

GUNTHER GERZSO

(Mexico City, 1915 - 2000)



Born in Mexico City to a Hungarian Jewish father and a German mother, Gunther Gerzso was one of the most significant Mexican avant-garde artists of the 20th century who made substantial contributions to both Surrealism and geometric abstraction through his paintings, sculptures, and prints. He was close to the Surrealist group of artists who moved to Mexico during the war, particularly to the couple of Benjamin Péret and Remedios Varo.

He was Influenced by pre-Columbian art and architecture as well as the landscape of Mexico, His early works such as *L'ecartelé* (1944) drew from and expanded upon the tendencies of European Surrealists, moving closer to abstraction while his later works, such as *Rojo-Amarillo-Azul* (1969) and *Tierra Caliente* (1987), moved even further away from pictorial representation; they are generally characterized by vivid colors and sharply defined patterns of overlapping rectilinear planes, suggestive of both architectural forms and the landscapes Gerzso admired.

Gerzso passed away in 2000 in Mexico City.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2020** Gerzso In Transition, Mary-Anne Martin/Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2004** Gunther Gerzso: Defining Mexican Abstractionism, Virginia Miller Galleries, Miami, USA
Risking the Abstract: Mexican Modernism and the Art of Gunther Gerzso, Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum, Chicago, USA
- 2003** Risking the Abstract: Mexican Modernism and the Art of Gunther Gerzso, Museum of Modern Art, Mexico City, Mexico; Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, USA
- 2000** Gunther Gerzso, In His Memory, Mary-Anne Martin/Fine Art, New York, USA
Gunther Gerzso, The Last Decade, Galería Lopez-Quiroga, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1996** Gunther Gerzso, Latin American Masters Gallery, Beverly Hills, USA
- 1995** Gunther Gerzso 80th Birthday Show, Mary-Anne Martin/Fine Art, New York, USA
Gunther Gerzso: Prints and Sculpture, The Americas Society, New York, USA
Gunther Gerzso. Obra Receinte, Galería Lopez Quiroga, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1994** Gunther Gerzso. Pintura, Grafica y Dibujo, 1949-1993, Museo Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1993** Gunther Gerzso. Pintura, Grafica y Dibujo, 1949-1993, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Oaxaca, Oaxaca, Mexico
- 1990** A New Antiquity of Form, Mary-Anne Martin/Fine Art, New York, USA
Gerzso, Galería de Arte Mexicano, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1986** Gunther Gerzso, Museo Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1984** Gunther Gerzso Retrospective, Mary-Anne Martin/Fine Art, New York, USA
Gerzso. La Centella Glacial. Un Dialogo Plastico en la Ciudad de Mexico, Sala Ollin Yoliztli, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1982** Gunther Gerzso, One Man Show, FIAC, Paris, France
- 1981** Gunther Gerzso - Retrospectiva, Museo de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico
- 1970** Twenty Years of Gunther Gerzso, Phoenix Art Museum Phoenix, Phoenix, USA
- 1963** Gunther Gerzso, Exposicion Retrospectiva, Museo Nacional de Arte Moderno, Mexico City, Mexico

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2024** Surreal Surroundings, KÖNIG, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2023** Winter Exhibition, Mary-Anne/Fine Art, New York, USA
Pattern and Process, Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, USA
Ahí Viene El Lobo Parte 2, Museo Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2022** Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera and Mexican Modernism from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, USA
- 2021** Beyond Muralism: Gerzso, Goeritz, and Friedeberg, Mary-Anne/Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2018** Artists by Artists, Mary-Anne/Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2019** Art Latin America: Against the Survey, Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellsley College, Wellsley, USA
Surrealism in Mexico, Di Donna, New York, USA
- 2017** Modern Masters from Latin America: The Pérez Simón Collection, San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, USA
Across Borders: Crosscurrents in American Art, MCNAY Art Museum, San Antonio, USA
Beyond the landscape. Abstraction in the MACG collection, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico
- 2016** Ensayo Museográfico Núm 3 (Medios De Cambio), Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2015** Razón de ser, Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2012** Miradas: Ancient Roots in Modern Mexican Art: Works from the Bank of America Collection, Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, Jacksonville, USA
- 1989** Museo de Arte Moderno, 25 Años 1964-1989, Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1988** The Latin American Spirit: Art and Artists in the United States, 1920-1970, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA
The Woman and Surrealism, Musée Cantonal des Beaux Arts, Lausanne, Switzerland

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- 1987** Imagen de Mexico, Der Beitrag Mexikos Zur des 20 Jahrhunderts, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, Germany
- 1980** Mexique: Peintres Contemporains, Musée Picasso, Antibes, France
- 1979** Le Mexique d'Hier et d'Aujord'Hui, Musée du Petit Palais, Paris, France
- 1978** Seccion Anual de Invitados: Tamayo, Merida, Gerzso, Salon Nacional de Artes Plasticas, Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1976** 12 Latin American Artists Today, University of Texas, Austin, USA
- 1975** El Geometrismo Mexicano: una Tendencia Actual, Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1967** Art of Latin America Since Independence, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, USA; University of Texas, Austin, USA
- 1967** The Third International Art Exhibition, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- 1967** Galeria de Arte Mexicano, Mexico city, Mexico



COLLECTIONS

BBVA Collection

Denver Museum of Art, Denver, USA

Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura, Mexico City, Mexico

Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland

Kemper Art Museum, St. Louis, USA

Museo Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico

Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City, Mexico

National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, USA

Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, USA

The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA

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