

FERNAND LEGER

BIOGRAPHY

- 1881 Born February, Argentan, France
- 1897-99 Apprenticed to an architect in Caen, France
- 1900 Moved to Paris; Influenced by Paul Cezanne, Marc Chagall, Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Henri Rousseau
- 1903 Admitted to the Ecole des Arts Decoratifs, Paris
- 1905 Studied at the Academie Julian
- 1909 Ranked as one of the three major Cubists
- 1911 Became a member of the Puteaux Group (or Section d'Or)
- 1914-17 Mobilized as a sapper in the engineering corps in WWI, hospitalized at Villepinte, tear gas exposure
- 1920 Met Le Corbusier, architect on some of Leger's projects
- 1921 Designed sets and costumes for the Swedish Ballet
- 1924 Directed and produced the film Mechanical Ballet with Dudley Murphy, scored by George Antheil
Founded an open studio with Amedee Ozenfant, the Modern Academy, Paris
- 1925-27 Designed a series of murals for the Pavillon de l'Esprit Nouveau, Decorative Arts Exhibition, Paris
First solo exhibition in New York
- 1934 Produces sets for the H.G. Wells film, The Shape of Things to Come
- 1935 First retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, then at the Art Institute of Chicago
- 1940-46 Lived and worked in the US during WWII, including teaching at Yale University and Mills College in Oakland, CA
- 1952 Commissioned to do murals for the General Assembly auditorium, United Nations, New York
- 1955 Awarded Grand Prix at the 3rd Biennial in Sao Paulo, Brazil
Died, August, Gif-sur-Yvette, France
- 1960 Inauguration of the Musee Fernand Leger at Biot (Alpes-Maritimes), France
- 1967 Musee Fernand Leger became a French national museum

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 1911 Daniel Henry Kahnweiler, Paris
- 1912 Salon d'Automne, Paris
- 1917 Leonce Rosenberg's Galerie de l'Effort Moderne, Paris
- 1925 Exhibition of the Arts Decoratifs, Paris

- 1928 Galerie Fleichtheim, Berlin, Germany
- 1933 Retrospective exhibition, Kunsthaus, Zurich, Switzerland
- 1934 With Simone Herman, Galerie Moderne, Stockholm, Sweden
- 1935 The Bachelor's House (group exhibition), International Exhibition, Brussels, Belgium
- Retrospective exhibition, Museum of Modern Art, New York, traveled to Art Institute of Chicago
- 1937 Exposition Universelle, International Exhibition of Arts and Techniques in Modern Life, Paris
- Leger-Calder, Artek Gallery, Helsinki, Finland
- 1943 "Leger in America," film by Thomas Bouchard in New York
- 1944 Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago
- 1945 European Artists in America, the Whitney Museum, New York
- 1946 American works exhibition, Louis Cerre Gallery, Paris
- 1949 Retrospective, Musee National d'Art Moderne, Paris
- XXV Biennale de Venise, Venice, Italy
- 1955 Proposal for a Synthesis of the Arts, Paris, 1955: Le Corbusier, F. Leger, Ch. Perriand, assembled by Charlotte Perriand and Junzo Sakakura, traveled Tokyo and Osaka, Japan
- 1956 Retrospective Fernand Leger, Musee des Arts Decoratifs, Paris
- 1981 Fernand Leger, La poesie de l'objet 1928-1934, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris
- 1995 L'Art et le Temps, Regards sur la quatrieme dimension, Institute of Contemporary Art, Villeurbanne, France
- 1990 Retrospective, Modern Art Museum, Villeneuve d'Ascq, France
- 1997 Retrospective, Centre Georges Pompidou (Beaubourg), Paris
- Masterworks from the Florene May Schoenborn Bequest, Museum of Modern Art, New York
- Objects of Desire: The Modern Still Life, Museum of Modern Art, New York
- Encounters with Modern Art: Works from the Rothschild Family Collections, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco
- 1998 Museum of Modern Art, New York
- Le Decoratif dans l'art du XX siècle, Modern Art Museum, Villeneuve d'Ascq, France
- Max Beckman and Paris, Kunsthaus, Zurich, Switzerland
- Rendez vous: Masterpieces from the Centre Pompidou and the Guggenheim Museums, Guggenheim Museum, New York

- The Spirit of Cubism, Tate Gallery, Liverpool, England
Three Collectors: Solomon R. Guggenheim, Peggy Guggenheim and
Gianni Mattioli, Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, Italy
Georges Pompidou et la moderne, Galerie nationale de Jeu de
Paume, Paris
- 2007 Fernand Leger: Contrasts of Form, organized by the University of
Virginia Art Museum, Charlottesville, VA; traveled to Fogg Art
Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago
Beyeler Foundation, Basel, Switzerland
Centre Georges Pompidou—MNAM—CCI, Paris
Foundation Maeght, Saint Paul, France
Fukushima Prefectural Museum of Art, Japan
Haim Chanin Fine Arts, New York
Hakone Open Air Museum, Japan
Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
Jeffrey Loria Collection, New York
Kunstmuseum, Basel, Switzerland
Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, Minneapolis, MN
Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris
Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris
Musée National Fernand Léger, Biot, France
Museum of Modern Art, New York
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York

SELECTED PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

Church of Sacre-Coeur, Audincourt, Doubs, France
Consolidated Edison Company Pavilion, New York World's Fair, 1939
(Temporary)
Crypt for the Mardasson Memorial, Bastogne, Belgium
General Assembly Auditorium, United Nations, New York
Notre-Dame-de-Toute-Grace, Plateau d'Assy, Haute-Savoie, France
University of Caracas Library, Caracas, Venezuela