

Etel Adnan

Etel Adnan was born on 1925 in Beirut, Lebanon. She died on November 14, 2021 in Paris, France. Lebanese American artist, poet and essayist, she writes in English and French. She has been painting since the sixties and her work has received international recognition since Documenta13, in 2012. In 2014, she was invited to the biennial of the Whitney Museum (New York) and the Qatar museum of modern art, the Mathaf, dedicates a retrospective to her, organized by Hans Ulrich Obrist. Since then, numerous museums (Bern, Luxembourg, San Francisco, Aspen, Lille, etc.) and art centers have devoted exhibitions to her.

Adnan's works appear in numerous collections, including the MNAM-Center Pompidou, Paris; Mathaf, Doha, Qatar; MoMA, New York; M +, Hong Kong; Royal Jordanian Museum, Amman; the Museum of Modern Art, Tunis; Sursock Museum, Beirut; Institute of the Arab World, Paris; British Museum, London; Tate Gallery, London; World Bank Collection, Washington D.C.; National Museum for Women in the Arts, Washington DC; as well as in many private collections.

Solo shows (selection)

2023

Poetry of Colors, Kunstsammlung, Düsseldorf, Germany

2022

Etel Adnan, Musée des Tapisseries, Aix-en-Provence, France

Retrospective, Lenbachhaus Museum, Munich, Germany

Colour as Language, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Tras la línea del horizonte, TEA Tenerife Espacio de las Artes, Tenerife, Spain

Découverte de l'immédiat / Discovery of Immediacy, Galerie Lelong & Co. Paris & New York, France & United States

2021

Impossible Homecoming, Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey

Light's New Measure, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, United States

2020

Leporellos, Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris, France

Galerie Lelong & Co.

Paris – New York

Satellites et Planètes, Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris, France

Seasons, Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, United States

2019

Départ, Institute of Modern Art, Nuremberg, Germany

Etel Adnan et les Modernes, Mudam, Luxembourg

Each Day is a Whole World, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, United States

2018

Life is a Weaving - Tapisseries et estampes, Galerie Lelong & Co, Paris, France

Parler aux fleurs, Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris, France

Tout ce que je fais est mémoire, Château la Coste, Le Puy-Sainte-Réparate, France

Etel Adnan, Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, Switzerland

La fulgurance du geste, Fondation Jan Michalski, Montricher, Switzerland

A Yellow Sun, A Green Sun, A Yellow Sun, A Red Sun, A Blue Sun, MASS MoCA, North Adams, United States

New Work, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art - SFMOMA, San Francisco, United States

2017

Sea and Fog, Oakville Galleries - Gairloch Gardens, Oakville, Canada

Album à dessins, Biblioteca Central, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico

2016

A Tremendous Astronomer, Galerie Lelong, Paris, France

Etel Adnan, Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris, France

The Weight of The World, Serpentine Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2015

Etel Adnan, Galerie Lelong, Paris, France

Nouvelles estampes, Galerie Lelong, Paris, France

Etel Adnan, White Cube, Hong Kong

Galerie Lelong & Co.

Paris – New York

Etel Adnan, Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA), Dublin, Ireland

La joie de vivre, Haus Konstruktiv, Zürich, Switzerland

Etel Adnan, Galerie Lelong, New York City, United States

2014

Berge schreiben, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg, Austria

Art is one of the Roads to Paradise, MATHAF - Arab Museum of Modern Art, Doha, Qatar

Etel Adnan, White Cube, London, United Kingdom

Etel Adnan, Callicoon Fine Arts, New York City, United States

2007

Etel Adnan, Eillen Curtis Museum, Sausalito, United States

1998

Artist's Books, Darat al Funun, Amman, Jordan

1988

Etel Adnan, Administration Bldg, Fort Mason, San Francisco, United States

1973

Etel Adnan, Dar el Fan, Beirut, Lebanon

1969

Etel Adnan, oils and watercolors, Dominican College Gallery, San Rafael, United States

1965

Etel Adnan, Mount Angel College Gallery, Mount Angel, United States

1963

Etel Adnan, Dominican College Gallery, San Rafael, United States

Group shows (selection)

2023

Voices Without Border, KINDL – Centre for Contemporary Art, Allemagne, Germany

Galerie Lelong & Co.

Paris – New York

Action, Gesture, Paint. Women Artists and Global Abstraction 1940–70, Whitechapel Gallery, London, United Kingdom

In Search of the Miraculous, Malborough Gallery, New York, United States

2022

A roof for silence, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

Poetic Intention, Macba, Barcelona, Spain

2021

Coming to our senses, Kunsthalle, Helsinki, Finland

Ecrire c'est dessiner, Centre Pompidou Metz, Metz, France

Elles font l'abstraction, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France ; then Guggenheim Bilbao, Spain

Horizons, Lévy Gorvy, Paris, France

Suspension / Stillness, Carré d'Art, Musée d'art contemporain de Nîmes, Nîmes, France

Suspension/Stillness, Carré d'Art Musée d'art contemporain, Nîme, France

When our eyes touch, Maison Louis Carré, Bazoches-sur-Guyonne, France

Another Energy: Power to Continue Challenging. 16 Women Artists from around the World, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan

Earthbound: Contemporary Landscape from the Roberts Institute of Art, Millennium Gallery, Sheffield, United Kingdom

Etel Adnan and Lynn Marie Kirby : The Weather is nowadays crazy, Cushion Works, San Francisco, United States

Hiding in Plain Sight, Pace Gallery, New York, United States

2020

Transformaciones - Mujeres artistas entre dos siglos, Fundación CajaCanarias, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain

Taking Shape: Abstraction from the Arab World, 1950s-1980s, Grey Art Gallery, New York, United States

Galerie Lelong & Co.

Paris – New York

2019

A la plume, au pinceau, au crayon : dessins du monde arabe, Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris, France

Le monde n'est pas nécessairement un empire, Lille Métropole Musée d'art moderne, d'art contemporain et d'art brut, Lille, France

So wie wir sind 1.0, Weserburg | Museum für moderne Kunst, Bremen, Germany

Luogo e Segni, Punta della Dogana, Venice, Italy

At the still point of the turning world, there is the dance, Sursock Museum, Beirut, Lebanon

Etel Adnan und Salomé Bäumlín, da Mihi Gallery, Bern, Switzerland

Climbing through the tide, Kamel Lazaar Foundation, Tunis, Tunisia

Climbing Through the Tide, Kamel Lazaar Foundation, Tunis, Tunisia

Alvaro Barrington : Artists I Steal From, Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, London, United Kingdom

Where Oceans Meet, Museum of Art and Design, Miami, United States

2018

Hot Sun, Late Sun. Untamed Modernism, Fondation Vincent Van Gogh, Arles, France

Le Monde arabe vu par ses artistes, Institut du monde arabe, Paris, France

Peindre la nuit, Centre Pompidou Metz, Metz, France

Ngorongoro II, Lehderstrasse 34, Berlin, Germany

Le Violon d'Ingres, Villa Médicis - Académie de France à Rome, Rome, Italy

Take Me (I'm Yours), Villa Médicis - Académie de France à Rome, Rome, Italy

Garden of Memory, Musée Yves Saint Laurent, Marrakech, Morocco

Trembling Thinking, The Americas Society Art Gallery, New York, United States

2017

Lettres ouvertes, de la calligraphie au street-art, Institut des Cultures de l'Islam, Paris, France

Colori, Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Turin, Italy

Home Beirut. Sounding the neighbors, MAXXI, Rome, Italy

Galerie Lelong & Co.

Paris – New York

All the words for rock, Nature and Conflict, Fundación Helga de Alvear, Cáceres, Spain

Etel Adnan / Gerhard Richter, The Flag Art Foundation, New York City, United States

2016

Quand fondra la neige, où ira le blanc?, Palazzo Fortuny, Venice, Italy

2015

Too early, too late: Middle East and Modernity, Pinacoteca Nazionale, Bologna, Italy

After Babel, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden

Moment - Madhat Kakei's Abstract Cabinet, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden

2014

The Printed Room – read the room/you've go to, SALTS, Birsfelde, Switzerland

2013

Words and Places, CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, United States

2012

On the Edgware Road, Serpentine Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Biennials (selection)

2021

A Roof for Silence, Pavillon Libanais, Biennale d'Architecture de Venise, Italy

Tras la línea del horizonte, Centro andaluz de arte contemporáneo, Cordoue, Spain

2015

14th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey

Sharjah Biennial 12, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

2014

Whitney Biennial 2014, New York City, United States

2012

Documenta (13), Kassel, Germany

Public collections (selection)

Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris, France

Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève, Paris, France

Carré d'Art - Musée d'art contemporain de Nîmes, Nîmes, France

Château La Coste, Le Puy-Sainte-Réparate, France

Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France

Fondation Luma, Arles, France

FRAC Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand, France

Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris, France

LaM, Lille métropole, Villeneuve d'Ascq, France

Musée national d'Art moderne (MNAM), Paris, France

Kunstsammlung, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany

Written Art Collection, Ingelheim, Germany

Frank F. Yang Collection, Hong Kong

M+, Hong Kong

Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland

Castello di Rivoli, Turin, Italy

Jordan National Museum of Fine Arts, Amman, Jordan

Dalloul Art foundation, Beirut, Lebanon

Fondation Saradar, Beirut, Lebanon

Sursock Museum, Beirut, Lebanon

Mudam, Luxembourg

Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar, Netherlands

Galerie Lelong & Co.

Paris – New York

Stedelijk museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Birzeit University Museum, Birzeit, occupied Palestinian territories

Serralves Museum, Porto, Portugal

Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Doha, Qatar

Banco de España, Spain

Museo Helga de Alvear, Cáceres, Spain

Moderna Museet Malmö, Malmö, Sweden

Kunsthaus Zurich, Zürich, Switzerland

Luma Foundation, Zürich, Switzerland

UBS Art Collection, Zürich, Switzerland

Musée National d'Art Moderne et Contemporain, Tunis, Tunisia

Huma Kabakçı Collection, Istanbul, Turkey

Barjeel Art Foundation, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

British Museum, London, United Kingdom

Tate Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, New York, United States

Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, United States

Flag Art Foundation, New York City, United States

Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Cornell University, Ithaca, United States

Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, United States

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, Boston, United States

Kadist Art Foundation San Francisco, San Francisco, United States

Galerie Lelong & Co.

Paris – New York

Museum of Arts and Design, New York City, United States

Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, United States

Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, United States

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, United States

Museum of Modern Art, New York City, United States

National Museum for Women in the Arts, Washington, United States

New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, United States

New York Public Library, New York, United States

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, United States

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, United States

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City, United States

World Bank Collection, Washington, United States