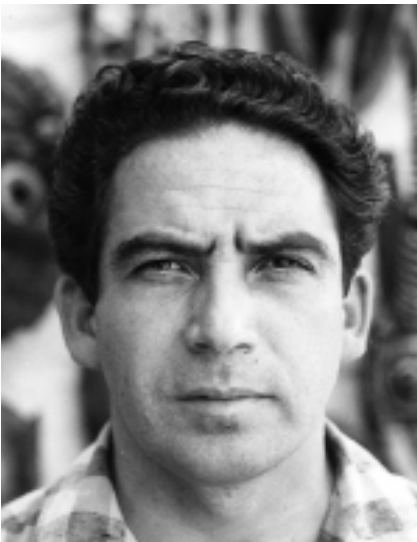


# OSWALDO VIGAS

*(Valencia, Venezuela, 1923 - Caracas, Venezuela, 2014)*



Oswaldo Vigas was a Venezuelan artist who pioneered the blending of abstraction and figuration with rituals of popular culture and folklore. Best known as a painter, polemist, and muralist, his work spanned sculpture, print, drawing, ceramic, and tapestry. Predominantly recognized as a self-taught artist, Vigas avoided the artistic canon of post war Venezuelan geometric abstraction to build his own language. His work was inspired by the magical, the mythical, and the telluric of local and Latin American imaginary, a line of research that would be the common thread of his oeuvre. He is considered one of the essential figures of Informalism in South America.

Jointly with Alejandro Otero and Los Disidentes, Vigas participated at the Proyecto de Integración de las Artes de la Universidad Central de Venezuela designed by architect Carlos Raul Villanueva. In 1954, he represented Venezuela at the Venice Biennale. In 1992 he participated in the XXVI International Prize of Contemporary Art of Monaco, receiving the first prize, and in 1999, the Iberian-American FIA Art Fair chose him as the honored artist. Oswaldo Vigas died in Caracas in 2014 at the age of 90 years.

Today, his works are part of the collections of important public institutions such as the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Art Museum of the Americas, OAS, in Washington, D.C., the Musée Des Beaux Arts D'Angers, and the Musée Des Beaux-Arts in Reims; the Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá; the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Santiago de Chile to name a few; as well as in numerous important private collections around the world.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2023** Oswaldo Vigas. Mirar hacia adentro, Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City, Mexico  
Oswaldo Vigas, Boca Raton Museum of Art, Boca Raton, USA  
La abstracción es la figuración, GBG ARTS, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2019** Oswaldo Vigas: Poéticas de la abstracción, Galería RGR, Mexico City, Mexico  
Oswaldo Vigas: Transformations, Tampa Museum of Art, Tampa, USA
- 2018** Oswaldo Vigas: Transformations, Grand Rapids Arts Museum, Grand Rapids, USA
- 2016** Oswaldo Vigas. Antológica 1943 – 2013, Museu de Arte Contemporânea da Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil
- 2015** Donación Oswaldo Vigas, Musée d'Angers, Angers, France  
Oswaldo Vigas. Antológica 1943 – 2013, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago de Chile, Chile  
Oswaldo Vigas. Antológica 1943 – 2013, Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá, Bogota, Colombia
- 2014** Oswaldo Vigas. Antológica 1943 – 2013, Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá, Bogota, Colombia  
Oswaldo Vigas. Antológica 1943 – 2013, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Lima, Perú
- 2013** Homenaje a Oswaldo Vigas, Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2012** El dibujo en la obra de Oswaldo Vigas 1940-2012, Gabinete del Dibujo y la Estampa, Valencia, Venezuela
- 2011** Oswaldo Vigas: Mérida, Paris, Caracas, Peintures, Centre d'Art Villa Tamaris, La Seyne-sur-mer, France
- 2010** Oswaldo Vigas. De brujas a curanderas, Parque Fernando Peñalver, Valencia, Carabobo, Venezuela
- 2009** Mujeres, mujeres y mujeres, Alianza Francesa La Castellana, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2006** Oswaldo Vigas: Sortilèges des tropiques, Museo Jean Lurçat et de la Tapisserie Contemporaine, Angers, France
- 2003** Ideografías de París, 1952-1957, Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Aplicadas, Lyon, France
- 1996** Oswaldo Vigas, un hombre americano, Casa de Las Américas, La Havana, Cuba
- 1993** Vigas, de 1952 a 1993, Museo La Monnaie de Paris, France

# RGR

- 1990** Retrospective Vigas: lo figurativo y lo telúrico, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Caracas Sofía Imber, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1958** Oswaldo Vigas of Venezuela, Pan American Union, Washington DC, USA
- 1957** Oswaldo Vigas, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Madrid, Spain
- 1952** Oswaldo Vigas: 1946-1952, Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2024** Playing with closed eyes, 100 years of surrealism, Galería RGR, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1995** Centenari@s, Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2020** The Body Says, I Am a Fiesta: The Figure in Latin American Art, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, USA
- 2016** Nouvelles Acquisitions/Artothèque, Musée Jean iLuçart et de la Tapisserie Contemporaine d'Angers, France
- 2013** Síntesis de las artes mayores. Seis décadas 1953-2013, Ciudad Universitaria de Caracas, Fundación BBVA Provincial, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2012** Exposición de arte iberoamericano, Suprema Corte de España, Madrid, Spain
- 2008** Artistes de l'Atelier 3, Musée Jean Lurçat et de la Tapisserie Contemporaine, Angers, France
- 2006** Iberoamérica, University of St. Francis, Chicago, USA  
Le Musée de la Tapisserie a 20 ans, Musée Jean Lurçat et de la Tapisserie Contemporaine, Angers, France  
Documentaria. 30 años en el arte venezolano, Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2004** Caracas à Paris, French Alliance Paris IleDe-France, Paris, France
- 2003** La Megaexposición 1900-2000, Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2002** The Latinamerican & Caribbean Art Today, Miura Museum of Art, Miura, Japan  
Abstracción geométrica en Venezuela, Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2000** Un cœur, un monde, Maison de la Culture du Japon, Paris, France
- 1995** Salon de Mai, Espace Eiffel-Branly, Paris, France

# RGЯ

- 1981** Omaggio a Picasso, Palazzo Robellini, Citá di Erba, Italy
- 1980** El arte constructivo venezolano, Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela  
Segunda Bienal Iberoamericana de Arte, Instituto Pedro Domecq, Mexico City, Mexico  
Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 1979** El arte figurativo en América Latina, Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1978** Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 1963** Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 1962** XXXI Biennale di Venezia, Italy
- 1961** Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 1960** Pan American Union, Washington DC, USA
- 1958** Carnegie Internacional, Pittsburg, USA
- 1957** Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 1956** Musée de Picardie, Amiens, France  
Permanence de l'Art, Musée d'Art et d'Histoire, Geneva, Switzerland  
Picasso y el arte contemporáneo hispanoamericano, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA  
Gulf Caribbean Art Exhibition, Galerie Craven, Paris, France  
Venezuelan painter, Salon des Réalités Nouvelles, Paris, France  
Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 1955** Bienal de São Paulo, Brazil  
Carnegie International, Pittsburgh, USA  
Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 1954** Obras para la Ciudad Universitaria de Caracas, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France  
XXVII Biennale di Venezia, Italy  
Pan American Union, Washington DC, USA  
Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de París, Paris, Francia
- 1953** Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
Salon de Mai, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de París, Paris, France



## COLLECTIONS

Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago de Chile, Chile

Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Bogotá, Bogota, Colombia

Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá, Bogota, Colombia

Museo Municipal de Arte Moderno de Cuenca, Cuenca, Ecuador

Musée Jean Lurçat et de la Tapisserie, Angers, France

Musée des Beaux-Arts d'Angers, Angers, France

Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Lima, Lima, Peru

Museo Ralli, Punta del Este, Uruguay

The Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, USA

The OAS Art Museum of the Americas, Washington DC, USA

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, USA

University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, USA

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