collection of 340 poems *Canto General* (General Song) in Mexico City

The group Zen 49 hold their premiere exhibition at Munich's Galerie des Central Collecting Point

May

Eugène lonesco's first play *La Cantatrice* chauve (The Bald Soprano) premieres at the Théâtre des Nortambules in Paris

June

Aimé Césaire's essay Discours sur le colonialisme (Discourse on Colonialism) is published in Paris

Alejandro Otero, Jesús Rafael Soto, Rafael Zapata, Bernardo Chataing, Régulo Pérez, Genaro Moreno, Omar Carreño, and others found the group Los Disidentes (The Dissenters) in Paris, concurrently publishing their "Manifesto No"

July

The exhibition Das Menschenbild in unserer Zeit (The Image of Man in our Time) takes place at the Mathildenhöhe in Darmstadt concurrent with the Darmstadt Talks at the Kunsthalle

UNESCO publishes The Race Question

August

Billy Wilder releases the film Sunset Boulevard

The social and literary group Lembaga Kebudajaan Rakjat (LEKRA) is founded in Jakarta, issuing its first declaration on culture ("Mukadimah") and establishing close links to Indonesia's Communist Party

Akira Kurosawa releases the film Rashōmon

October

Nemai Ghosh releases *Chinnamul*, the first Indian film to confront the partition of India.

Sandú Darié holds his exhibition Estructuras Pictóricas (Pictorial Structures) at the Havana Lyceum in Cuba

A group of writers and artists publish the "Surat Kepertjajaan Gelanggang" (The Gelanggang testimonial of beliefs) in post-independence Jakarta, beginning with the words "We are the legitimate heirs to world culture, and we are furthering this culture in our own way."

December

Luis Buñuel releases his social realist film Los Olvidados (the forgotten ones)

1951

January

Kofi Abrefa Busia publishes Self-Government for the Gold Coast

February

The work of Jackson Pollock is first exhibited in Japan as part of the *First International Art Exhibition* that takes place at the Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum. The exhibition will prove to be highly influential to artists such as Takamatsu Jirō

Hannah Arendt publishes *Elemente und Ursprünge totaler Herrschaft (The Origins of Totalitarianism)*

The exhibition Arte astratta e concreta in Italia, 1951: Opere di artisti di Roma, Milano, Torino, Napoli, La Spezia, Livorno, Firenze, Venezia (Abstract and Concrete Art in Italy, 1951: Works by Artists of Rome, Milan, Turin, Naples, La Spezia, Livorno, Florence, Venice) is held at the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna in Rome, featuring the work of Alberto Burri, Piero Dorazio, Mimmo Rotella, Emilio Vedova, and others

A conference on abstract art takes place at New York's Museum of Modern Art and includes contributions from Alexander Calder, Fritz Glarner, Robert Motherwell, Stuart



8 Installation view of the exhibition by Max Bill at the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, 1951

Davis, George L. K. Morris, and Willem de Kooning, who reads his famous essay "What Abstract Art Means to Me"

Le Corbusier commences work on his master plan for the Indian city of Chandigarh

March

Theodor W. Adorno publishes Kulturkritik und Gesellschaft (Cultural Criticism and Society), in which he famously notes that "Nach Auschwitz ein Gedicht zu schreiben, ist barbarisch" ("To write poetry after Auschwitz is barbaric")

Max Bill's first exhibition in Brazil, at the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, inspires numerous Brazilian concrete artists

The Exhibition of the National New Nianhua takes place at the Reading Room of the Russian Foreign Affairs Association in Beijing. Organized by the Chinese Artists Association, the exhibition demonstrates the government's support for artists working in print media

Georges Mathieu and Michel Tapié organize the exhibition Véhémences confrontées (Opposing Forces) at the Galerie Nina Dausset in Paris, where they juxtapose the work of US and European abstract artists

April

Gholam Hossein Gharib, Hassan Shirvani, and Hooshang Irani publish "The Nightingale's Butcher Manifesto" on the back cover of the magazine *Fighting Cock*.

The newly formed Baghdad Group for Modern Art exhibit for the first time at the Museum of Ancient Costumes in Baghdad

May

Leo Castelli organizes the iconic 9th Street Show exhibition in an empty store at 60 East 9th Street, introducing the work of sixty-one, mainly young New York artists and propagating the idea of a "New York School" of painting

June

Saloua Raouda Choucair publishes her essay "Kayfa Fahima al-'Arabi Fanna at-Tasweer" (How the Arab Understood Visual Art) in the journal al-Abhaath

September

Helen Frankenthaler's first solo exhibition takes place at the Tibor de Nagy Gallery in New York

October

Ben Enwonwu holds his first US exhibition at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

The Studio für elektronische Musik begins broadcasting on Cologne's Nordwest-deutscher Rundfunk. Over the years, it would attract to the city the likes of Karlheinz Stockhausen, Nam June Paik, Cornelius Cardew, David Tudor, Mauricio Kagel, and John Cage

The first São Paulo Biennial takes place at the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo

November

Michel Tapié organizes the exhibition Signifiants de l'informel (Signifiers of "Informel") at the Studio Paul Facchetti in Paris. Showing the work of Jean Dubuffet, Jean Fautrier, Georges Mathieu, Henri Michaux, Jean-Paul Riopelle, and Jaroslav Serpan, he coins the term "informel" to group all of these works together

Jikken Kōbō (Experimental Workshop) present their first collective work, a ballet entitled *The Joy of Life*, created to mark the first Pablo Picasso retrospective in Tokyo. The work functions as a performative manifesto of the group's ideas and provides an



9 The first *Sao Paulo Biennial* takes place at the Museu de Arte Moderna de Sao Paulo, October 1951

early indication of postwar Japanese interest in multimedia and performance art

December

The German artist Wols (Alfred Otto Wolfgang Schulze) dies of food poisoning in Paris

The group EXAT 51 (an abbreviation of "Eksperimentalni atelje" / "Experimental atelier") officially form at a plenary meeting of the Association of Applied Artists of Croatia and publish their manifesto in protest against the dominance of officially sanctioned socialist realist art and the condemnation of all forms of abstraction and unacceptable motifs

1952

January

The Lahore Art Circle is founded by Ahmed Parvez, S. Safdar, Anwar Jelal Shemza, Moyene Najmi, and Ali Imam in Pakistan

Frantz Fanon publishes his book *Peau noire*, masques blancs (Black Skin, White Masks)

The Independent Group is founded in London as a collection of young artists circulating around the ICA. At the group's first meeting, Eduardo Paolozzi passes around his "Bunk!" collages

Isidore Isou's experimental film *Traité de bave et d'éternité* (Treatise on Venom And Eternity) is released

February

Gil J Wolman's lettrist film L'Anticoncept (The Anticoncept) opens in Paris

March

Ralph Ellison publishes *Invisible Man*, about an African-American man whose color renders him invisible

The Soviet Fine Arts Exhibition opens in New Delhi before touring to Calcutta and Bombay

April

The Prima esposizione del Movimento Nucleare (First Exhibition of Nuclear Art) at the spaces of the Amici della Francia in Milan signals the formation of the group, who publish their first manifesto as part of the exhibition

May

Lucio Fontana and a group of sixteen other artists publish the "Manifesto del Movimento Spaziale per la televisione" (Television Manifesto of the Spatial Movement), which was simultaneously distributed during a television broadcast by Fontana

June

Amos Tutuola publishes *The Palm-Wine*<u>Drinkard</u>

The Peace Bridge, designed by Isamu Noguchi, opens in Hiroshima

The exhibition *Mensch und Form unserer Zeit* (Man and Form of Our Time) takes place at the Städtische Kunsthalle in Recklinghausen

Juh

Karlheinz Stockhausen premieres his first composition, *Kreuzspiel*, at the International Summer School for New Music in Darmstadt

August

As part of his exhibition Antonio Berni expone 22 obras (Antonio Berni Exhibits 22 Works) at the Galería Viau in Buenos Aires, the artist publishes an essay about "Nuevo Realismo"

David Tudor first performs John Cage's 4'33" at the Maverick Concert Hall in Woodstock, New York

September

Yōsuke Yamahata publishes *Kiroku-shashin: Genbaku no Nagasaki* (Atomized Nagasaki:
The Bombing of Nagasaki: A Photographic
Record)

Sandú Darié, Luis Martínez Pedro, and Mario Carreño launch the magazine *Noti*cias de Arte (Art News) in Havana

December

The *Grupo Ruptura* exhibition at the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, along with the "Manifesto Ruptura," which was also signed in 1952, represented a debut for the group, which comprised Waldemar Cordeiro, Geraldo de Barros, Lothar Charoux, Leopold Haar, Kazimir Fejer, Anatol Wladyslaw, and Luis Sacilotto

Harold Rosenberg publishes his essay "American Action Painters" in ARTnews

Michel Tapié organizes the exhibition *Un art autre* (An Other Art) at Studio Paul Facchetti in Paris, suggesting a new terminology that encompasses both the abstract and figurative works of the likes of Jean Dubuffet, Jean Fautrier, Alfred Otto Wolfgang Schulze, Alfonso Ossorio, Jackson Pollock,



10 Walter Nicks' experimental dance group perform in front of Mathias Goeritz's *The Serpent* in the courtyard of the Museo Experimental El Eco, Mexico City, 1953.

Mark Tobey, Sam Francis, Pierre Soulages, Georges Mathieu, Graham Sutherland, Karel Appel, Germaine Richier, Eduardo Paolozzi, and others

The Ruptura exhibition opens at the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, widely considered to mark the official beginning of concrete art in Brazil

1953

January

The controversial International Sculpture Competition: The Unknown Political Prisoner is held at the ICA in London, later traveling to the Museum of Modern Art, New York

Samuel Beckett's play Waiting for Godot premieres in Paris

February

The first Exposição Nacional de Arte Abstrata (National Exhibition of Abstract Art) takes place at the Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, featuring work by Lygia Pape, Lygia Clark, and Ivan Serpa

March

In New York, Willem de Kooning first exhibits his "Woman" series at the Sidney Janis Gallery, while Robert Rauschenberg shows the "White Paintings" that he created in 1951 at the Stable Gallery

April

Alain Resnais, Chris Marker, and Ghislain



11 Following its inauguration in December 1953, Alexander Calder's Acoustic Ceiling decorates the Aula Magna of the Univers dad Central de Venezuela, Caracas, 1954.

Cloquet's film Les statues meurent aussi (Statues Also Die) premieres at the Cannes Film Festival. The anti-colonial message of the film was so confrontational, that it was promptly censored by the French state and was not screened again until 1968

Roland Barthes publishes Le Degré zéro de l'écriture (Writing Degree Zero)

Luis García Berlanga's comedy film iBienvenido, Mister Marshall! (Welcome Mr. Marshall!) is released in cinemas in Spain

Camara Laye publishes his autobiographical novel L'Enfant noir (The African Child)

Mulk Raj Anand publishes The Private Life of an Indian Prince, detailing the social and political reform that was brought about by the abolition of the princely states system in India

The Hochschule für Gestaltung Ulm (Ulm School of Design) begins operations, under the supervision of Max Bill

September

Dong Xiwen's monumental painting The Founding of the Nation is first exhibited to great acclaim in Beijing

The exhibition Parallel of Life and Art takes place at the ICA in London

October

James Baldwin publishes his semi-autobiographical novel Go Tell It On the Mountain

Ray Bradbury publishes Fahrenheit 451

Ray Ashley's (also known as Raymond Abrashkin) Little Fugitive premieres in New York. The film's naturalistic style and use of nonprofessional actors would prove to be profoundly influential to the subsequent New Wave cinema

November

William Burroughs publishes Junkie: Confessions of an Unredeemed Drug Addict and Queer under the pseudonym William Lee

Yasujirō Ozu's film Tōkyō Monogatari (Tokyo Story) is released

December

The Aula Magna building opens at La Ciudad Universitaria de Caracas, with acoustic clouds designed by Alexander Calder

The influential Chinese painter Xu Beihong dies of a stroke. As a mark of respect, the Chinese Communist Party orders the creation of the Xu Beihong Museum at his home in Beijing

1954

The China Artists Association publishes the essay "New Chinese Painting Movement" in the first edition of the relaunched journal Meishu, outlining the precepts for the sort of socialist realist art that was to be promoted in the country

February

Cyprian Ekwensi publishes People of the City

March

Renato Guttuso is given a solo exhibition at the Central Office of Art Exhibitions Zachęta in Warsaw. The exhibition would then tour other Central and Eastern European countries and would be profoundly influential on realist artists

The National Gallery of Modern Art opens in New Delhi

April

Jorge Romero Brest publishes his essay "Diálogo sobre el arte abstracto y el arte concreto" (Dialogue on Abstract and Concrete Art) in the Argentinian journal Saber vivir

The Salon 54: Exhibition of Contemporary Yugoslav Painting and Sculpture is held in Rijeka. Dubbed a key exhibition for "the reconstruction of modernism" in Yugoslavia, the show featured the work of EXAT 51 members such as Ivan Picelj, Vlado Kristl, Božidar Rašica, and Aleksandar Srnec

Akira Kurosawa releases his epic historical drama Shichinin no Samurai (Seven Samurai)

Bill Haley & His Comets release the album Rock Around the Clock

Clement Greenberg delivers the lecture "Abstract Representational, and so forth" at Yale University, laying the foundations to his theory of formalism within modern art

The first Grupo Frente exhibition takes place at the Galeria Ibeu in Rio de Janeiro, exhibiting the work of Lygia Clark along with that of Hélio Oiticica, Aluísio Carvão, and Lygia Pape

JulyFrida Kahlo dies at her home in Mexico City.

The Lalit Kala Akademi (the National Academy of Art) inaugurated in New Delhi

Luigi Nono's cantata La victoire de Guernica (The Victory of Guernica) premieres at the International Summer School for New Music in Darmstadt

September

Federico Fellini's film La Strada (The Street) premieres at the Venice International Film

William Golding publishes Lord of the Flies

The influential Exhibition of Economic and Cultural Achievements of the Soviet Union takes place at the Soviet Exhibition Hall in Beijing. Featuring works such as Fyodor Shurpin's The Morning of Our Motherland (1948), the exhibition would provide the template for Chinese socialist realism for decades

November

Jean Rouch screens his first "ethnofiction" short film Les maîtres fous (The Mad Masters) to a small, select audience at the Musée de l'Homme in Paris

Ishirō Honda releases the film Gojira (Godzilla)

December

Ulli Beier publishes his essay "Wandmalereien der Yoruba" (Yoruba Wall Painting) in the journal Das Kunstwerk

1955

Edward Steichen's acclaimed Family of Man exhibition is held at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, later traveling under the auspices of the US Information Agency throughout the United States and

Pokolenie (A Generation), the opening film of Andrzej Wajda's "Three War Films" trilogy, is released

Arnold Rüdlinger organizes the exhibition Tendances Actuelles III (Current Tendencies III) at the Kunsthalle in Bern, where he groups all of the exhibited abstract work under the term "tachisme"

Francis Newton Souza publishes his autobiographical essay "The Nirvana of a Maggot" in the journal Encounter

Clement Greenberg publishes his polemical essay "American-Type Painting" in the spring edition of Partisan Review

Famed jazz pioneer Charlie Parker dies in

Wifredo Lam exhibits a series of his paintings at the Universidad de La Habana, Pabellon de Ciencias Sociales, in support for students' protests against the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista



12 The first Documenta exhibition opens at the Fridericianum, Kassel, 1955.

April

Victor Vasarely and Pontus Hultén publish their "Yellow Manifesto" as part of the exhibition Le Mouvement (Movement) at the Galerie Denise René in Paris, thereby introducing the idea of kinetic art

The exhibition Indonesian Art is held as part of the Asian-African Conference in Bandung, exhibiting the works of key Indonesian modern artists

Sandú Darié and Luis Martínez Pedro stage the Primera Exposición Concreta (First Exhibition of Concrete Art) at the Pabellón de Ciencias Sociales of the Universidad de La Habana, Cuba

The exhibition Man, Machine and Motion: An Iconography of Speed and Space is held at the Hatton Gallery in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne

The exhibition The New Decade: 22 European Painters and Sculptors opens at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Alberto Burri uses the occasion to print his famous "Words Are No Help" statement

June

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin's book Le Phénomène humain (The Phenomenon of Man) is posthumously published in Paris

Herbert Bayer creates his Earth Mound at the Aspen Institute's Aspen Meadows campus in Colorado, possibly the first "earthwork" done within the context of contemporary art

The Ogólnopolska wystawa młodej plastyki (National Exhibition of Young Art)-subtitled "Against War, Against Fascism"-takes place in the recently restored Armory building in Warsaw. More popularly known as the "Arsenal" exhibition, the show is considered to be the beginning of the cultural "thaw" in Poland, leading to a significant revision in Socialist Realism

The I. mednarodna grafična razstava (1st International Exhibition of Graphic Arts) is held at Ljubljana's Moderna Galerija. The exhibition would subsequently become the Bienale Grafike (Biennial of Graphic

Bertrand Russell and Albert Einstein launch "The Russell-Einstein Manifesto" at a press conference at Caxton Hall, London

The first Documenta exhibition opens in Kassel

The exhibition Outdoor Exhibition of Modern Art to Challenge the Midsummer Sun represents the unofficial launch of the Gutai group (in that twenty-three of the forty participants were members)

The Premiére biennale de la Méditerranée (First Biennial for the Arts of Mediterranean Countries) takes place at the Alexandria Museum of Fine Arts

August

Vladimir Nabokov publishes Lolita. Following its publication in Paris, the British Home Office orders all copies entering the United Kingdom to be seized. The French and US governments also subsequently ban the book for several years.

The newly formed Grupa 55 hold their first exhibition at the "Desa" salon in Warsaw. Billed as an "anti-Arsenal" exhibition, the group rebelled against the domination of Socialist Realism



13 Participants at the First World Congress of Black Writers and Artists at the Sorbonne, Paris, 1956.

Fernand Léger dies at his home in Gif-sur-

Satyajit Ray releases the Bengali-language drama film Pather Panchali (Song of the Little Road), the first film of The Apu Trilogy

The Hiroshima Peace Center and Memorial Park, designed by Kenzo Tange, opens

October

lannis Xenakis orchestral work Metastaseis premieres at the Donaueschinger Musiktage (Donaueschingen Festival)

The First Gutai Art Exhibition opens at the Ohara Kaikan in Tokyo, with Saburo Murakami performing Work (Six Holes) and Kazuo Shiraga staging his work Challenging Mud

Nicholas Ray's film Rebel Without a Cause is released, portraying the moral decay of American youth



14 Saburō Murakami performs Destruction of paper (Tsūka) at the 2nd Gutai Art Exhibition, Tokyo, 1956.

Pablo Picasso's monumental Guernica is exhibited as part of the exhibition Picasso 1900-1955 at Munich's Haus der Kunst

November

The Wystawa obrazów (Exhibition of Pictures) is held at the "House of Artists" in Krakow, presenting works by Tadeusz Kantor, Jerzy Nowosielski, and others who combined Surrealism and Abstract Expressionism. The exhibition resulted in the creation of numerous artists' groups, clubs, and galleries

1956

Frank Auerbach is given his first solo exhibition at the Beaux Arts Gallery in London

FebruaryLennie Tristano releases his album *Lennie* Tristano, in which he overdubs piano and manipulates tape speed for effect on some

Toru Takemitsu premieres his work Relief Statique in Tokyo, one of the first compositions to employ electronic tape-recording techniques

March

Fred M. Wilcox's pioneering science fiction film Forbidden Planet premieres in the United

Loló Soldevilla organizes the influential exhibition Pintura de hoy. Vanguardia de la Escuela de París (Painting Today: Avant-Garde of the School of Paris) at the Palacio de Bellas Artes in Havana

Elvis Presley releases his debut solo album Elvis Presley

Alain Resnais's documentary Nuit et brouillard (Night and Fog) is shown "out of competition" at the Cannes Film Festival

May
Elie Wiesel's 245-page manuscript of his experiences at the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps, Un di Velt Hot Geshvign (And the World Remained Silent), is published in Argentina. A shortened version of this book is published two years later in Paris as La Nuit (Night)

The Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris stages a large-scale retrospective of the works of Fernand Léger, a year after his death

July Ousmane Sembène publishes his first novel Le Docker noir (Black Docker)

João Guimarães Rosa publishes his "monologue" book Grande Sertão: Veredas (The Devil to Pay in the Backlands) to great controversy

Mongo Beti publishes his novel Le pauvre Christ de Bomba (The Poor Christ of Bomba) in Paris

The landmark exhibition This is Tomorrow opens at the Whitechapel Gallery in London

Sandú Darié first exhibits his "Estructura transformables" (Transformable Structures) at the Pabellón de Ciencias Sociales of the Universidad de La Habana, Cuba

Jackson Pollock dies in a car accident

September

The First World Congress of Free Artists takes place in Alba, Italy. Organized by Giuseppe Pinot-Gallizio and Asger Jorn, the conference concludes with an accord and signed resolution declaring the "inevitable outmodedness of any renovation of an art within its traditional limits"

The First Congress of Black Writers and Artists is held at the Sorbonne in Paris. Leading black intellectuals address issues of colonialism, slavery, and Négritude

October

The 2nd Gutai Art Exhibition takes place at the Ohara Kaikan in Tokyo. It features Tanaka's Electric Dress, a painting performance by Shimamoto Shōzō, Kazuo Shiraga's Challenging Mud, and Saburō Murakami's At One Moment Opening Six Holes

Satyajit Ray releases the Indian Bengali drama *Aparajito (The Unvanquished)*, the follow-up to Pather Panchali

November

Bayn al-Qasrayn (Between the Two Palaces), the first book of Naguib Mahfouz's Cairo Trilogy is published in Cairo

Allen Ginsberg publishes Howl and Other Poems, one of the principal works of the Beat Generation

Roger Vadim releases the film Et Dieu... créa la femme (And God Created Woman), launching Brigitte Bardot into the public spotlight

December

Yoshihara Jiro publishes the "Gutai bijutsu sengen" (Gutai Art Manifesto) in the journal Geijutsu Shinchō

Uche Okeke's first solo exhibition, Life in Northern Nigeria: An Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings (1954-1956), takes place at the Community Centre in Kaduna, Nigeria

Direction 1 opens at the Macquarie Galleries in Sydney, a landmark exhibition of abstract art in Australia

The first Exposição Nacional de Arte Concreta (National Exhibition of Concrete Art) opens at the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, the first national meeting of concrete visual art and poetry

The exhibition Jackson Pollock opens at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, the first major exhibition of the artist's work after his death



15 For Yves Klein's Sculpture aérostatique 1001 blue balloons are released into the sky over Paris on the occasion of the exhibition "Yves Klein : Propositions monochromes" at Galerie Iris Clert, Paris, May, 1957

1957

Renato Guttuso publishes his essay "Del realismo del presente e altro" (On Realism, the Present, and Other Things) in the journal Paragone, arguing for a form of socially engaged realism outside of the socialist realism proscribed by the Soviet Union

Roland Barthes publishes his collection of essays from Les Lettres nouvelles as Mythologies

February

Miles Davis releases the influential album Birth of the Cool

The Baghdad Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture is held at the Al-Mansur Club and shows the work of forty-five modern artists

Ingmar Bergman iconic film Det sjunde inseglet (The Seventh Seal) is released

March

Paulin Soumanou Vieyra and Mamadou Sarr's short documentary film Afrique sur Seine (Africa on the Seine) premieres in

Alina Szapocznikow publishes "Plastycy o plastyce" (Visual Artists on Visual Art) in the journal Przegląd Kulturalny

Miles Davis releases his hard bop album Round About Midnight

The Modern Fine Art exhibition opens at the Dong-hwa Gallery in Seoul

Andrzej Wróblewski dies in a mountaineering accident in Tatry, Czechoslovakia, at the age of twenty-nine

April

The First one-night exhibition of the ZERO Group—"an evening vernissage without a subsequent exhibition"—takes place at the "Ruinenatelier" in Düsseldorf

The First Southeast Asia Art Conference and Competition takes place in Manila, which includes an small exhibition sent over by New York's Museum of Modern Art

May

The first Annual Fifth Moon Group Exhibition is held at Zhongshan Hall in Taipei, officially launching the group. These annual exhibitions would continue until 1970

Yves Klein releases his Sculpture aérostatique (Aerostatic Sculpture) into the sky as part of his exhibition Propositions monochromes at Galerie Iris Clert in Paris

June

Elaine de Kooning publishes the article "Pure Paints a Picture" in the summer edition of ARTnews; it is widely considered to be one of the best articles on "pure painting"

July

Nevil Shute's post-apocalyptic novel *On the Beach* is published

The founding conference of the Situationist International takes place at Cosio d'Arroscia in Italy. Participants include Michèle Bernstein, Guy Debord, Giuseppe Pinot-Gallizio, Asger Jorn, Walter Olmo, Piero Simondo, Elena Verrone, and Ralph Rumney

August

The landmark installation/exhibition An Exhibit opens at the Hatton Gallery in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, before traveling to the ICA in London

September

The first issue of *Black Orpheus*, "a journal of African and Afro-American literature," is published in Ibadan, Nigeria

Jack Kerouac publishes *On the Road*, a defining work of the postwar Beat and Counterculture generations

The Chinese painter Qi Baishi dies at his home in Beijing at the age of ninety-three

November

The collective Equipo 57 publish their manifesto "The Interactivity of Plastic Space" to accompany their inaugural exhibition at the Sala Negra in Madrid

Boris Pasternak's book *Doctor Zhivago* is first published in Italy after the author smuggles it out of the Soviet Union

Ben Enwonwu completes his sculpture of Queen Elizabeth II

The exhibition Korean Contemporary Artists opens at the National Museum of Contemporary Art at Deoksugung Palace in Seoul

Commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the October Revolution, the All-Union Art Exhibition is held at the Manege Exhibition Hall in Moscow; it is one of the largest exhibitions in Soviet history, with over eight thousand works displayed Diego Rivera dies at his San Ángel studio in Mexico

December

Yayoi Kusama holds her first exhibition in the United States at the Dusanne Gallery in Seattle

1958

January

Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa's novel *Il Gattopardo (The Leopard)* is posthumously published

Bimal Roy releases the Hindu drama *Madhumati*

Jasper Johns exhibits his "Flags" for the first time at the Leo Castelli Gallery in New York

February

Lawrence Alloway publishes his essay "The Arts and the Mass Media" in the journal *Architectural Design*, coining the term "Pop art"

March

Robert Rauschenberg first exhibits his combines at the Leo Castelli Gallery in New York

Chuck Berry releases his classic rock-and-roll single *Johnny B. Goode*

April

The exhibition Das rote Bild (The Red Picture) takes place in the studio of Otto Piene in Düsseldorf, exhibiting monochrome works by forty artists. The catalogue accompanying the show is also the first issue of the group's magazine, ZERO, which ceases publication after three issues

Michel Tapié and Yoshihara Jirō jointly organize the exhibition *International Art of a* New Era: Informel and Gutai at the Takashi-



16 Frank Stella in front of one of his "Black Paintings", New York, between 1958 and 1962, Photograph: Hollis Frampton

maya Department Store in Osaka, bringing together *informel* artists from Japan, Europe, and the United States

Yves Klein's exhibition La spécialisation de la sensibilité à l'état matière première en sensibilité picturale stabilisée, Le Vide (The Specialization of Sensibility in the Raw Material State into Stabilized Pictorial

Sensibility, The Void) takes place at Galerie Iris Clert in Paris

The first Tehran Biennial takes place at the Abyaz Palace building within the Golestan Palace complex. Organized by Marcos Grigorian and featuring the work of almost fifty artists, the Biennial acts as a "feeder" exhi-



17 Yves Klein's performance Anthropométrie de l'Époque bleue takes place at the Galerie internationale d'art contemporain, 253, rue Saint Honoré, Paris, 9 March 1960.

bition for the country's participation in the *Venice Biennale*

An event simply called *Untitled (Happening)* takes place at Douglass College in New Brunswick, New Jersey, most likely the first happening in the United States

Brussels World's Fair (also known as *Expo* 58) opens at the Heysel Plateau, and includes the Atomium and Le Corbusier's Philips Pavilion

Pablo Picasso unveils his mural *The Fall of lcarus* on the wall of the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris

May

John Kenneth Galbraith publishes *The Affluent Society*, which introduces the controversial term "conventional wisdom"

Elizeth Moreira Cardoso releases the album Canção do Amor Demais, widely considered to be the world's first bossa nova record

Karl Jaspers publishes Die Atombombe und die Zukunft des Menschen (The Atomic Bomb and the Future of Man)

Ritwik Ghatak releases the Indian Bengali film Aiantrik (The Pathetic Fallacy)

June

The exhibition *Transferences* at the Zwemmer Gallery constitutes the first London group show of "Commonwealth artists," including Sidney Nolan, Francis Newton Souza, Denis Bowen, and a number of New Vision Centre artists

The Primera Bienal Interamericana de Pintura y Grabado (First Inter-American Biennial of Painting and Engraving) takes place at the Museo Nacional de Artes Plásticas in Mexico City

Luciano Berio's pioneering electroacoustic composition *Thema* (*Omaggio a Joyce*) is broadcast for the first time in Naples

Chinua Achebe's postcolonial novel *Things* Fall Apart is published

July

Wojciech Fangor and the architect Stanisław Zamecznik organize the exhibition *The Study in Space* at the "New Culture" Salon in Warsaw; it is the first "spatial painting" (i.e., installation art) exhibition in Central Europe

The exhibition Seven Indian Painters in Europe at Gallery One in London attracts significant media attention to the work of Avinash Chandra and Francis Newton Souza

Youssef Chahine releases the film Bāb al-Hadīd (Cairo Station)

August

Yashpal publishes Vatan Aur Desh (Homeland and Country), the first of his two-volume novel Jhutha Sach (This Is Not That Dawn) which is based on the events surrounding Partition. The second volume Desh Ka Bhavishya (The Future of the Country) is published two years later.

September

Mikhail Kalatozov releases the film Letyat



18 Pablo Picasso attends the inauguration of his mural at the UNESCO building, Paris, 1958.

zhuravli (The Cranes Are Flying), depicting the damage suffered to the Soviet psyche as a result of World War II

Dorothy Miller organizes the exhibition *The New American Painting* at the Hochschule für bildende Künste in Berlin, which subsequently travels to Basel, Milan, Madrid, Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, and London

October

The Zaria Art Society is formed by a group of art students at the Nigerian College of Arts, Science, and Technology. Comprising Demas Nwoko, Bruce Onobrakpeya, S. Irein Wangboje, Yusuf Grillo, William Olaosebi-kan, Simon Okeke, and Uche Okeke, the group aimed to "decolonize" the visual arts as taught by expatriate Europeans



19 Antonio Porta, Angela Verga, Farfa, Nanni Balestrini and Enrico Baj pose with Baj and Verga's *Interplanetary Sculpture*, Milan, 1959.

December

The exhibition Art of Socialist Countries opens at the Manege Exhibition Hall in Moscow. Framed as a socialist response to the commercial biennials held in Western Europe, the exhibition was best remembered for the inclusion of several contrasting approaches to socialist realism as well as, in the case of the Polish contribution, elements of abstraction

1959

Günter Grass publishes Die Blechtrommel (The Tin Drum)

FebruaryMusicians Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and J. P. *The Big Bopper* Richardson are killed in a plane crash near Clear Lake, lowa, along with their pilot, Roger Peterson. The event is later dubbed "The Day the Music Died"

The Extraordinary Congress of Art Critics takes place in Brasília, Rio de Janeiro, and São Paulo with the aim of discussing the construction of Brasília as part of the "Integration of the Arts" project

March

Jean Tinguely publishes his manifesto "Für Statik" (For Static), which he then scatters from an airplane over Düsseldorf.

Jean Fautrier publishes his essay "Parallèles sur l'informel" (as "Parallelen zur neuen Malerei" [Parallels to the New Painting]) in the Viennese journal Blätter + Bilder, in which he famously states "painting is something that can only destroy itself, which must destroy itself in order to be re-

The first Exposição Nacional de Arte Neoconcreta (National Exhibition of Neo-Concrete Art) opens at the Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, the first largescale exhibition of neo-concrete works

Amílcar de Castro, Ferreira Gullar, Franz Weissmann, Lygia Clark, Lygia Pape, Reynaldo Jardim, and Theon Spanudis publish "Manifesto Neoconcreto" (Neo-Concrete Manifesto) in the Brazilian journal Jornal do Brasil / Suplemento Dominical. In the same issue, Lygia Pape publishes her essay "Ballet: A Visual Experience"

The Second Conference of Negro Writers and Artists, organized by the Société africaine de culture takes place in Rome, with Gerard Sekoto delivering his "I Am an African" speech

Mav

Satyajit Ray releases Apur Sansar (The World of Apu), the final part of The Apu Triolgy of films

François Truffaut releases his debut film Les Quatre Cents Coups (The 400 Blows)

The exhibition *Gego: Sculptures and Gouaches* takes place at the Liberia Cruz del Sur in Caracas; it is her first solo show

Alain Resnais's film Hiroshima mon amour premieres in Paris

Marcel Camus' film Orfeu Negro (Black Orpheus) premieres in Paris. Featuring music by Antônio Carlos Jobim and Luiz Bonfá, the film is also noteworthy for popularizing bossa nova music outside of Brazil

July

The American National Exhibition opens in a pavilion in Sokolniki Park, Moscow, and is best remembered for the impromptu "Kitchen Debate" during the opening between then US vice president Richard Nixon and Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev

Documenta 2 opens in Kassel. Subtitled "Art After 1945," the exhibition focuses solely on postwar art, particularly a contingent of ninety-seven predominantly abstract expressionist works sent by New York's Museum of Modern Art

Giuseppe Pinot-Gallizio publishes his "Manifesto della Pittura Industriale" (Manifesto of Industrial Painting: For a Unitary Applied Art) in the journal Internationale Situation-

Qurratulain Hyder publishes his novel Aag ka Darya (River of Fire), considered to be the most important novel of twentieth-century Urdu fictio

The Antipodeans exhibition takes place at the Victorian Artists Society in Melbourne. Accompanied by the publication of "The Antipodean Manifesto," the exhibition argues for the importance of figurative art and protests against the pervasiveness of US-style Abstract Expressionism

Miles Davis releases the influential album Kind of Blue

Eugène lonesco's absurdist play Rhinocéros is presented for the first time on BBC Radio

September

William S. Burroughs publishes Naked Lunch

Charles Mingus releases the song "Fables of Faubus" as a protest against Arkansas governor Orval E. Faubus's actions to prevent integration at Little Rock Central High School in 1957

Peter Selz organizes the exhibition New Images of Man at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, examining new approaches to figuration in Europe and the United States

Ornette Coleman releases the album The Shape of Jazz to Come

The first Paris Biennale opens at the Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, exhibiting mostly the work of younger artists

The exhibition Zehn Jahre bildende Kunst in der DDR (Ten Years of Fine Art in the GDR) takes place as part of the 10. Jahrestag DDR-Gründung (The Tenth Anniversary Exhibition of the Founding of the GDR) at the Pavillon der Kunst in East Berlin

Allan Kaprow stages his ground-breaking 18 Happenings in 6 Parts at the Reuben Gallery in New York

The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum opens in New York, ten years after the death of its founder and six months after its architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, died.

November

Gustav Metzger publishes his first manifesto of "Auto Destructive Art", which exhibits at the Cardboards exhibition, held at Brian Robins' Coffee House in London

Nam June Paik performs Hommage à John Cage: Music for Tape Recorder and Piano at Düsseldorf's Galerie 22, his first action in which he performs outside the boundaries of conventional music

The exhibition 10 Pintores concretos exponen pinturas y dibujos at the Galería de Arte Color-Luz in Havana represents the first major showing of the recently-formed group Diez Pintores Concretos (Ten Concrete Painters); comprising Pedro Álvarez, Wifredo Arcay, Salvador Corratgé, Sandú Darié, Luis Martínez Pedro, Alberto Menocal, José Mijares, Pedro de Oráa, Loló Soldevilla, and Rafael Soriano

Fateh Moudarres is given his first solo exhibition at the Galleria Cichi in Rome

December

Frank Stella exhibits the first of his "Black Paintings" at the exhibition Sixteen Americans at the Museum of Modern Art, New

1960

Parviz Tanavoli opens the Atelier Kaboud in Tehran, an important meeting spot for the Contemporary Artists' Group

Raja Rao publishes his best-known work, The Serpent and the Rope

Federico Fellini releases La Dolce Vita

The exhibition Ray Gun takes place at the Judson Memorial Church in New York, featuring Claes Oldenburg's The Street and Jim Dine's The House

February

The exhibition Œuvres d'Art transformable (Transformable Art) opens at Gallery One in London

The First National Art Exhibition "Soviet Russia" takes place in Moscow, featuring over 2,400 works of socialist realist art

The Modern Literature and Art Association organize the Hong Kong International Salon of Paintings at St. John's Cathedral Hall, the first major exhibition of modern art from both Hong Kong and Taiwan

Yu Hyun-mok releases the film Obaltan (A Stray Bullet), commonly regarded as one of the best Korean films ever made

The International Sky Festival takes place on the roof of the Takashimaya Department Store in Osaka, in which the work of thirty



20 Raymond Hains, Pierre Restany, Jacques Villeglé, François Dufrene and Arman meet at the studio of Yves Klein to sign the "Constitutive Declaration of New Realism", Paris, 1960.

Japanese, US, and European artists are attached to helium balloons and launched into the sky

Guy Debord publishes the "Situationist International Manifesto" in Paris

Nagisa Oshima releases the film Seishun Zankoku Monogatari (Cruel Story of Youth)

Gustav Metzger stages the First Public Demonstration of Auto-Destructive Art at the Temple Gallery in London

Michelangelo Antonioni releases the film L'Avventura

Jean-Luc Godard releases his first fulllength film, À bout de soufflé (Breathless)

September

Lionel Rogosin's semi-documentary film Come Back Africa premieres at the Venice International Film Festival

Ben Enwonwu publishes his letter "African Art In Danger" in the *Times* newspaper, in which he speaks of his fear about the unhealthy situation affecting Nigerian modern art due to the influx of Western, particularly British, ideas and the ascension of the commercial market

Gillo Pontecorvo releases the film Kapò

October

Arman's exhibition *Le Plein* (Full-Up) opens at Galerie Iris Clert in Paris

Wole Soyinka's A Dance of the Forests is first performed as part of Nigeria's independence celebrations in Lagos

The Independence Exhibition takes place on Victoria Island in Lagos, and includes an Exhibition of Contemporary Nigerian Art

Lygia Clark first exhibits her *Bichos* at the Galeria Bonino in Rio de Janeiro

The "Nouveau Réalisme Manifesto" is signed at Yves Klein's apartment in Paris



21 Frank McEwen with founding members of the Workshop School in Salisbury.

November

A group of artists stages an alternative exhibition of works on the exterior walls of the Duksoogung Palace in Seoul, which is hosting the annual *Kukjeon* (National Art Exhibition). Comprising informel-style works, the exhibition contrasts with the predominantly conservative works on exhibit inside the building

Hermann Nitsch stages his First Painting Action at the Technical Museum in Vienna

1961

January

Jewad Selim dies in Baghdad, just prior to the completion of his monumental *Nasb* al-Hurriyah (Monument of Freedom) in Al-Tahrir Square

February

Niki de Saint Phalle stages the first of her "Shooting" actions in a vacant lot behind the artist's studio at 11 Impasse Ronsin in Paris, the first of a dozen such events

March

The Mbari Artists' and Writers' Club is founded in Ibadan by Ulli Beier and the writers

Wole Soyinka, Christopher Okigbo, JP Clark, and Ezekiel Mphahlele

The first proto-Fluxus events are held in New York to coincide with the opening of George Maciunas and Almus Salcius's AG Gallery. Music and events are staged by Maciunas and Salcius himself, along with Toshi Ichiyanagi, Jackson Mac Low, and Dick Higgins

The exhibition Bewogen Beweging (Moved Movement) takes place at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam; it is an exhibition of kinetic art introducing the work of an emerging generation of artists such as Daniel Spoerri, Jean Tinguely, Robert Müller, Jesús Rafael Soto, and Dieter Roth

April

The Gorgona group publish the first of their "anti-magazines," *Gorgona 1*, with each issue prepared as an original artwork by a single artist, beginning with Josip Vaništa

Malangatana Ngwenya has his first solo exhibition, *Malangatana Goenha Valente*, at the Associação dos Organismos Económicos in Lourenço Marques

May

The I. Trijenale likovnih umetnosti (First Yugoslav Triennial of Fine Arts) takes place at the Muzej savremene umetnosti (Museum of Contemporary Art) in Belgrade

The exhibition *Environments, Situations, Spaces* opens at the Martha Jackson Gallery in New York. Allan Kaprow installs his seminal work, *The Yard,* in the "sculpture garden," while Claes Oldenburg publishes his text "I Am for An Art"

June

Karl Otto Götz publishes his essay "Elektronische Malerei und ihre Programmierung" (Electronic Painting and its Programming) in the journal Das Kunstwerk

V. S. Naipaul publishes his much-acclaimed novel *A House for Mr Biswas*

Kwame Nkrumah publishes his book I Speak of Freedom: A Statement of African Ideology



22 Demas Nwoko and Uche Okeke at the opening of the inaugural art exhibition at the Mbari Artists' and Writers' Club, Ibadan, 1961.

The United States Information Agency organizes the traveling exhibition Vanguard American Painting, which opens in Vienna before traveling to Belgrade, Skopje, Zagreb, Maribor, Ljubljana, Rijeka, London,

Darmstadt, and Salzburg

Rattana Pestonji's film *Prae Dum (Black Silk)* premieres at the Berlin International Film festival, becoming the first Thai film to be chosen for a major festival

The survey Recent Australian Painting opens at the Whitechapel Gallery in London, representing the first major exhibition of modern Australian art outside of the country

Raymond Hains and Jacques (Mahé de la) Villeglé first exhibit their affiches lacérées referencing the Algerian War as part of the exhibition La France déchirée (Torn France), which is held at Galerie J in Paris

July

The exhibition Sydney Nine opens at the David Jones Art Gallery in Sydney, before showing at Gallery A in Melbourne in September. A direct response to the recent Antipodeans exhibition, the participating artists make a dramatic entrance, arriving at the opening of the Melbourne show in helicopter and brandishing abstract paintings. A young Robert Hughes writes the catalogue

The Museum of the Chinese Revolution opens in Tiananmen Square in Beijing

Heinz Mack, Otto Piene, und Günther Uecker organize the event ZERO. Edition, Exposition, Demonstration at Galerie Schmela in Düsseldorf, which coincides with the publication of the third and final issue of ZERO magazine

August

The first *Nove tendencije* (New Tendencies) exhibition opens at the Galerija suvremene umjetnosti (Gallery for Contemporary Art) in Zagreb

The exhibition Otra Figuración (Other Figuration) takes place at the Galería Peuser in Buenos Aires, featuring the work of Luis Felipe Noé, Jorge de la Vega, Rómulo Macció, and Ernesto Deira

September

Arnold Belkin publishes his essay "Interiorism, Neo-Humanism, New Expressionism" in the journal *Nueva Presencia*

Ornette Coleman releases the landmark album Free Jazz: A Collective Improvisation

Members of the Gorgona group hold the first Studio G exhibition at the Šira "picture framing shop" in Zagreb. Participants include Eugen Feller, Ivan Kožarič, Maeda, François Morellet, Ivan Rabuzin, Matija Skurjeni, Marko Šuštaršič, and Victor Vasarely

Athol Fugard's play *The Blood Knot* premieres at the Rehearsal Room of Dorkay House in Johannesburg

October

Jean Rouch and Edgar Morin release their experimental documentary film *Chronique* d'un été (Chronicle of a Summer)

William Seitz organizes The Art of the Assemblage at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, a monumental survey exhibition of 130 artists' works, ranging from cubism to the present day; the exhibition subsequently travels to Dallas and San Francisco

Joseph Heller's satirical novel Catch-22 is published

György Ligeti's "micropolyphonic" orchestral work *Atmosphères* premieres at the Donaueschingen Festival

November

Ibrahim El-Salahi is given a solo exhibition at the Mbari Gallery in Ibadan, Nigeria

Georg Baselitz and Eugen Schönebeck publish the first edition of their "Pandämonisches Manifest" (Pandemonic Manifesto) as a poster during their joint exhibition at Fasanenplatz in Berlin. A second version of the manifesto would later be published as a limited edition in February 1962

Frantz Fanon's book Les Damnés de la terre (The Wretched of the Earth) is published in Paris

The exhibition *Arte Destructivo* (Destructuve Art) takes place at the Galería Lirolay in Buenos Aires. The exhibition comprises



23 Participants of the Arte Destructivo (Destructive Art) exhibition pose for a group photo at the Galeria Lirolay, Buenos Aires, 1961 [Seated: Kenneth Kemble, standing f.l.t.r.: Jorge Lopez Anaya, Silvia Torras, Jorge Roiger and Luis Wells.]

found objects subsequently distorted or destroyed to the sound of a lecture by Jorge Romero Brest, a reading of Aristotle's *Po*etics, and the script to a play by Picasso, along with the artists' own musical compo-

Yoko Ono performs A Grapefruit in the World of Park, A Piece for Strawberries and Violin, and AOS—to David Tudor at Carnegie Hall in New York

December

Claes Oldenburg installs *The Store* in a disused property at 107 East 2nd Street in New York

1962

January

Glauber Rocha releases the *Barravento* (*The Turning Wind*), one of the key films within the Brazilian Cinema Novo movement

February

Chris Marker's post-apocalyptic science fiction film *La Jetée* (*The Pier*) is released in Paris

March

Otto Piene organizes the first Zero-Fest at the Rheinwiesen in Düsseldorf, during which he releases balloons into the air, illuminating them with spotlights

Marcos Grigorian exhibits part of his monumental *Gate of Auschwitz* for the first time at the Misaquieh Film Studio in Tehran

The exhibition *Nul* is staged at Amsterdam's Stedelijk Museum. Featuring the work of Arman, Pol Bury, Enrico Castellani, Dadamaino, Piero Dorazio, Lucio Fontana, Francesco Lo Savio, Heinz Mack, Piero Manzoni, Otto Piene, and Günther Uecker, the exhibition constitutes the first major survey of the ZERO group

The Mbari Mbayo Club is founded in Osogbo. For its inauguration Duro Ladipo premieres his first opera, *Oba Moro* (Ghost-Catcher King)

Apri

A display of paintings by Charles Hossein



24 Emmet Williams demonstrates his participative *Universal Poem* at *The Festival of Misfits* at the ICA, London, 1961.

Zenderoudi at the Third Tehran Biennial at Abayz Palace marks the official beginning of the Saqqā-kāna School movement

Andrei Tarkovsky's Soviet war drama *Ivano-vo detstvo (Ivan's Childhood)* is released in Moscow

May

Vladimir Nabokov publishes his 999-line poem *Pale Fire*

Umberto Eco publishes Opera aperta (The Open Work)

Benjamin Britten premieres his work *War Requiem, Op.* 66 to mark the consecration of the new Coventry Cathedral

June

Doris Lessing's novel *The Golden Notebook* is published

Yves Klein dies of a heart attack in Paris

Christo installs his Wall of Oil Barrels: The Iron Curtain in Rue Visconti in Paris

July

The inaugural concert of the Judson Dance Theater takes place at the Judson Memorial Hall in New York

Andy Warhol first exhibits his *Campbell's Soup Cans* (1962) at the Ferus Gallery in Los Angeles

The Premier salon de l'indépendance (The First Salon of Independence) takes place at the Salle Ibn Khaldoun in Algiers, the nation's first major post-independence art exhibition

August

Frank McEwen founds the "Workshop School" in the basement of the Rhodes National Gallery in Salisbury, Rhodesia

The first *Actuel* exhibition opens at the National Central Information Center in Seoul

The First International Congress of African Culture is held at the National Gallery in Salisbury, Rhodesia

The kinetic art exhibition *Dylaby: Dynamisch Labyrint* (Dylaby: Dynamic Labyrinth) takes place at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam

September

Joseph Beuys helps organize FLUXUS: Internationale Festspiele Neuester Musik (FLUXUS: International Festival of Newest Music) at the Städtisches Museum in Wiesbaden, Europe's first major Fluxus festival

Rachel Carson publishes her book *Silent Spring*, documenting the grave environmental effects caused by the indiscriminate use of pesticides

October

The exhibition Entartete Kunst—Bildersturm vor 25 Jahren (Degenerate Art—Iconoclasm 25 Years Ago) takes place in Munich's Haus der Kunst; it is the first critical survey of the Entartete Kunst (Degenerate Art) exhibition that the National Socialists staged in the city in 1937

Dr. No, the first James Bond film, is released

The Festival of Misfits takes place at London's ICA and Gallery One, featuring Fluxus concerts and events organized by Robert Filliou, Dick Higgins, Gustav Metzger, Robin Page, Nam June Paik, Daniel Spoerri, and others

The First International Exhibition of Fine Arts of Saigon takes place at the Round-Pavilion in the Tao-Dàn Garden. Intended as a biennial, nomadic exhibition, the outbreak of the Vietnam War ensures that this is the only iteration of this event

The International Exhibition of the New Realists at the Sidney Janis Gallery in New York introduces the work of artists who would later be grouped under the banner of Popart: Jim Dine, Robert Indiana, Roy Lichtenstein, Claes Oldenburg, James Rosenquist, George Segal, Andy Warhol, Tom Wesselmann, Tano Festa, Mimmo Rotella, and Mario Schifano

November

The 1st Exhibition of the New Image Association takes place at Gyeongbokgung Palace Museum, Seoul

An important solo exhibition of Jacob Lawrence's work opens at the Mbari Club in Ibadan, Nigeria. It then travels to Lagos and Oshogbo

Yasujirō Ozu releases the film Sanma no aji (An Autumn Afternoon)

December

Anthony Burgess publishes his dystopian novel A Clockwork Orange

1963

January

The exhibition Two Painters from Africa: Malangatana and Salahi opens at the ICA in London

Ousmane Sembène's debut short film *Bo-rom Sarret (The Wagoner)* premieres at the Festival de Tours in Paris

Sylvia Plath publishes The Bell Jar

February

Tetsumi Kudo performs *Happening: Philosophy of Impotence* at the Cinéma-Studio de Boulogne in Paris

George Maciunas publishes the first "Fluxus Manifesto" comprising selected dictionary definitions of the word "flux"

Joseph Beuys performs Sibirische Symphonie, 1. Satz (Siberian Symphony, First Movement) as part of the festival FESTUM FLUXORUM. FLUXUS. Musik und Antimusik. Das Instrumentale Theater held at the Staatlichen Kunstakademie in Düssel-

Piero Manzoni dies of a heart attack in his studio in Milan

Federico Fellini's film 8% premieres in Italy to universal acclaim

Jean-Marie Straub releases his short film Machorka-Muff in New York

March

Dennis Brutus's collection of poems *Sirens*, *Knuckles*, *Boots: Poems* is published by the Mbari Artists' and Writers' Club in Ibadan while he is in prison in South Africa

Daniel Spoerri stages Restaurant de la Galerie J in Paris, which consists of a working restaurant, the remnants of which are then exhibited

Nam June Paik stages Exposition of Music
—Electronic Television at the Galerie Parnass in Wuppertal

The Beatles release their debut studio album *Please Please Me*

The Zero Group stage their exhibition ZERO — Der neue Idealismus at the Galerie Diogenes in Berlin, the leaflet of which

contains a copy of their manifesto

April

Pierre Boulle publishes his science fiction novel *La Planète des singes (Planet of the Apes)*

Mav

Josiah Kariuki publishes *Mau Mau Detainee*, recounting his experiences of the detention camps in Kenya during the Mau Mau Uprising

June

Ben Enwonwu publishes "Into the Abstract



25 The members of the Otra Figuración group, Rómulo Macció, Ernesto Deira, Luis Felipe Noé, and Jorge de la Vega, in Buenos Aires, 1963.

Jungle: A Criticism of the New Trend in Nigerian Art" in the South African journal Drum

Marta Minujín, along with a group of other artists, stages La Destrucción (The Destruction) at Impasse Ronsin in Paris, in which she destroys all of the works that she had created during her scholarship in the city by burning them and then smearing the remains with paint

July

Alexander "Skunder" Boghossian is given a solo exhibition of his works at the Mbari Gallery in Ibadan

LeRoi Jones publishes his landmark study of Afro-American music and culture Blues People: Negro Music in White America

Auaust

The Nove tendencije 2 exhibition takes place at the Galerija suvremene umjetnosti (Gallery of Contemporary Art) in Zagreb. Matko Meštrović uses the occasion to publish his untitled manifesto, which would be subsequently distributed as "Ideologija Novih tendencija" (The Ideology of New Tendencies)

The "Manifes Kebudayaan" (Cultural Manifesto) is published in the News Republic newspaper. Signed by a number of Jakarta-based artists, the manifesto called for a rejection of Sukarno's authoritarian cultural policies in favor of a universal humanism

Charlotte Moorman stages the first Avant-Garde Festival of New York at the Judson Memorial Church in New York; it combines Fluxus and happenings with performance, kinetic, and video art

September

The Groupe de Recherche d'Art Visuel (Visual Arts Research Group) stage their first collective work, *Labyrinthe*, as part of the third Paris Biennale at the Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris

Forough Farrokhzad's acclaimed documentary short film *Kħāneh syāh āst (The House Is Black)* is released

Wolf Vostell's large-scale happening Nein – 9 Decollagen (organized by Galerie Parnass) takes place at various locations throughout Wuppertal. The audience is ferried by bus from location to location, including a cinema that screened Sun in Your Head as people lay on the floor

Colette Oluwabamise Omogbai holds her first solo exhibition at the Exhibition Centre in Marina, Lagos

The First Commonwealth Biennial of Abstract Art takes place at London's Commonwealth Institute, before traveling around the United Kingdom

The XII Convegno Internazionale Artisti, Critici e Studiosi d'Arte (12th International Convention of Artists, Critics, and Art Stu-



26 Gerhard Richter and Konrad Lueg stage the exhibition Leben mit Pop: Eine Demonstration für den kapitalistischen Realismus (Living with Pop: A Demonstration for Capitalist Realism) at the Möbelhaus Berges, Düsseldorf, 1963.

dents) takes place in Rimini and San Marino, concurrent with the *IV Biennale di San Marino*

October

The first exhibition of the newly formed Amadlozi Group opens at the Egon Guenther Gallery in Johannesburg, featuring work by Cecil Skotnes, Sydney Kumalo, Ezrom Legae and Edoardo Villa

Georg Baselitz holds a solo exhibition at the Galerie Werner & Katz in Berlin; in which he exhibits *Die große Nacht im Eimer* (The Big Night Down the Drain, 1962–63) for the first time. The work proves so controversial that it, along with the work *Nackter Mann* (Naked Man, 1962), are confiscated by the police

The exhibition *By or of Marcel Duchamp or Rrose Sélavy* opens at the Pasadena Museum of Art. Curated by Walter Hopps, the show is Duchamp's first ever retrospective

Gerhard Richter and Konrad Fischer stage the exhibition/demonstration Leben mit Pop – Eine Demonstration für den kapitalistischen Realismus (Living with Pop – A Demonstration for Capitalist Realism) at the Möbelhaus Berges in Düsseldorf

Group 1890 have their inaugural (and only) exhibition at the LKA Gallery in New Delhi

Novembe

Tadeusz Kantor's exhibition Wystawa popularna (Popular Exhibition, also known as the Anti-Exhibition) at the Galeria Krzysztofory in Krakow, filling the space's dark brick basement with almost a thousand objects that include drawings, sketches, theatrical costumes, boxes, and photographs

December

Shigeko Kubota's first solo exhibition, 1st Love, 2nd Love ..., takes place at the Naiqua Gallery in Tokyo

The first Original Form Association exhibition takes place at the National Central Information Center in Seoul

1964

January

The Society of Nigerian Artists hold their inaugural exhibition at the Exhibition Centre in Lagos

Stanley Kubrick's satirical black comedy *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* is released in the United States

March

Marshall McLuhan publishes *Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man*, coining the term "global village"

Duro Ladipo's Three Yoruba Plays (Oba Koso/The King Did Not Hang; Oba Moro/The King of Ghosts; and Oba Waja/The King Is Dead) are published together for the first time

Apri

Milan Knížák organizes the První manifestace Aktuálního umění (First Manifestation of Aktual Art) in the streets around Prague, simultaneously publishing his magazine Aktuální umění (Aktual Art), both of which constitute Central Europe's first happenings

The Rolling Stones release their first, self-titles album

Clement Greenberg organizes the exhibition Post-Painterly Abstraction at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, representing a comprehensive survey of color field painters and subsequently leading to their work being grouped under this heading

May

The 32nd Venice Biennale signals the European arrival of Pop art, with the work of Jasper Johns, Jim Dine, and Claes Oldenburg exhibited in the American pavilion, while a collateral exhibition of pop artists is staged by Leo Castelli and Ileana Sonnabend in the ex-American Consulate in San Gregorio. Most controversial of all is the awarding of the prize for foreign artists to Robert Rauschenberg, further signifying the United States' ascension as the center

of the Western art world

Carolee Schneemann first performs her work Meat Joy at the American Center in Paris as part of the First Festival of Free Expression

June

Mohammed Khadda publishes his essay "Éléments pour un art nouveau" (Components for a New Art) in the Algerian journal Révolution africaine

Roland Barthes publishes Éléments de sémiologie (Elements of Semiology) in the French journal Communications

Documenta 3 opens in Kassel. Now nick-named the "Museum of 100 Days," Docu-



27 Paul Keeler, Sergio de Camargo, Guy Brett, Christopher Walker, David Medalla and Gustav Metzger mailing Signals Newsbulletin from Cornwall Gardens, London, 1964.

menta's focus on painting, sculpture, and graphic art—as well as its emphasis on abstraction—resulted in it appearing to be somewhat behind the times, especially when considering the ascendancy of Pop, Nouveau Réalisme, Fluxus, and Capitalist Realism in Europe and the United States

July

Millie Small releases a cover version of the song "My Boy Lollipop," the first successful hit that was recorded in the bluebeat style and a forerunner to reggae

Yoko Ono first performs *Cut Piece* at the Yamaichi Concert Hall in Kyoto, with further performances taking place in Tokyo, London, and New York

August

The first edition of the *Signals Newsbulletin* is published in London

Mikhail Kalatozov's film Soy Cuba (I Am Cuba) is released in Moscow

September

Uzo Egonu holds his first solo exhibition at the Woodstock Gallery in London

October

The inauguration of the Signals Gallery takes place in London. Founded by David Medalla and Paul Keeler, the gallery opens with a solo exhibition of Takis's kinetic sculptures

Hi Red Center perform their famous Ochanomizu Drop and Let's Participate in the HRC Campaign to Promote the Cleanup and Orderliness of the Metropolitan Area! in various venues around Tokyo during the city's hosting of the Olympic Games

November

Herbie Hancock releases the album *Empyrean Isles*

Wolf Vostell organizes In Ulm, um Ulm und um Ulm herum, featuring 200 participants across twenty-four locations

1965

January

John Coltrane releases the album *A Love* Supreme

A censored version of Marlen Khutsiev's film *Mne dvadtsat let (I Am Twenty)* is released in Moscow. The original three-hour film would not be screened until 1989

March

Dušan Makavejev's art film Covek nije tica (Man Is Not A Bird) is released in Yugoslavia

Twins Seven Seven has his first exhibition as part of the *Third Anniversary Celebration* of *Mbari Mbayo* at the Mbari Mbayo Club in Oshogbo

May

The Spiral Group (Romare Bearden, Charles Alston, Norman Lewis, and Hale Woodruff) hold their first—and only—exhibition, First Group Showing (Works in Black and White), in a storefront space at 147 Christopher Street in New York. Bearden exhibits his work Conjur Woman (1964) for the first time

Stano Filko and Alex Mlynárčik stage the legendary *HAPPSOC I* events throughout the streets of Bratislava

David Smith dies in a car crash in South Shaftsbury, Vermont

Marta Minujín and Rubén Santantonín organize the installation exhibition *La Menesunda* (Mayhem) at the Instituto di Tella in Buenos Aires, featuring sixteen rooms of participatory environments

The exhibition Lygia Clark: First London Exhibition of Abstract Reliefs and Articulated Sculpture takes place at the Signals Gallery in London, her first major solo exhibition outside of America

June

David Medalla publishes his "MMMMMMM ... Manifesto" in the *Signals Newsbulletin*

Nina Simone releases her influential album I Put a Spell on You

Fateh Al-Moudarres, Abdel Aziz Alloun, and Mahmoud Daadouch publish their letter "Inta Harr fi Ra'ika" (You Are Free to Your Opinion) in the journal *Sawt al-'Arab;* the letter would be later known as the "Syrian Artists' Manifesto"

July

The first Biennale der Ostseeländer (Biennial of the Baltic Sea Countries) takes place at the Museum der Stadt Rostock as part of the city's larger Ostseewoche Festival Shigeko Kubota performs *Vagina Painting* as part of the *Perpetual Fluxfest* event held at the Cinematheque in New York

Günter Brus stages his Wiener Spaziergang (Vienna Walk) through the streets of Vienna's old city

The first Biennial of Spatial Forms takes place in Elblag, Poland. Organized and sponsored by the Zamech Mechanical Works and the artist Jürgen Blum (Gerard Kwiatkowski), the biennial served as a national survey of large-scale sculpture

August

Hélio Oiticica presents the first public performance of his *Parangolés* during the exhibition *Opinião 65* at the Museu de Arte <u>Moderna</u> do Rio de Janeiro; concurrent



28 Günter Brus during his *Vienna Walk*, 1965

with his publication of "Paragolé: uma nova fundação objetiva arte" (Paragolé: A New Objective Foundation for Art) in the Brazilian journal *Opinião*

Archie Shepp releases the album *Fire Music*, which included a requiem for Malcolm X

Swiss architect Le Corbusier dies after drowning in the Mediterranean Sea at Roquebrune-Cap-Martin in France

September

Ye Yushan and a team of sculptors from the Sichuan Academy of Fine Arts exhibit *The Rent Collection Courtyard* at the former Manor House of Liu Wencai (the original "rent collector"). The 114 sculptures prove to be so popular that replicas are quickly made and exhibited at the Museum of the Chinese Revolution in Beijing

The Commonwealth Art Festival takes place in various locations throughout London. Although predominantly focused on historical art, the exhibition of "New Rhodesian Sculpture" at the Royal Albert Hall features works by a group of African artists who emerged from the school run by Frank McEwen at the National Gallery in Harare (then Salisbury)

León Ferrari first attempts to exhibit his sculpture La civilización occidental y cristiana (Western Christian Civilisation, 1965) as part of the Premio Nacional enternacional Instituto Torcuato Di Tella (National Award and the International Institute Torcuato Di Tella) exhibition in Buenos Aires.

However, the director of the institute, Jorge Romero Brest, orders its removal just prior to the opening

October

The Muzej savremene umetnosti (Museum of Contemporary Art) in Belgrade officially opens

The exhibition Between Poetry and Painting takes place at the London ICA

November

On the evening before the opening at the Galerie Schmela in Düsseldorf, Joseph Beuys stages the action Wie man dem toten Hasen die Bilder erklärt (How to Explain Pictures to a Dead Hare). With the doors locked, Beuys sits in the window of the gallery explaining the surrounding paintings to a dead hare he cradles in his arms, his face covered in gold leaf and honey

December

Tadeusz Kantor's stages his first happening, *Cricotage*, at Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Sztuk Pięknych (Kraków Society of Friends of Fine Arts) on Chmielna Street in Warsaw