

CARLOS CRUZ-DIEZ

(Caracas, Venezuela, 1923 - Paris, France, 2019)



Carlos Cruz-Diez was one of the most prominent figures of Kinetic art whose work has been based upon the revaluation of color as an experience in itself, as a phenomenon of light in which interpretation or cultural background is no longer relevant. His artistic practice invites viewers to become conscious of how perceptual relationships constitute the aesthetic, and how every context implies a different approach and construction of the same artwork.

His research has positioned him as one of the key thinkers of the 20th century when it comes to color. He has contributed majorly to the possibility of rethinking the relations between artist, spectator, and art, framing them within a participative process rooted exclusively in the use of color. In 1959 Cruz-Diez began his series *Physichromie*, through which he realized the idea of chromatic autonomy and its impact upon the viewer's environment; one of the results was an important body of work that in later decades surpassed the limits of painting and explored the transformation of diverse spaces through the manipulation of color.

His work emphasizes participation and interaction, spatial perception, and movement as the key elements of the artistic experience.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2023** Environnement Chromointerférent, Galería RGR, Mexico City, Mexico
Carlos Cruz-Diez. The color itself, Galería Cayón, Manila, Philippines
El color en dos tiempos, Galería de Arte Nacional de Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela
RGB Los colores del Siglo, Museo de la Estampa y del Diseño Carlos Cruz-Diez, Caracas, Venezuela
L'Euforia del Colore, Galleria Continua, San Gimignano, Italy
- 2022** The Euphoria of Colour, Galleria Continua, Dubai, UAE
Chromointerferent environment, Galleria Continua, Paris, France
Colonne Chromointerférente, Les Jardins des Tuileries, Paris, France
Color and Line in Motion, Galería RGR, Mexico City, Mexico
Chromosaturation, Pérez Art Museum Miami, Florida, USA
Cruz-Diez: El artista y la ciudad, Photomuseum, Jorge Tadeo Lozano University, Bogota, Colombia.
- 2021** The Weight of Form. The Graphic Design of Carlos Cruz-Diez, Center of the Reina Sofía National Art Center Museum, Madrid, Spain
- 2019** Cruz-Diez. El color haciéndose, MAC Panamá, Panama City, Panama
Semana Cruz-Diez, Centro Cultural Chacao, Caracas, Venezuela
Cruz-Diez: a liberdade da cor, Espaço Cultural Porto Seguro, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2018** La autonomía del color, Galería RGR, Mexico City, Mexico
Carlos Cruz-Diez. Color Motion, Museum fur Konkrete Kunst, Ingolstadt, Germany
- 2017** Chroma, Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) Museum of Art, Georgia, USA
Cruz-Diez en blanco y negro, Alianza Francesa, Panama City, Panama
- 2016** Un être flottant : Carlos Cruz-Diez au Palais d'Iéna, Palais de Iéna, Paris, France
- 2015** Carlos Cruz-Diez. Transfiguration de la couleur, Marlborough Gallery, Monaco
Carlos Cruz-Diez: Didaktik und Dialektik der Farbe, Das Kleine Museum, Weissenstadt, Germany
Cruz-Diez Bidimensional Research. 1959-2015, Espace Expression, Florida, USA
Atrapando el color, Museo de la Estampa y del Diseño Carlos Cruz-Diez, Caracas, Venezuela

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- 2014** Cruz-Diez en blanco y negro. Fotografías 1942-1986, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Buenos Aires (MACBA) Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Carlos Cruz-Diez: Circumstance and Ambiguity of Colour, The University Museum and Art Gallery of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
- Carlos Cruz-Diez. Circonstance et Ambiguïté de la Couleur, Fondation Vasarely, Aix en Provence, France
- 2013** Carlos Cruz-Diez: Circumstance and Ambiguity of Color, China Academy of Art, Zhejiang, China
- Carlos Cruz-Diez: Circumstance and Ambiguity of Color, Shanghai Institute of Visual Art, Shanghai, China
- 2012** Cruz-Diez. Circumstance and Ambiguity of Color, Ningbo Museum of Art, Zhejiang, China
- Carlos Cruz-Diez: Circumstance and ambiguity of Color, Jiangsu Provincial Art Museum, Jiangsu, China
- Cruz-Diez: A cor no espaço e no tempo, Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
- Carlos Cruz-Diez. El color en el espacio y en el tiempo, Museo Universitario Arte Contemporáneo (MUAC), Mexico City, Mexico
- 2011** Carlos Cruz-Diez. Color in Space and Time, The Museum of Fine Arts (MFAH), Texas, USA
- Carlos Cruz-Diez. El color en el espacio y en el tiempo, Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires (MALBA), Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2009** Carlos Cruz-Diez. El color sucede, Museu d'Art Espanyol Contemporani, Mallorca / Museo de Arte Abstracto España, Spain
- 2008** Carlos Cruz-Diez. La couleur dans l'espace, Centre d'Art Contemporain Frank Popper, Marcigny, France
- Carlos Cruz-Diez. (In) Formed by Color, Americas Society's Art Gallery, New York, USA
- 2007** Cruz-Diez. La couleur dans l'espace, Maison de l'Amérique latine, Paris, France
- 2004** Cruz-Diez. Couleur Evénement, Galerie Lavignes Bastille, Paris, France
- 2003** Cruz-Diez. Afiches. Exposición Homenaje a los 80 años de Carlos Cruz-Diez, Museo de la Estampa y el Diseño Carlos Cruz-Diez, Caracas, Venezuela
- Alternating Currents. Carlos Cruz-Diez Installations. Chromosaturation, The Minorities Galleries and The University of Essex, Colchester, UK
- 2001** Cruz-Diez. De lo participativo a lo interactivo, Centro Cultural Corp Group, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2000** Cruz-Diez. La visión de color, Fundación Carmona, Sala Juan Carmona, Barquisimeto, Venezuela

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- 1999** Retrospectiva 1954-1998, Museo de Arte Moderno del Zulia, Maracaibo, Venezuela
- 1998** Cruz-Diez: El color autónomo, Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá, Colombia / Museo de Arte Moderno Jesús Soto / Sala Múltiple, Ciudad Bolívar, Venezuela
Carlos Cruz-Diez "...und gebe dem Raum die Farbe", Städtischen Museum, Gelsenkirchen-Buer, Germany
- 1995** Reflexión sobre el color, Museo Jacobo Borges, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1994** Cromosaturación. Carlos Cruz-Diez. Metamorfosis de lo Efímero. Paneles pictóricos y laberinto sensorial, Plaza de la Cultura Juan Pablo Duarte, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- 1993** Apuntes sobre el color, Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1992** Carlos Cruz-Diez. La Visión del Color, Museo de Arte de Maracay, Maracay, Venezuela
- 1991** Carlos Cruz-Diez, Museum Moderner Kunst Landkreis Cuxhaven, Otterndorf, Germany
Cruz-Diez. Inducciones Cromáticas, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Espacio Simonetti, Valencia, Venezuela
- 1989** Realities de la Peinture, The Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow & Leningrad, Russia
Latin American Art, Hayward Gallery, London, UK / Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden / Palacio Velazquez, Madrid, Spain
- 1988** Carlos Cruz-Diez. Die Autonomie der Farbe. Bilder – Plastiken – Objekte aus den Jahren 1959-1988, Josef Albers Museum Quadrat, Bottrop / Moderne Galerie, Bottrop, Germany
- 1985** Cruz-Diez, Museo de Arte Moderno, Medellín, Colombia
- 1981** Cruz-Diez. Didáctica y dialéctica del color. Intervenciones en la arquitectura. Inducciones cromáticas, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Sofía Imber, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1980** Cruz-Diez. Didáctica y dialéctica del color, Museo de Arte de la Universidad Simón Bolívar, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1976** Fisicromías (Cromocinetismo). Carlos Cruz-Diez, artista venezolano, Museo de Arte Moderno (MAM), Mexico City, Mexico
- 1974** Carlos Cruz-Diez, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Sofía Imber, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1970** XXXV Venice Biennale, Venezuelan Pavillion, Venice, Italy
- 1960** Fisicromías de Cruz-Diez, Museo de Bellas Artes / Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1956** Carlos Cruz-Diez, Galería Buchholz, Madrid, Spain
- 1947** 12 gouaches de Carlos Cruz-Diez, Centro Venezolano Americano, Caracas, Venezuela

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2023** Environnement Chromointerférent Mouvement et Lumière, Fondation Villa Datris, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, Francia
Masters that changed the city, Coral Gables Museum, Florida, USA
Art in Motion, Springfield Art Museum, Missouri, USA
The Dynamic Eye: Op and Kinetic Art from the Tate Collection, Museum of Art Pudong (MAP), Pudong, China
- 2022** Mouvement. Hommage à Denise René, Château Bonisson, Rognes, France
[E]motion. Op Art, Kinetic Art and Light Art, Art Forum Würth Capena, Capena, Italy
Cinétique! La sculpture en mouvement, Fondation Villa Datris, Paris, France
Color Intermittente, Museo de Artes Visuales, Utadeo, Bogotá, Colombia
- 2021** France Pavilion: Light, Enlightenment, Dubai World Expo 2020, Dubai, UAE
- 2020** A Graphic Revolution: Prints and Drawings in Latin America, The Cleveland Museum of Art, Ohio, USA
ReVisión: Art in the Americas, Denver Art Museum, Denver, USA
Tools for Utopia. Works from the Daros Latin-American Collection, Kunstmuseum Bern & Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, Switzerland
Chromosaturation MFAH, Museum of Fine Arts Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA
- 2019** SYN KRONOS, Galería RGR, Mexico City, Mexico
Seven Stations: Selections from MOCA's Collection, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Los Angeles (MOCA), California, USA
Sur Moderno: Journeys of Abstraction - The Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Gift, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA
- 2018** The Other Trans-Atlantic. Kinetic and Op Art in Eastern Europe and Latin America 1950s – 1970s, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia
Concrete Matters, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
Visiones de la tierra / El mundo planeado, Sala de arte Santander, Madrid, Spain
Contesting Modernity: Informalism in Venezuela, 1955–1975, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA
- 2017** Eye Attack. Op Art en kinetische kunst, Stedelijk Museum Schiedam, Schiedam, Netherlands
The Urge to Create Visions, Centre of Polish Sculpture, Oronsko, Poland
The Other Trans-Atlantic. Kinetic & Op Art in Central & Eastern Europe and Latin America, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Poland

- 2016** The Illusive Eye: Op Art and the Americas in the 1960s, El Museo del Barrio, New York, USA
Eye Attack. Op Art and Kinetic Art 1950-1970, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek, Denmark
Das imaginäre Museum / An Imagined Museum. Works from the Centre Pompidou, Tate and MMK collections, Museum für Moderne Kunst MMK2, Kunst, Germany
Pan American Modernism: Avant-Garde Art in Latin America and the United States, Weatherspoon Art Museum, North Carolina, USA
Destination: Latin America, Neuberger Museum of Art, New York, USA
Un musée imaginé. Trois collections européennes : Centre Pompidou, Tate, MMK, Centre Pompidou, Metz, France
Lightopia, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey (MARCO), Nuevo León, Mexico
- 2015** Visual Deception II: Into the Future, Nagoya City Art Museum, Nagoya City, Japan
Libertad de Expresión: The Art Museum of the Americas and Cold War Politics, Art Museum of the Americas, Organization of American States, Washington D.C., USA
Light Show, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia
Didáctica y dialéctica del color, Universidad Simón Bolívar, Galería de Arte de la Biblioteca, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2014** Formes simples, Centre Pompidou-Metz, Metz, France
Radical Geometry: Modern Art of South America from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection, Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK
A Global Exchange. Geometric Abstraction Since 1950s, The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, Florida, USA
La línea continua, Blanton Museum of Art, Texas, USA
- 2013** Circumstance and Ambiguity of Color, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, China
Order, Chaos, and the Space Between, Phoenix Art Museum, Arizona, USA
Myth and Materiality: Latin American Art from the Permanent Collection, 1930-1990, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, California, USA
Intersections: MoLAA's Permanent Collection, Museum of Latin American Art (MoLAA), California, USA
- 2012** Suprasensorial. Experiments in Light, Color, and Space, Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C., USA
Venezuela en Arts, Centre d'Art Contemporain Frank Popper, Marcigny, France
La abstracción: Un nuevo lenguaje para una nueva sociedad, Museo de la Solidaridad Salvador Allende, Santiago de Chile, Chile
Intercambio global. Abstracción geométrica desde 1950, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Buenos Aires (MACBA), Buenos Aires, Argentina
Moving is Living, Art Stations Foundation, Poznań, Poland

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- 2011** América fría. La abstracción geométrica en Latinoamérica (1934 - 1973), Fundación Juan March, Madrid, Spain
Ejercicios ópticos, Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
Color on Color, The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, Miami, USA
- 2010** Suprasensorial. Experiments in Light, Color and Space, The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), California, USA
Couleur et Géométrie, Actualité de l'Art Construit Européen, Couleur et Géométrie, Actualité de l'Art Construit Européen, Sens, France
Musée national d'art moderne, Collections contemporaines (des années 1960 à nos jours), Musée National d'Art Moderne Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
- 2009** North Looks South. Building the Latin American Art Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA
La experiencia sensorial del color, Periférico Caracas - Arte Contemporáneo, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2008** Latin American and Caribbean Art: Selected Highlights from the Collection of The Museum of Modern Art, New York State Museum, New York, USA
- 2007** Lo[s] Cinético[s], Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain
The Geometry of Hope. Latin American Abstract Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection, Blanton Museum of Art, Texas, USA
Optic Nerve: Perceptual Art of the 1960s, Columbus Museum of Art, Ohio, USA
Op Art, Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2006** La utopia cinética. 1955-1975, Centro Cultural "Sa Nostra", Mallorca, Spain
- 2005** L'Œil Moteur. Art Optique et Cinétique. 1950-1975, Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain, Strasbourg, France
- 2004** Inverted Utopias. Avant-garde Art in Latin America, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA
- 2003** Une Tour Eiffel Haute en Couleurs, Musée National d' Art Moderne Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Geo-Metrías. Abstracción geométrica latinoamericana en la Colección Cisneros, Museo Nacional de Artes Visuales, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 2002** Paralelos. Arte Brasileira da Segunda Metade do Século XX em Contexto, Colección Cisneros, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
XXV Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

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- 2001** Geometric Abstraction. Latin-American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University Art Museums, Cambridge, USA
- 2000** Heterotopías. Medio siglo sin-lugar : 1918-1968, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain
- 1995** La Transparence dans l'Art du XX Siècle, Musée des Beaux Arts Andre Malraux, La Havre, France
- 1993** Latin American Art of the Twentieth Century, Cologne Kunsthalle, Cologne, Germany / Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA
Mouvement, Museo de Arte Moderno, Sydney, Australia
Manifeste, Une histoire parallele 1960- 1990, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
- 1989** Latin American Art, Hayward Gallery, London, UK / Palacio Velazquez, Madrid, Spain
- 1988** La Couleur Seule, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon, France
- 1986** Contrastes de forma abstracción geométrica, 1910 -1980, Solomon R. Guggenheim Collection and Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 1985** Forty Years of Modern Art 1945-1985, Tate Gallery, London, UK
- 1972** 12 ans d'Art Contemporain en France, Grand Palais, Paris, France
- 1968** Cinetisme, Maison de la Culture de Grenoble, France
- 1967** Lumière et mouvement, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 1965** The Responsive Eye, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA
Lumière, mouvement et optique, Palais des Beaux Arts, Brussels, Belgium
- 1964** Nouvelle Tendence, Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, France
II Bienal Americana de Arte, Córdoba, Argentina
- 1962** XXXI Venice Biennale, Italy
- 1961** Le mouvement, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 1960** 1661-1961 pintura venezolana, Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1958** Exposition Internationale de Bruxelles, Venezuela Pavillon, Belgium
- 1953** Bienal de São Paulo, Brazil



COLLECTIONS

Museum des 20. Jahrhundert, Vienna, Austria

Centre de la Gravure et de l'Image Imprimee, Belgium

Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Museo de la Solidaridad Salvador Allende, Santiago de Chile, Chile

Museo de Arte Moderno de Medellín, Colombia

Museo de Arte Moderno La Tertulia, Cali, Colombia

Museo de Arte Costarricense, San José, Costa Rica

Casa de las Américas, La Havana, Cuba

Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris, France

Musee de Grenoble, Grenoble, France

Centre National d'Art Contemporain Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France

Wallraf-Richartz Museum, Dr. Peter Ludwig Collection, Cologne, Germany

Kunstverein Gelsenkirchen, Germany

Museum für Konkrete Kunst, Ingolstadt, Germany

Museum Moderner Kunst, Cuxhaven Otterndorf, Germany

Neue Pinakothek, Munich, Germany

Quadrat Josef Albers Museum, Bottrop, Germany

Wurth Museum, Schawabish Hall, Germany

Museo Civico d'Arte, Turin, Italy

Sonja Henie-Musee d'Art Moderne, Hovikodden, Oslo, Norway

Muzeum Okregowe, Chelm, Poland

Cabinet des Estampes, Genève, Switzerland

Kunstmuseum, Bern, Switzerland

Musee de la Chaux-des-Fonds, Switzerland

Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, TX, USA



Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA

Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA

Collection of Latin American Art, University of Essex, Colchester, UK

Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK

Tate Gallery, London, UK

The Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela

Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Sofía Imber, Caracas, Venezuela

Museo de Arte Moderno Jesús Soto, Ciudad Bolívar, Venezuela

Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela

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