

ELSA GRAMCKO

(Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, 1925 - Caracas, Venezuela, 1994)



Elsa Gramcko was a Venezuelan born artist of German descent, known for her contributions to the South American informalism through her outstanding assemblages.

Gramcko studied at the School of Plastic and Applied Arts in Caracas. Influenced by the post war geometric abstraction tendencies of the 20th century, she embraced a poetic type of abstraction as her preferred method of artistic expression.

Throughout her career, Gramcko explored the dynamic interplay of colors, shapes, and lines in her paintings. Her work often featured geometric abstraction, with a keen emphasis on rhythm and balance. She also used a variety of mediums, including oil on canvas and mixed media, to create visually compelling compositions that include sculptures. From the 1960s, she embarked on an exploration of amalgamated techniques that involved the use of found materials and oxides that she developed.

Gramcko's work is represented in private and public collections in Latin America and worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art, The Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Galería de Arte Nacional, and Museo de Bellas Artes.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2023** Elsa Gramcko: The Invisible Plot of Things, James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA
- 2022** Elsa Gramcko: The Invisible Plot of Things, Sicardi | Ayers | Bacino, Houston, USA
- 1997** Elsa Gramcko, una alquimista de nuestro tiempo: muestra antológica, 1957-1979, Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1959** Elsa Gramcko en Venezuela, Pan-American Union, Washington, DC, USA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2024** Playing with closed eyes, 100 years of surrealism, Galería RGR, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2023** Action, Gesture, Paint: Women Artists and Global Abstraction 1940-70, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK; Fondation Vincent Van Gogh, Arles, France; Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Bielefeld, Germany
- 2022** Ellas en lo Abstracto, Galería de Arte Nacional (GAN), Caracas, Venezuela
KONKRET GLOBAL!, Museum im Kulturspeicher Würzburg, Germany
- 2018** Contesting Modernity: Informalism in Venezuela, 1955-1975, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA
- 1986** Bocetos de un artesano de nuestro tiempo, Galería G, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1969** Etapa geométrica: 1957-1960, Galería Estudio Actual, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1964** Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1962** Hierros, Galería G, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1961** Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela



COLLECTIONS

Art Museum of the Americas, Washington DC, USA

Colección Banco Mercantil, Caracas, Venezuela

Denver Art Museum, Denver, USA

Galería de Arte Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela

Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, USA

Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá, Bogota, Colombia

Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA

Spencer Museum of Art, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, USA

The Ella Fontanals-Cisneros Collection, Miami, USA

The Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA

The Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence, USA

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, USA

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