

26 september 2018



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Tony Cragg  
*Self-portrait*, 1981  
collage of plastic objects  
and bicycle  
175 x 84 x 4 cm  
© Adagp, Paris, 2018



## PRESS RELEASE

# THE DONATION MARIE-ALINE PRAT

### 26 SEPTEMBER – 4 NOVEMBER 2018

MUSÉE, SALLE FOCUS, LEVEL 5

**Thanks to the exceptional generosity of Marie-Aline Prat, the Centre Pompidou acquired eight major works in October 2017 from Jean-François and Marie-Aline Prat's contemporary art collection.**

The donation was made on the occasion of the "Regards croisés. Collection Jean-François et Marie-Aline Prat" sale held in Paris, via which Marie-Aline Prat disposed of the works she had acquired with her husband, the great business lawyer, who died in 2011. It was Jean-François Prat's wish to dispose of this collection in order to start over and build a new one, and so it came to pass.

The Prat collection, one of the most remarkable to be assembled by private collectors in France, stands out because of its open-mindedness and the assuredness of its acquisitions, in terms of recent art history. Born of a shared passion, it is, at the same time, an example of the sort of gamble that every great collector takes. With the assistance of his teams, Bernard Blistène, director of the Musée National d'Art Moderne, has made a selection that reflects this incredible originality.

On show as a result are eight works produced between 1961 and 2009 – three by French artists, three by Americans and two by Britons.

Martin Barré's painting entitled *61-T-36* is a reminder of the continuing importance of one of the most original abstract painters of the post-war period, while Richard Stankiewicz's *Ain't coming out until*, also from 1961 and featuring components of soldered iron, embodies the junk sculpture style. Tony Cragg also makes use of recovered materials in his *Self-portrait* (1981) depicting him as a cyclist (and created especially for the Prats), which energetically combines the assemblage and ready-made approaches. *Exuberant relative #1* (1986), by Haim Steinbach, takes us back to 1980s art, in which manufactured objects featured strongly, while the paintings *Melker II* (2004), by Bertrand Lavier, and *Sixth Sense* (1999), by Peter Halley, are each, in their own way, examples of the post-modern resurgence of abstract painting. On the figurative side, Gary Hume's *The Moon* (2009) mixes the pop aesthetic with photographic cropping in a large mural that has undeniable chromatic power. Finally, the youngest member of the group, Mathieu Mercier, born in 1970, brings everything full circle with his lasso of white neon suspended from a peg (*Sans titre*, 2006), which can be seen as an echo of the Martin Barré work that opens this segment, which is full of unexpected twists and turns.



Gary Hume  
*The Moon*, 2009  
Lacquered paint on aluminum panel  
244 x 161 cm  
© Gary Hume. All Rights Reserved, DACS/ ADAGP, 2018



Mathieu Mercier  
*Sans titre*, 2006  
Neon lamps, lacquered metal hook, transformer  
63 x 30,5 x 33 cm  
© Adagp, Paris 2018

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## THE EXHIBITION

### CURATOR

**Jean-Pierre Criqui**, Curator, Contemporary Art Department, Musée national d'art moderne

## ADMISSION AND PRICES

### Centre Pompidou, 75191 Paris cedex 04

+ 33 1 44 78 12 33

**Access:** metro Hôtel de Ville and Rambuteau, RER Châtelet-Les-Halles.

**Opening times:** every day from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., except Tuesdays and May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Admission:** €14, reduced price €11

Free for those under 18. Young people under 26\*, teachers and students at schools of art, drama, dance and music and members of the Maison des artistes may visit the Museum for free and buy tickets for exhibitions at the concessionary rate. Free admission for Centre Pompidou members.

**Home printable tickets:** [centrepompidou.fr](http://centrepompidou.fr)

\* Nationals of Member States of the EU or the European Economic Area aged 18-25.  
Valid the same day for the Musée National d'Art Moderne and all exhibitions.

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## AU MÊME MOMENT AU CENTRE POMPIDOU

### IN PARIS

#### FRANZ WEST

12 SEPTEMBER - 10 DECEMBER 2018  
contact: Timothée Nicot

#### LE CUBISME

17 OCTOBER 2017 - 25 FEBRUARY 2019  
contact: Elodie Vincent

#### TADAO ANDO

LE DÉFI  
10 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2018  
contact: Anne-Marie Pereira

#### PRIX MARCEL DUCHAMP 2018

10 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2018  
contact: Dorothee Mireux

#### UNE AVANT-GARDE POLONAISE :

KATARZYNA KOBRO,  
WŁADYSŁAW STRZEMINSKI  
24 OCTOBER 2018 - 14 JANUARY 2019  
contact: Dorothee Mireux

#### PHOTOGRAPHIE, ARME DE CLASSE

7 NOVEMBER 2018 - 4 FEBRUARY 2019  
contact: Elodie Vincent

### In the Museum

#### MUSÉE EN ŒUVRE(S)

THE NEW PRESENTATION OF THE  
CONTEMPORARY COLLECTIONS  
STARTING 20 SEPTEMBER 2017  
contact: Timothée Nicot

#### HISTOIRE(S) D'UNE COLLECTION

NEW SERIES OF  
EXHIBITION-DOSSIERS  
IN THE MODERN COLLECTION CIRCUITS  
STARTING 31 MAY 2018  
contact: Timothée Nicot

#### UNE SAISON ROUMAINE

AU CENTRE POMPIDOU  
NOVEMBER 2018 - JULY 2019  
contact: Timothée Nicot

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