



NICOLAS SCHÖFFER

(Kalocsa, Hungary, 1912 - Paris, France, 1992)

Nicolas Schöffer is considered the founder of cybernetic art, having built a bridge between aesthetic and cybernetic concepts with great success. He studied painting at the School of Fine Arts in Budapest from 1932 to 1935 and then at the School of Fine Arts in Paris, where he ended up residing for most of his life. The metallic sculptures that he created in the 1940s were immersed in the languages of constructivism and neoplasticism, through which he began to explore the relationships between the tridimensional sculptural form and the fourth dimension of time and movement.

Schöffer's innovation was to bring the theories of cybernetics (particularly those of Norbert Wiener) to the process of artistic creation, conceiving of the works no longer solely as artistic objects but as systems of organization that produced diverse forms of feedback between themselves and the spectators. His sculpture *CYSP 1* (1956), developed with electronic computations from the Philips company, detected the variations in its surroundings, which then produced mechanical reactions in the rest of the piece. From then on, Schöffer's sculptures used light, movement and sound as the base from which to show kinetic principles in action.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2015 *Nicolas Schöffer: Restrospective*, Mucsarnok / Kunsthalle, Budapest, Hungary
- 2014 *Nicolas Schöffer*, Galería de la Villa des Arts, Paris, France
- 2013 *Homenaje à Schöffer –La lumière ne s’arrête pas là*, Netic Lab, Jardín de la Villa des Arts, Paris, France
- 2012 *Schöffer dans le monde - La Ville schöfférienne*, Instituto Húngaro, Paris, France
- 2011 *Nicolas Schöffer - Géométries et Trames*, Espacio Meyer Zafra, Paris, France
- 2008 *Nicolas Schöffer-Rythmes*, Fundación de Arte Gyula Nagy, Lovas, Hungary
Nicolas Schöffer, feluletdinamika, Escuela de Bellas Artes de Budapest, Hungary
- 2007 *Les Boîtes lumineuses de Schöffer*, Sonneveld House, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2006 *Nicolas Schöffer – de l’Art figuratif à l’Art cybernétique*, Capitainerie du Port, La Grande Motte, France
- 2005 *Nicolas Schöffer – Ballets de Lumières*, Espacio ELECTRA, Paris, France
- 2004 *Nicolas Schöffer*, Espacio Multimedia Gantner, Bourogne, France
Nicolas Schöffer, Fundación Vasarely, Aix en Provence, France
- 2001 *Nicolas Schöffer*, ART PARIS, Carrusel del Louvre, Paris, France
- 2000 *Nicolas Schöffer inconnu*, Hungarian Institute, Paris, France
- 1997 *La Ville Cybernétique de Nicolas Schöffer*, Didier Lecointre-Dominique Drouet Gallery, Paris, France
- 1996 *Nicolas Schöffer, sus orígenes, familia, su vida, para mejor entender su obra y pensamientos*, Museo Schöffer, Kalocsa, Hungary
- 1994 *Hommage à Nicolas Schöffer*, Centre Noroît, Arras, France
NICOLAS SCHÖFFER, French Institute, Bonn, Germany
- 1977 *Nicolas Schöffer*, Museum of Modern Art, Bonn, Germany

- 1973 *Nicolas Schöffer*, Aarau Museum, Aarau, Switzerland
Nicolas Schöffer, Centro Industrial Montedison, Milan, Italy
- 1972 *Nicolas Schöffer*, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland
- 1968 First solo exhibition in America, Waddel Gallery, New York, USA
First solo exhibition in Germany, Kunsthalle, Düsseldorf, Germany

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2020 *Vertigo. Op Art und eine Geschichte des Schwindels 1520-1970*, Kunstmuseum Stuttgart, Germany
- 2019 *The Assembled Human*, Folkwang Museum, Essen, Germany
- 2018 *Zero*, Museum of Old and New Art (MONA), Tasmania, Australia
- 2016 *1,000 m2 of Desire: Architecture and Sexuality*, Centro de Cultura Contemporánea (CCCB), Barcelona, Spain
Retrospect: Kinetika 1967, Lower Belvedere, Vienna, Austria
KYLDEX 1, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Caracas, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2015 *Five Issues of Studio International*, Raven Row, London, United Kingdom
Nouvelle Présentation Des Collections Modernes (1905-1965), Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
- 2013 *On Abstraction III: At the Same Time, Elsewhere*, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (MAC Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal), Montreal, Canada
Dynamo, Grand Palais, Paris, France
- 2012 *Danser sa Vie*, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
- 2011 *Sculptures en mouvement*, Pierre Cardin Space, Château Lacoste, France
- 2010 *Sémaphores*, Museo Fernand Léger, Biot, France
Estructuras sonoras y visuales de Nicolas Schöffer, University of Marnes-la-Vallée, France

- 2008 *Revolução cinética*, Museo Nacional de Arte Contemporáneo, Lisboa, Portugal
- 2007 *Good Vibrations*, Centrum Kunstlicht in de Kunst, Eindhoven, Netherlands
Op Art, Shirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2006 *The Summer of Love - The Psychedelic Era*, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, United Kingdom / Schirn Kunsthalle de Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany / Vienna Kunsthalle, Vienna, Austria
- 2005 *Visual Music 1905-2005*, Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) Los Angeles, California, USA
L'œil moteur - Art optique et art cinétique, 1950-1975, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Strasbourg, France
- 2003 *Digital Art and Culture Symposium*, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA
- 2002 *Paris, Capital of the Arts 1900 – 1968*, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, Spain / Royal Academy of the Arts, London, United Kingdom
The Great Theater of the World, Taipei Biennial - Museum of Fine Arts, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2001 *Luminodynamisme et Cybernétique de Nicolas Schöffer 1912- 1992*, Espace 36 association d'art contemporain, St Omer, France
- 2000 *Œuvres des années 50*, en el Château d'O, Montpellier, France
Intuitio, Innovacio, Invencio, Mücsarnok, Budapest, Hungary
De Dufy à Chaissac, Nantes Museum of Fine Arts, Nantes, France
- 1999 *L'art, l'air, l'espace*, Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace, Le Bourget, France
- 1998 *Kaohsiung International Sculptures Festival 1998*, Kaohsiung Museum, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
Den Haag Sculptuur, Ville de La Haye, Netherlands
Les champs de la sculpture, Taipei Museum of Modern Art, Taiwan
- 1997 *La villa des arts aujourd'hui*, District Mayor's Office XVIII, Art de Paris, France
Dix artistes, dix ans de tapisseries", Château de Villemontex, France
- 1996 *Les champs de la sculpture*, Elysian Fields, Paris, France
Les champs de la sculpture, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan
- 1995 *Klangskulpturen - Augenmusik*, Ludwig Museum im Deutschherrenhaus, Germany
Europa de postguerra, 1945-65. Arte después del diluvio, Centro Cultural de la Fundación La Caixa, Barcelona, Spain

- 1994 *L'art spatio-lumino-dynamique ou comment lier l'Art et la Science*, Louis Aragon Cultural Space, Camon, France
Sculptures sonores, Ludwig Museum, Coblenza, Germany
Villes radicales et mégastructures, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
- 1993 *Art electrographique*, Hungarian Institute, Paris, France
Manifeste, une histoire parallèle, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Les Hongrois de Paris, Hungarian/French Institute, Berlin, Germany
- 1992 *L'art en mouvement*, Maeght Foundation, Saint-Paul de Vence, France
- 1991 *Mouvement et lumière - 4th Sculpture Biennial*, Auxerre, France
- 1990 *50 Years of Thought and Action in Contemporary Art*, Centre Noroit, Arras, France
- 1987 *Sculptures lumineuses*, Musée Aemstelle, Amstelveen, Netherlands
L'art en Europe, Museum of Modern Art, Saint-Etienne, France
Digital Visions: Computers and Art, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) New York, USA
- 1986 *Du Réel au Virtuel - Energetic Art - Art cinétique*, O.M.A.C.C., Cannes, France
- 1984 *Cent chefs d'oeuvres*, Grand Palais, Paris, France
- 1978 *MURLUX 1*, Museum of the Upholstery d'Aubusson, Aubusson, France
- 1976 *Kunst-Licht in der malerei*, Deutsches Museum de Munich, Munich, Germany
Dix siècles de l'art hongrois, Petit Palais, Paris, France
De l'objet à la cité, Museum of Art and History, Luxemburg, France
- 1972 *L'art et les technologies industrielles*, Vitry-sur-Seine, France
- 1971 *Art and Science*, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Israel
- 1966 *Two Kinetic Sculptors: Nicolas Schöffer y Jean Tinguely*, Washington Gallery of Modern Art, Washington D.C., USA
Lumière et mouvement, Museum of Modern Art, Paris, France
- 1965 *Kinetic and Optic Art Today*, Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York, USA
- 1960 *Recent Acquisitions: Painting and Sculpture*, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA
- 1958 *L'art du XXI^e siècle*, Exhibitions Palace, Charleroi, Belgium

Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, USA
Museo All Bright Knox, Buffalo, USA
MIT Museum, Massachusetts, USA
Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
Paris Museum of Modern Art, Paris, France
Museum of Modern Art, Saint-Étienne, France
National Fund for Contemporary Art, Paris, France
Ludwig Museum, Colonia, Germany
Niedersächsisches Landesmuseum, Hannover, Germany
Brussels Museum of Modern Art, Brussels, Belgium
Museum of Modern Art, Helsinki, Finland
Sara Hilden Museum of Modern Art, Tampere, Finland
Boijmans van Beuningen Museum, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Nicolas Schöffer Museum, Kalocsa, Hungary
National Gallery of Modern Art, Rome, Italy
Sonia Henie Museum, Oslo, Norway
Sztuki Museum, Lodz, Poland
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Sofía Imber, Caracas, Venezuela
Museo Jesús Soto, Ciudad Bolívar, Venezuela
Museo de Arte Moderno de Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Museum of Modern Art, Tel Aviv, Israel
The Hakone Open Air Museum, Hakone, Japan

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