CONNECTIONS: THE ROOTS OF MODERNISM

GILLES GORRITI
b. 1939 · Contemporary French Modernist

AND

PABLO PICASSO
(1881 - 1973) · Spanish Modern Master
Wally Findlay Galleries is pleased to present Connections: The Roots of Modernism, an exhibition showing the impact the artistic genius of Pablo Picasso had upon the development of Modern and Contemporary art, specifically exploring the connections between Picasso and leading Contemporary Modernist Gilles Gorriti. The exhibition connects the themes and symbols present across the artists’ oeuvres and their expressive use of color and brush stroke across a wide variety of mediums: including paintings, prints, drawings, and ceramics.

Gilles Gorriti was born in Paris in 1939, the son of renowned artist Paul Aizpiri. His formal education began in 1955 at the Atelier de la Grande Chaumière and continued at the Académie Julian in Paris. At just seventeen, Gorriti organized his first one-man exhibition at the Galerie Morval. The following year, 1958, he became a member of the Salon d’Automne, where he would continue to exhibit throughout his career. In 1962, he was invited to exhibit at the Salon de la Jeune Peinture. Later that year, in response to his widespread appeal and success, the city of Paris added one of his paintings to their influential collection. In 1965, his work appeared in the Fourth International Exhibition of Figurative Art in Japan. Wally Findlay Galleries first exhibited the work of Gorriti in 1983 in Paris, and has since hosted successful exhibitions of the artist’s work worldwide.

For Gorriti, and many Modernists, color is of the utmost important, even more than subject matter. As a colorist, Gorriti is a virtuoso in using the full range of his palette. He creates both subtle, unobtrusive fragments of delicate tones alongside vibrantly orchestrated blocks of color, which demand attention. This striking interplay of colors is portrayed significantly. This strong sense of color can be linked back to Picasso’s work as well, and Gorriti credits the master for his skill of implying colors, even in their absence:

“Two years ago while in New York, I had the chance to visit the Black and White exhibition. What struck me was the way in which colors were suggested in the black and white itself, especially in the paintings of his studio and in The Meninas series. The miracle of light at work, with black and white turning into colors; a black became a blue, or white became a rose. Picasso is a magician!”

Picasso’s works depict dreams, symbolism, and personal iconography as a means to depict his subjective experiences. He has been quoted saying “I paint objects as I think them, not as I see them.” This philosophy has been the motto for many Modernists after Picasso, including Gorriti.

“What seems important is the sensation of a form, of the light, of the impression. From there starts the work towards trying to recreate something that might even be wrong, but nevertheless it is my truth... On the other hand, inanimate objects come to life by transforming themselves according to your own nature... they become a pretext for me to express how I feel.”

Wally Findlay Galleries invites you to explores the connections between these artists, examining the roots and influences the genius of Picasso had upon Contemporary Master Gorriti.

TO VIEW THE EXTENSIVE COLLECTION AND FOR A FULL VIDEO INTERVIEW WITH GILLES GORRITI PLEASE CLICK HERE
Visage No. 202, 144/500, 1963 ⋅ terre de faience ⋅ 9 4/5 inches ⋅ WFG© 134287
La Masque d’Esquimaux ⋅ oil on canvas ⋅ 39 3/8 x 31 7/8 inches ⋅ WFG© 136598
Le Peintre à la Palette, 22/150, 1963 · linocut · 29 1/2 x 24 3/8 inches · WFG© 135644
Ombre et Lumière, 2013 · mixed media on canvas · 57 1/2 x 44 7/8 inches · WFG© 135505
Exposition Vallauris, 34/200, 1956 · linocut in colors on wove paper · 30 1/2 x 23 3/8 inches · WFG© 136077
L’éventail · oil on paper, collage on canvas · 36 1/4 x 28 3/4 inches · WFG© 136592
Les Hortensias ⋅ oil on canvas ⋅ 31 7/8 x 39 3/8 inches ⋅ WFG© 132197
Autour de la Celestine, Collation au Jardin, avec Jeune Bacchus Gras, 1968 · etching on paper · 12 1/2 x 16 1/4 inches · wrg© 133881
L’éventail · oil canvas · 31 7/8 x 39 3/8 inches · WFG© 130871
Yan Pitchet, 1952 · terre de faience · 11 x 5 1/2 inches · WFG© 135702
La Coupe de Fruits ⋅ oil canvas ⋅ 23 5/8 x 28 3/4 inches ⋅ wfg© 136594
Têtes, Pichet Tourné, Edition of 500, 1956 · terre de faience · 4 3/4 x 6 1/10 inches · WFG© 136602
Éventails · oil on canvas · 36 1/4 x 28 3/4 inches · wfg© 133321
60 Years of Graphic Works, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 8/100, 1966 · lithograph on Arches paper · 27 7/8 x 22 inches · wfg© 130609
Lutrin · mixed media on canvas · 51 3/16 x 38 3/16 inches · WFG© 136530
Vallauris, Peinture et Lumière, Xème anniversaire, 60/185, 60 Series, 1967 · etching with drypoint · 23 1/2 x 30 1/16 inches · WFG© 131435
Le Professeur · oil on canvas · 35 1/16 x 45 11/16 inches · WFG© 133488
Le Peniches sur la Seine · oil on canvas · 63 3/4 x 51 3/16 inches · wfg© 134546
Etente, 21/50, 1963 · etching with drypoint · 23 1/2 x 30 1/16 inches · WFG© 130610
L'éventail ⋅ mixed media on canvas ⋅ 45 11/16 x 35 1/16 inches ⋅ WFG© 136536
Modèle au Repos dans un Fauteuil, 11/50, 1965 · aquatint on Richard de Bas paper · 22 3/4 x 17 1/4 inches · WFG© 136817
Composition Rouge ∙ oil on canvas ∙ 35 1/16 x 45 11/16 inches ∙ WFG© 136597
Le Modèle, 23/50, 1965 · aquatint on Richard de Bas paper · 22 3/4 x 17 1/4 inches · WFG© 136858
La Tache Jaune · mixed media on canvas · 45 11/16 x 35 1/16 inches · WFG© 136533
Exposition Vallauris, 159/175, 1961 · linocut in colors on Arches paper · 29 5/8 x 24 3/8 inches · WFG© 137047
La Potiche Jaune ⋅ mixed media on canvas ⋅ 35 1/16 x 45 11/16 inches ⋅ WFG© 136537
La Rose Rose · mixed media on canvas · 45 11/16 x 35 1/16 inches · WFG© 129320
La Plante Verte · oil on canvas · 63 3/4 x 44 7/8 inches · wfg© 136267
La Fête de la Patronne avec un Petit Chien, 42/50 · etching on wove paper · 19 5/8 x 25 3/4 inches · wFG© 137048
La Nappe à Fleurs ⋅ mixed media on canvas ⋅ 57 1/2 x 44 7/8 inches ⋅ wrg© 136528
Horloge a la Langue, 42/100, 1956 · terre de faience · 16 1/2 inches · WFG© 136632
Le Petit Portrait · mixed media on canvas · 31 7/8 x 25 9/16 inches · WFG© 130865
New York III, 2013 · mixed media on canvas · 76 3/4 x 51 3/16 inches · WFG© 134925
For further information and pricing of these artworks please contact the gallery:

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Tuesday | Saturday : 10 am | 6 pm