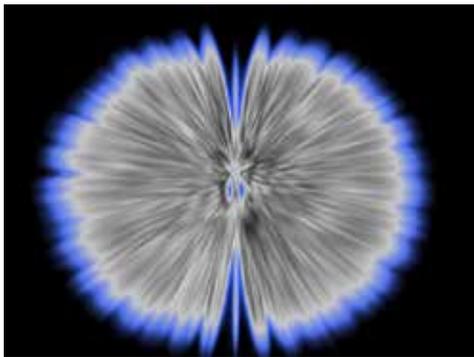
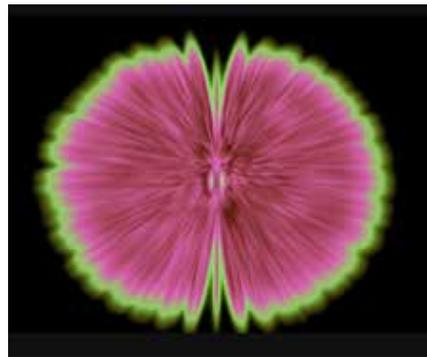


Agnes Denes's The Butterfly Experiment to benefit the Centre Pompidou Foundation

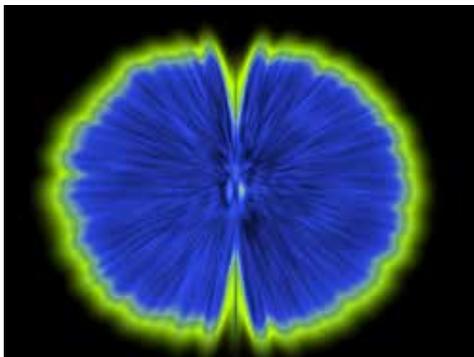
11 FEBRUARY, 2017 — NEW YORK CITY, NY



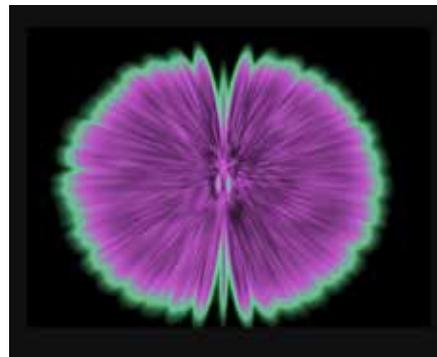
Butterfly Experiments Grey



Butterfly Experiments Pink



Butterfly Experiments Blue



Butterfly Experiments Lilac

The Centre Pompidou Foundation is delighted to announce the release of Agnes Denes's edition *The Butterfly Experiment* as its inaugural work in partnership with ArtSpace. *The Butterfly Experiment* is comprised of a series of four works, each produced in an edition of 30 by ArtSpace and available for purchase beginning on February 28th; sales of the work will benefit the Centre Pompidou Foundation.

Statement by the artist

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"Since I have been losing movement in my fingers caused by a rare illness I can't make art in the ordinary sense. The complicated fine line drawings and beautiful images no longer in my control, I had to find ways of creating in other forms. You can't stop creativity, it is like a torrent inside you, a volcano that keeps erupting."

It took awhile to teach myself to write on the computer keypad with unbending fingers. Now I am writing two books. Then I began experimenting with creating images, and here are some of the results.

The Butterfly Experiment is among these new works experimenting with how light can transform works of art, play with the visual experience on an intellectual plane. It vibrates, leaves you breathless. In a sense it is intelligent light. Letting the outer layers light up the work I was able to create extraordinary visual experience. Showing shadows and internal elements, the skeletal structure of form, as I did many years ago in the Philosophical Drawings, or as with the Flying Pyramids when I experimented with pure silver and gold powders to create art that not only lights up the work to glow when light hits it, but that it can disappear from the paper in certain lighting, leaving a shadow of itself.

But don't ask me how I did the Butterfly Experiment, or some of my later works, because I don't know and can't repeat the process. Coming to the computer for the first time to make art, I just kept creating, never thinking about documenting the process in case I needed to repeat it. Today's students work with programs. I didn't. Just used my computer and kept experimenting.

All my life when I lost one thing I loved, the force of creativity brought me another. When I lost my language of poetry traveling to new countries, I made visual art and wrote books. When this force and the world demanded more dimensions, I made ecological art. When my body bent to illness; the creative force retaliated and made art in the computer.

I still need more time, more forms of creativity; it's my oxygen, it's my sunlight.”
— Agnes Denes, 2017

Agnes Denes (b. 1931, Budapest, Hungary) is a primary figure among the conceptual artists who emerged in the 1960s and 1970s and is a pioneer in several art movements, including environmental art. Her work incorporates science, philosophy, linguistics, psychology, poetry, history, and music. Denes's exquisitely rendered drawings and prints are testaments to her explorations in mathematics, philosophy, geography, science and other disciplines.

Denes has participated in more than 450 exhibitions at galleries and museums, and her work has also been featured in such international surveys as the Biennale of Sydney (1976); Documenta 6, Kassel, Germany (1977); the Venice Biennale (1978, 1980, 2001). One of Denes's ambitious projects will be featured this summer at Documenta 14, Kassel, Germany.

Denes's work is in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Moderna Museet, the Centre Pompidou, and the Israel Museum, among others.

Agnes Denes has received honors and awards including four fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, four grants from the New York State Council on the Arts, the DAAD Fellowship, Berlin, Germany (1978), the American Academy of Arts and Letters Purchase Award (1985), M.I.T.'s Eugene McDermott Achievement Award "In Recognition of Major Contribution to the Arts" (1990), and the Rome Prize from the American Academy in Rome (1998).

Florence Derieux, Curator of American Art, Centre Pompidou Foundation and Curator-at-Large, Centre Pompidou, who curated the first major retrospective of work by Agnes Denes in Western Europe at Firstsite, Colchester, UK in 2014, published last year a compendium survey of Denes' work.

About the Centre Pompidou Foundation

The Centre Pompidou Foundation is an American-based not-for-profit dedicated to supporting the Centre Pompidou in Paris. The Foundation's mission is to acquire and encourage gifts of works of American art and design for loan or gift to the Centre Pompidou for its permanent collection. The Foundation fosters connoisseurship and a dynamic exchange of ideas through special events, exhibitions, and trips for art lovers that offer unprecedented access to artists, private collections, modern and contemporary architectural treasures, and world-class museums in the company of Centre Pompidou curators of modern and contemporary art, architecture and design. More than 450 works valued at over \$50 million have been acquired by the Foundation for the Centre Pompidou as a result of the efforts of a group of donors and collectors who are the cornerstone of the Foundation's success

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