

BIOGRAPHY

Agostino Bonalumi was born on 10 July 1935 in Vimercate, Milan.

He accomplishes technical and mechanical design studies. Self-taught painter, he begins to exhibit very young.

In 1958 the Bonalumi Castellani and Manzoni group was born with an exhibition at the Galleria Pater in Milan, which will be followed by other exhibitions in Rome, Milan and Lausanne.

In 1961 at the Kasper Gallery in Lausanne he was among the founders of the New European School group. Arturo Schwarz buys his works and in 1965 presents a personal exhibition of Bonalumi in his gallery in Milan, with a presentation in the catalog by Gillo Dorfles. In 1966 he began a long period of collaboration with the Galleria del Naviglio in Milan, which will represent him exclusively, publishing in 1973, for Edizioni del Naviglio, a large monograph edited by Gillo Dorfles.

In 1966 he was invited to the Venice Biennale with a group of works, and in 1970 with a personal room. Following a period of studies and work in the countries of Mediterranean Africa and in the United States where he will present a solo show at the Bonino gallery in New York. In 1967 he was invited to the São Paulo Biennial and in 1968 to the Paris Biennale.

He has created painting-environmental works such as, in 1967, Blu Habitable for the exhibition "The space of the image", in Foligno; in 1968, Grande Nero, for a solo exhibition at the Museum am Ostwall in Dortmund; in 1979, as part of the "Pittura Ambiente" exhibition at Palazzo Reale in Milan, the opera From yellow to white and from white to yellow, where the environment considered human activity is analyzed as primary activity, that is psychological, as also in Ambiente Bianco. Withheld space and overgrown space, created in 2002 for the Guggenheim Foundation in Venice.

In 1980 by the Lombardy Region, an extensive exhibition illustrating the entire arch of his work was set up in Palazzo Te di Mantova. In 2002 the National Academy of San Luca in Rome celebrated with a personal award the conferment to Agostino Bonalumi of the 2001 Presidential Award for Lifetime Achievement. In 2003 the Institut Mathildenhöhe in Darmstadt presented "Agostino Bonalumi. Malerei in der dritten dimension".

He worked on scenography, creating scenes and costumes for the Teatro Romano in Verona in 1970 for the ballet "Partita", music by Goffredo Petrassi, choreography by Susanna Egri; and in 1973 for the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma the scenes and costumes of "Rot", music by Domenico Guaccero, choreography by Amedeo Amodio. He has made artist's books for Edizioni Colophon, Belluno and for Il Bulino editions, Rome and has published collections of poems for the same Colophon, for Book Publisher and for the Poli Art Editions.

Despite an illness with which he has been living for some time, Bonalumi continues and works diligently, developing his research up to the results of the last few years. It also completes the realization of a cycle of bronze sculptures on projects dating back to the late 60s. Brussels, Moscow, New York and Singapore are some of the world capitals hosting their personal in the last period of activity.

In the summer of 2013 he enthusiastically collaborated on the realization of his important exhibition in London, which, unfortunately, will not see the opening. Agostino Bonalumi dies in Monza on 18 September 2013. Only a week ago he was at work in the place where he felt best in the world: his study.

WORKS IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Biennale di Venezia, Archivio Storico delle Arti Contemporanee, Venice, IT
GAM Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin, IT
Collezione Cesare Zavattini, Pinacoteca di Brera, Milan, IT
Collezione Fondazione Roma, Rome, IT
Cantiere del '900, Collezione Intesa San Paolo, Milan, IT
CSAC, Università di Parma, Parma, IT
MAC Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Lissone, IT
Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice IT
Madre, Museo Contemporaneo Donnaregina, Naples, IT
Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome, IT
Gruppo Banca Popolare di Milano, Milan, IT
MART Museo d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto, Rovereto (Trento), IT
MUSEION Museum für moderne und zeitgenössische Kunst, Bolzano, IT
Museo di Villa Croce, Genoa, IT
Museo MAGA, Gallarate, IT
Museo del Novecento, Civici Musei di Milano, Milan, IT
Istituto Italiano di Cultura a New York, Collezione Weil, New York, US
JPMorgan Chase Art Collection, New York, US
Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale, US
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, US
The Niigata Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Nagaoka, JP
HEART- Herning Museum of Contemporary Art, Herning, DK
Kunsten Museum of Modern Art, Aalborg, DK
Fondazione Biennale di Praga, Prague, CZ
VAF-Stiftung, Frankfurt, DE
Museum Ostwall im Dortmunder U, Dortmund, DE
Städtische Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach, Sammlung Etzold, Mönchengladbach, DE
Neue Galerie am Landeemuseum Joanneum, Graz, AT
Museu Berardo, Lisbon, PT
Slovenská Národná Galéria, Bratislava, SK