

CENTRE POMPIDOU FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016

RECENT DONATION

The Centre Pompidou Foundation is thrilled to announce the recent donation of a magnificent Andy Warhol Oxidation Painting. This work, given by patron and friend Per Skarstedt to the Foundation at the end of 2015, takes its place soon at the Centre Pompidou, and its donation ensured a record year in acquisitions and donations for the Centre Pompidou Foundation. We are proud - and extremely grateful - to have this work join the collection!

“The Centre Pompidou has been very important to me, and it’s always been a great source of inspiration when I visit Paris, so it’s nice to be able to give something back.” —Per Skarstedt



▲ ANDY WARHOL, *OXIDATION PAINTING*, 1978.
URINE ON GESSO ON CANVAS

ANDY WARHOL: OXIDATION PAINTING

For a period of six months during 1978, Andy Warhol produced a series called *Oxidation Paintings* with his assistant, Ronnie Cutrone. Engaging their own bodies (maybe sometimes with the help of others, such as Yoko Ono), using urine as medium, simply projecting it onto stainless paintings, they created a series of works that vary greatly in terms of shapes, technics, and sizes. The two experimented with various preparations of the canvas including bronze, copper, and gold metallic paints dissolved in water, and went as far as to ingest vitamin B-Complex in order to render their urine bright yellow/orange. Referred to as “Piss Paintings,” these works can be seen as parodies of Abstract Expressionism, and of Jackson Pollock’s *Drip Paintings* in particular. They also appear to be Warhol’s comments on the contemporary “state of painting”—especially the return to painting’s technics and expressiveness, and to figuration—and his response to critique about his supposed lack of artistic expressiveness ... The series of *Oxidation Paintings* contributed, together with the *Shadows* (1978-1979), the *Gems* (1979), the *Rorschach* (1984), and the *Camouflage* (1986) series, to Warhol’s return to grace with art critics and posterity. “Andy creates beautiful paintings out of a fluid that all of us flush down the toilet. Once again Andy made us look at something differently. He has taken something we all see every day and made us understand that it too can become art.” (Vincent Fremont, *Andy Warhol: Oxidation Paintings and Piss Paintings*, Galerie Daniel Blau, Munich, 1998, p. 9)

—Florence Derieux
Curator of American Art, Centre Pompidou Foundation

2016 CALENDAR

MILAN AND TURIN, ITALY MARCH 30–APRIL 6, 2016 | ANNUAL PARIS WEEKEND JUNE 10–12, 2016
JERUSALEM AND TEL AVIV, ISRAEL NOVEMBER 10–18, 2016

VENICE BIENNALE ANNOUNCES MNAM CURATOR CHRISTINE MACEL AS VISUAL ARTS DIRECTOR FOR 57TH BIENNALE

The CPF congratulates Christine Macel, chief curator at the Centre Pompidou, for her appointment as Visual Arts Director for the upcoming Venice Biennale, with specific responsibility for curating the 57th International Art Exhibition to be held in 2017. The Board of La Biennale di Venezia announced Macel’s role on January 22.

Paolo Baratta, President of the Board of La Biennale, recognized Macel’s expertise, as well as her important role at the Centre Pompidou, which had given Macel “a vantage point rich in potential from which to observe and identify new energies coming from various parts of the world.” Macel, who has previously curated the Belgian Pavilion (2007) and the French Pavilion (2013) at the Biennale, will continue in her role at the Centre Pompidou while directing the Biennale. The Venice Biennale will run from May 13 through November 26, 2017.

“Je suis particulièrement heureux d’apprendre aujourd’hui que Christine Macel a été choisie pour prendre les rênes de cette 57ème biennale d’art contemporain. A travers l’invitation qui lui est lancée, je ressens l’honneur qui est fait au Centre Pompidou et à son équipe de conservation dont elle est une figure éminente. Christine Macel est une personnalité engagée, audacieuse. Elle défend une création sans compromis, accompagne les artistes dans leurs tentatives les plus prospectives, ne s’effraie pas face aux formes neuves d’une création en train de s’inventer et de trouver ses voies.”

—Serge Lasvignes, President, Centre Pompidou

“It is a great honor for the Centre Pompidou and its curatorial team to see one of them invited to this position. Christine Macel is a bold, dedicated curator. She defends engaged forms of art and stands by the side of artists in their most daring undertakings, never being afraid of the ever-changing nature of contemporary creation.”



▲ CHRISTINE MACEL © JC PLANCHET

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS @ BEAUBOURG

Nouvelle présentation des collections modernes (1905-1965),
May 27, 2015 - May 22, 2017

Anselm Kiefer,
December 16, 2015 - April 8, 2016

Gérard Fromanger,
February 17, 2016 - May 16, 2016

Les années 1980, l’insoutenable légèreté,
February 24 2016 - May 23, 2016

CPF AROUND THE WORLD

Collected by Thea Westreich Wagner and Ethan Wagner on view at the Whitney Museum of American Art

Agnes Martin, *Untitled*, 2002 on view at Kunstsammlung Düsseldorf

Ana Mendieta, *Untitled (Blood Sign 2/Body Tracks)* on view at Centre Pompidou Malaga, Pop-Up Pompidou