



OTTO NEUMANN (1895-1975)

Born 1895, Heidelberg, Germany

Otto Neumann was a 20th century German Expressionist who began his artistic training at the Academie der Bildenden Kunst and studied with several noted German artists. In 1929, he married Hilde Rothschild, who became a major force in his artistic and personal life. It was she who persuaded him not to destroy work that he would later consider irrelevant, thus guaranteeing that his legacy would be extensive and complete.

Neumann's artistic career went through a progressive series of changes. In his early years, he supported himself by painting portraits of the members of the academic community in which he lived. As he acquired greater financial freedom, due mostly to his wife's wealth, he found this less inspiring. In the early 1920's, he abandoned oils and began using watercolors for their ability to express a greater sense of immediacy and looseness as needed for his imagination. At the end of the 1940's, he discontinued to use the watercolors in favor of various graphic media, primarily the monotype.

The monotype is a type of print making made by drawing or painting on a smooth, non-absorbent surface, such as a copper plate, glass, or plastic. The image is then transferred on to a sheet of paper by pressing the two together, usually with the assistance of a printing press. Monotypes can be created by inking an entire surface and using brushes or rags to remove ink to create a subtractive image as well.

In the 1950's, Neumann's obsession with the neoclassical rendered figure was reawakened and his monotypes featured modernized versions of Greek models. These also revealed the Modernist influence of artists he admired, such as Picasso, Matisse, and Henry Moore. In the late 1960's and 1970's, and especially after the death of his wife, Hilde, Neumann's trademark monotypes and hand pulled woodblocks and linocuts became increasingly or totally abstract. Otto Neumann died in 1975, in Munich and never having needed to sell his art, the estate was virtually complete as it was transferred to nephews on his wife's side that lived in the United States.

Museum and Gallery Exhibitions

2021- Art Miami, TEW Galleries, November, Miami, Florida
Otto Neuman/ Martin Whist, TEW Galleries, October, Atlanta, Georgia
Salon Style, TEW Galleries, September, Atlanta, Georgia
Ann Long Fine Art, Charleston, South Carolina
1958-Group show, Freunde Junger Kunste
November 2-30, 1979-Goethe Institute, Chicago, Illinois
October-November 1981-Lee Scarfone Gallery, University of Tampa, Tampa, Florida
1982- Heidelberg Kunstverein-First posthumous retrospective exhibition in Germany.
1982- Pridmore and Taylor Galleries, Lake Forest, IL
1982 Heidelberger Kunstverien- First posthumous retrospective exhibition Germany
1987-1988-Tampa Museum of Art, Tampa, Florida-Traveling exhibition, shown in the US and Germany
January-February
1999-Gahlberg Gallery, McAninch Arts Center College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Illinois
November 2001-Ann Long Fine Art, Charleston, South Carolina
November 2002- TEW Galleries, Atlanta, GA
March 2003- Ann Long Fine Art, Charleston, SC
April 2007-Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC

- August 2015-Tampa International Airport Gallery, Tampa, FL
- 2016-Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia
- July 2018-Rare Nest Gallery-Chicago, IL
- December 2021- ART MIAMI, TEW Galleries, Los Angeles, CA
- November 2021- Studio Balestra/ TEW Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- October 2021-The George Gallery, Charleston, SC
- September 2021-TEW Galleries, Atlanta, Georgia
- Numerous gallery exhibitions - Ann Long Fine Art, Charleston, South Carolina and TEW Galleries, Atlanta, Georgia

Museums and Cultural Centers Permanent Collections

Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Benedictine University, Lisle, Illinois
Burpee Art Museum, Rockford, Illinois
City of Dusseldorf Germany Permanent Art Collection
Darmstaedter Landesmuseum, Darmstadt, Germany
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, Michigan
Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois
Gahlberg Gallery, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Illinois
Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, South Carolina
Goethe Institute, Chicago, Illinois
Koehnlne Museum of Art, Des Plaines, Illinois
Kurpfaelzisches Museum, Heidelberg, Germany Maier
Museum of Art, Lynchberg, Virginia
Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois
Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Oregon
Rosary College-River Forest, Illinois
Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts Southeast
Missouri Regional Museum, Cape Girardeau, Missouri
Scarfone/Hartley Gallery, University of Tampa, Tampa, Florida
Staatliche Graphische Sammlung, Munich, Germany
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Städtische Galerie, Munich, Germany
Tampa Museum of Art, Tampa, Florida
Universitaetsbibliothek, Heidelberg, Germany
University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
University of Illinois-Chicago, Illinois
University of Michigan Alumni Memorial Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, Michigan Virginia Museum of
Fine Art, Richmond, Virginia

Bibliography

Numerous catalogs and articles

Otto Neumann, His Life and Work, by Dr. David M. Sokol, Professor Emeritus of Art History at the University of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois. Hardcover, published by Prologue Press, Chicago, IL. ISBN-13:978-0-9789270-0-4