

MULTIPLE MODERNITIES

1905-1970

MUSÉE NATIONAL D'ART MODERNE

"Multiple Modernities" renews the museum's traditional presentation, focusing on a more open, wide-ranging approach to art in the modern period. All continents are covered in this selection of over 1,000 works by nearly 400 artists, making for a more balanced representation of the various regions in the world, and a wider overview of this period of art. So the circuit now incorporates artistic expression that developed in the USA, Latin America, Asia, the Middle East and Africa alongside the different movements in Europe. This greatly enlarged reading of the history of art also sheds fresh light on a number of unjustly-neglected aesthetics and artists. Organised in chronological order from 1905 to 1970, it shows how key modernist ideas spread throughout the world, and focuses on the artistic expression of regions hitherto considered marginal.

"Multiple Modernities" reflects a wide diversity of artistic experience, and features experimental film, photography, the applied arts and architecture. The presentation includes a larger number of women artists, and also puts the spotlight on modern artists' interest in non-Western arts, popular art, naive art, modern life and the applied arts. In addition, this multidisciplinary exhibition gives visitors a chance to see 200 unfamiliar works illustrating the rich variety of the Centre Pompidou collection, together with new acquisitions and major recent donations.

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www.centrepompidou.fr

AN OPEN SPIRIT

"Multiple Modernities" starts with two works that illustrate the crisis of modern thinking brought about by the horrors of the First World War. *Les Quatre Races* of 1928 is a monumental painting by Amédée Ozenfant, where the representation of a reconciled humanity bear witness to the artist's humanist and pacifist commitment, together with his hope in a new world where art plays a crucial role. In contrast, *Europe*, a work painted by Ismaël de la Serna in around 1935 in the period leading up to the Spanish Civil War, depicts a haunted, visionary, picture of an enslaved people preyed on by disaster. What defines the modern spirit? What is the role of the artist? Utopia or prophecy? Universality or identity? This new presentation of the collections is vibrant with all these questions, which underlie the art produced in every region of the world throughout the 20th century.

BRINGING THE WORLD TOGETHER

The historical perspective we now have on the first three-quarters of the 20th century enables us to take a fresh look, informed by research carried out in the various fields of knowledge. Sensitive to the different experiences of artists in Western and non-Western countries, "Multiple Modernities" weaves together a shared history while providing reference points essential to each artistic context. Laid out as micro-exhibitions, the different sections of the show highlight the interaction of various practices in modern art. In addition, a new presentation principle has been adopted, based on extensive documentation in the form of art journals from all over the world. These can be found next to the works in the circuit.

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Modernities are not unified, but many-faceted. As well as the broader, more international approach that characterises this presentation of the collection, it also provides a more open-ended overview of all forms of creation. With the period from 1905 to 1950, the museum revisits both the principle movements and more diffuse aesthetic constellations, meaning that Expressionism, Futurism, Constructivism and various abstractions are seen in the context of local movements that arose from or in reaction to these influences.

A considerable section is devoted to presenting the many varieties of Realism between 1920 and 1940. The exhibition thus highlights the various forms that developed in Latin American countries, with the Brazilian Anthropophagy movement and the "Indigenist" movement. It shows the diversity of Art Deco, one of the most international movements in the history of art, which saw the emergence of a large number of women artists. At the same period, the colonial construction market was expanding, and modern architecture was developing in North Africa, Egypt, Israel and the Middle East.

With the Fifties to the Seventies, the exhibition highlights themes that cut across all categories, like "Totemism" and "Outsider art", together with the global constellations that developed around a number of aesthetic movements, such as constructed and informal abstraction, kinetics and conceptual art.

There is a special focus on Asian art, particularly Chinese and Japanese. The exhibition also sheds light on artists from the Maghreb and Middle East. A large number of their works, together with the recently-acquired additions, are presented in various cross-national sections, notably one devoted to developments in abstraction after 1950. The same post-war period was marked by decolonisation. Here the museum is breaking new ground with a room on the various forms of artistic expression that developed in Africa: an area still awaiting a documented history to be written about it.

MUSEUM MODERN COLLECTIONS

GENERAL CURATOR

Catherine Grenier

ASSOCIATE CURATORS

Clément Chéroux

Cécile Debray

Michel Gauthier

Aurélien Lemonier

Curators at the Musée National d'Art Moderne

COORDINATION

Marion Guibert

PRODUCTION

Yannick Château

Rachel Milliez

STAGE DESIGN

Corinne Marchand

Julie Boidin

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Christian Beneyton

Margaret Gray

PUBLICATIONS

CATALOGUE

Modernités plurielles. 1905-1970

256 p., 300 ill.

Price: €34.90

ALBUM

Bilingual (French and English)

60 p., 100 ill.

Price: €9.90

ANTHOLOGY

Art et mondialisation:

Anthologie de textes de 1950

à nos jours

240 p.

Price: €39.90

GUIDED TOURS

MUSEUM WALKS

Free tours with the "Museum & Exhibitions" ticket

Every Saturday and Sunday except the first Sunday in the month
4.00 pm/Museum, level 4

"FIRST SUNDAYS"

AT THE MUSEUM

With favourite pieces, battles, and tours that are acted, danced, simulated and transformed, the Centre Pompidou mediators invent new ways of looking at works.
First Sunday in the month at 3.30 pm, except in August.
Free visit and admission to the museum.

TALKS

UN DIMANCHE, UNE ŒUVRE (A SUNDAY; A WORK)

These talks take an in-depth, singular look at a work chosen from the collections of the Musée National d'Art Moderne, with an artist, curator, writer, historian or art critic.

AUDIOGUIDE

Languages: French, English, Spanish, German and Italian

The audioguide provides information about 90 works in the collections of the Musée National d'Art Moderne.

An architecture circuit gives an insight into the building and its history. Circuits are provided for a tour of the major exhibitions.
Full price: €5/Reduced price: €4/Free for children under 13

On hire at the ticket office, level 0
Withdrawal on presentation of ticket at the Espace Audioguide, level 0

INFORMATION

01 44 78 12 33

www.centrepompidou.fr

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Every day, except Tuesdays and 1 May, from 11.00 am to 9.00 pm,
Museum, level 5, entry via level 4
Ticket offices close at 8.00 pm

PRICES

Admission with the "Museum & Exhibitions" pass
Valid the same day for one admission to each area at the Museum, for all exhibitions, and for the View of Paris
€13; reduced price €10
Free with the annual Pass and for those under 18

Online purchase and printing

(Full price tickets only)

www.centrepompidou.fr/billetterie

Museum and View of Paris

18-25 year old nationals of the European Union, Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein
Free for everyone on the first Sunday of each month

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