

# **ROBERT INDIANA**

«I want to cover the world with LOVE. I'd like to cover the world with HOPE». (Robert Indiana)

# Biography, Bibliography, Exhibitions

# **Biography**

Robert Indiana was born on September 13, 1928, in New Castle, Indiana, and studied at the Chicago Art Institute, the Muson/Williams/Proctor Art Institute and the University of Edinburgh College of Art. He came to New York in the 1950s where he became a central figure of Pop Art, along with Warhol, Lichtenstein, Oldenburg, Wesselmann and Rosenquist. This Pop group came to dominate world art culture and is likened in its time to the Impressionists many decades earlier, literally re-inventing what art could look like. Indiana, as was Rodin to the Impressionists, is the most celebrated sculptor of Pop.

Indiana's first signature work, LOVE, is an internationally recognized masterpiece and his work is in MoMA, The Whitney, The Metropolitan and other museums internationally. HOPE, his long awaited follow up to LOVE, was unveiled at the entrance to the Democratic National Convention Center on August 28, 2008, and used by the Presidential campaign of Barack Obama to inspire the next generation. In July 2009 HOPE was used to open the new park in Times Square and in 2010, The Today Show broadcast a profile of the artist. With The Four Seasons of HOPE, Indiana veered from his well-known solid colors to create an installation of 4 atmospheric interpretational color-blended silkscreens each measuring 96x96 inches displayed in The Rothko Room at The Four Seasons Restaurant, New York through May 2011; they were also featured in Art In America, and will ultimately be released as a portfolio. HOPE has been the subject of exhibitions on four continents and is perhaps the most recognized icon of the 21st century.

Robert Indiana is included in nearly every important publication on 20th century art as well as in major textbooks on Art History. He is the recipient of numerous honorary doctorates, and an increasing number of art historians focus their doctorate thesis on Indiana. A social and political activist throughout his career, Indiana has raised both consciousness and funding for diverse causes including civil rights, education, health issues and support for the arts.

In November through December 2012, Indiana exhibited important new works in New York at Waterhouse & Dodd and contemporarily in Venice, Italy at the Contini Gallery of Art through July 2013. In May 2013, the exhibition Robert Indiana A – Z, a retrospective from 1934 to 2013, in addition new works from 2008 to 2013, opened at the Munson/Williams/Proctor Museum, and has



been itinerant for three years, while his print retrospective will opened at the Indianapolis Museum of Art the same month. A biographical multi-media theatrical production of the artist, with performance artist John Kelly, has been shown at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Indiana's Alphabet, long overdue, was a central part of Indiana A – Z and, as such, has the unusual quality of being created for, and first fully exhibited as, a travelling museum exhibition.

The mystery of the American Dream is a constant theme throughout Indiana's work.

From September 26, 2013 to January 5, 2014 the Whitney Museum of Art hosted a retrospective exhibition of his works entitled "Beyond LOVE" curated by Barbara Haskell. This retrospective reveals an artist who daringly addresses issues that humanity faces today – love, death, sin and forgiveness. A new meaning is given to the American Dream and the present plight of man in a multicultural society.

Since 1978, Indiana has lived and worked on the island of Vinalhaven, off the coast of Maine in a sort of self-imposed exile.

Robert Indiana died in Vinalhaven (United States) on May 19<sup>th</sup> 2018.

# **Bibliography**

# 2013

Haskell, Barbara. *Robert Indiana: Beyond LOVE*. Exhibition catalogue. With essays by René Paul Barilleaux and Sasha Nicholas. New York: Whitney Museum of American Art Krause, Martin, and John Wilmerding. *The Essential Robert Indiana*. New York: Prestel

# 2012

Robert Indiana Sculptures. Exhibition catalogue. London: Waddington Custot Galleries
Ryan, Susan Elizabeth, and William Ganis. Love and Fame: Works by Robert Indiana and Andy Warhol.
Exhibition catalogue. Terre Haute: Indiana State University Art Gallery
Unruh, Allison, ed. Robert Indiana: New Perspectives. With essays by Robert Storr, Thomas Crow,
Jonathan D. Katz, Kalliopi Minioudake, and Allison Unruh. Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz Verlag

# 2011

Pissarro, Joachim. *Robert Indiana: Rare Works from 1959 at Coenties Slip.* Exhibition catalogue. Zurich: Galerie Gmurzynska

2009



Wilmerding, John, and Michael Komanecky. *Robert Indiana and the Star of Hope*. Exhibition catalogue. Rockland, Maine: Farnsworth Art Museum

#### 2008

Celant, Germano. *Robert Indiana a Milano*. Exhibition catalogue. Milan: Silvana Editoriale, 2008. Dannatt, Adrian. *Robert Indiana: Hard Edge*. Exhibition catalogue. New York: Paul Kasmin Gallery, 2008.

Dauer, Jörg, ed. *Robert Indiana: The American Painter of Signs*. Exhibition catalogue. Wiesbaden: Museum Wiesbaden, 2008

#### 2006

Bonet, Juan Manuel, and Adrian Dannatt. *Robert Indiana: Paseo de Recoletos y Paseo del Prado*. Exhibition catalogue. Madrid: Aqualium, S.L.

Dannatt, Adrian. *Robert Indiana: A Living Legend*. Exhibition catalogue. Seoul: Seoul Museum of Art Salama-Caro, Simon, ed. *Robert Indiana*. With essays by Joachim Pissarro, Robert Pincus-Witten, and John Wilmerding. New York: Rizzoli International

# 2005

Dannatt, Adrian. Robert Indiana: Wood. Exhibition catalogue. New York: Paul Kasmin Gallery

# 2004

Dannatt, Adrian. *Robert Indiana: Paintings and Sculpture, 1961 to 2003*. Exhibition catalogue. London: Waddington Galleries

Homer, Valerie Vadala. *Robert Indiana: The Story of Love*. Exhibition catalogue. Scottsdale: Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art

Robert Indiana: Peace Paintings. Exhibition catalogue. New York: Paul Kasmin Gallery

#### 2003

Kernan, Nathan. *Robert Indiana: Recent Paintings*. Exhibition catalogue. New York: Paul Kasmin Gallery

# 2002

Foster, Stephen C. *Robert Indiana*. Exhibition catalogue. Shanghai: Shanghai Art Museum Pincuss-Witten, Robert. *Robert Indiana*: *Letters, Words and Numbers*. Exhibition catalogue. New York: C & M Arts in association with Simon Salama-Caro



Depotte, Hélène. *Hommage à Indiana*. Exhibition catalogue. Paris: Galerie Denise René Sogbe, Beatriz. *Los Estados Unidos Bajo La Optica de Robert Indiana*. Exhibition catalogue.

Caracas: Galería Ateneo de Caracas

# 2000

Ryan, Susan Elizabeth. Robert Indiana: Figures of Speech. New Haven: Yale University Press

Gallant, Aprile, Daniel E. O'Leary, and Susan Elizabeth Ryan. Love and the American Dream: The Art of Robert Indiana. Exhibition catalogue. Portland, Maine: Portland Museum of Art

# 1991

Sheehan, Susan. *Robert Indiana Prints: A Catalogue Raisonné, 1951-1991*. New York: Susan Sheehan Gallery

Katz, William. *Robert Indiana: Early Sculpture, 1958-1962*. Exhibition catalogue. London: Salama-Caro Gallery

#### 1990

Maynes, Bill. Robert Indiana: Decade Autoportrait. Exhibition catalogue. New York: Marisa del Re Gallery

Weinhardt, Jr., Carl J. Robert Indiana. New York: Harry N. Abrams

#### 1989

Lust, Herbert. Robert Indiana. Exhibition catalogue. Paris: Galerie Natalie Seroussi

# 1988

Pissarro, Joachim, and Hélène Depotte. *Robert Indiana: Rétrospective 1958-1998*. Exhibition catalogue. Nice: Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain

#### 1984

Mecklenburg, Virginia M. *Wood Works: Constructions by Robert Indiana*. Exhibition catalogue. Washington, D.C.: National Museum of American Art

# 1982

Sculpture from the Collection of Robert Indiana. Exhibition catalogue. Rockland, Maine: William A. Farnsworth Library and Art Museum



Tobin, Robert L.B., William Katz, and Donald B. Goodall. *Robert Indiana*. Exhibition catalogue. Austin: University Art Museum, University of Texas at Austin

#### 1971

Katz, William, and Robert Indiana. *Robert Indiana: Druckgraphik und Plakate, 1961-1971*. Stuttgart and New York: Edition Domberger

# 1968

McCoubrey, John W. *Robert Indiana*. Exhibition catalogue. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, Institute of Contemporary Art

#### 1966

Cladders, Johannes. *Robert Indiana, Number Paintings*. Exhibition catalogue. Krefeld: Museum Haus Lange

Van der Marck, Jan, and Gene R. Swenson. *Robert Indiana*. Exhibition catalogue. Minneapolis: Dayton's Gallery 12

# 1962

Péladeau, Marius B., and Martin Dibner. *Indiana's Indianas: A 20-Year Retrospective of Paintings and Robert Indiana*. Exhibition catalogue. New York: Stable Gallery

# **Exhibitions**

# 2016

Robert Indiana, Galleria d'Arte Maggiore G.A.M., Bologna, Italy

The Electric Garden of our Minds: British/American Pop, Springfield Art Museum, Montana American pop art: Masterpieces en masse by Robert Rauschenberg to Andy Warhol from the collection of Heinz Beck, Ludwig Galerie Schloss Oberhausen, Germany WORD, Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Peekskill, New York 200 Years of Indiana Art: A Cultural Legacy, Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis 19 Stars of Indiana Art: A Bicentennial Celebration, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indiana



75 Gifts for 75 Years, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

Apparitions: Frottages and Rubbings from 1860 to Now, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles

Del Arte Pop al Posmodernismo, Museo de Arte de El Salvador, San Salvador

Out of the Vault: 25 Years of Collecting, Nassau County Museum of Art, Roslyn Harbor, NY

Proportio, Palazzo Fortuny, Venice, Italy

Take an Object, Museum of Modern Art, New York

AMOR by Robert Indiana, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania

Picasso to Francis Bacon, Hangaram Art Museum, South Korea

Pop Art Design, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

# 2014

Pop Art Prints, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.

Standing in the Shadows of Love: The Aldrich Collection 1964–1974 Robert Indiana, Robert Morris,

Ree Morton, Robert Rauschenberg, Robert Smithson, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum,

Ridgefield, Connecticut

Pop Art Myths, Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid, Spain

# 2013

All You Need is LOVE: From Chagall to Kusama and Hatsune Miku Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan

Rethinking the American Dream, Long-Sharp Gallery, Indianapolis, Indiana

Indiana by the Numbers, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indiana

Sculpture in the City, London, England

Farbenfroh. Graphik aus der Sammlung Kemp, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, Germany

Robert Indiana: Beyond LOVE, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

Pop Imagery, Waddington Custot Galleries, London

#### 2012

Pop and the Sixties, Museum Moderner Kunst, Vienna, Austria

Inauguration, Galerie Laurent Strouk, Paris, France

On the Bowery, 1971, Westwood Gallery, New York

Robert Indiana: Sculptures, Waddington Custot Galleries, London, England

Pop Art Design, Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany

Robert Indiana, Galleria d'arte Contini, Venice and Cortina d' Ampezzo (Belluno), Italy



Robert Indiana: New & Classic Works; Rosenbaum Contemporary; Boca Raton, Florida

Origins & Evolutions, Galleria d'Arte Maggiore, Bologna, Italy

A Summer of American Masters with Robert Indiana, KM Fine Arts, Chicago, Illinois

Word Up! A Survey of Recent Text Based Work, Benrimon Contemporary, New York

# 2010

Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville, Florida

Drucksachen, Lehr Zeitgenössische Kunst, Cologne, Germany

Collector's Favorite, Hyundai Gallery, Seoul, Korea

BildTexte – TextBilder, Galerie Ernst Hilger, Vienna, Austria

# 2009

Robert Indiana: LOVE and HOPE; Rosenbaum Contemporary; Boca Raton, Florida

Robert Indiana and the Star of HOPE—Farnsworth Art Museum; Rockland, Maine

Sculpture: Post-War to Present—Maxwell Davidson Gallery, New York

Von Picasso bis Warhol, Künstlerschmuck der Avantgarde - Museum für Angewandte Kunst; Cologne,

Germany

# 2008

Pressing Issues, Des Moines Art Center, Iowa

Pop and Op; Nassau County Museum of Art; Roslyn Harbor, New York

# 2007

Art Market Now; The Columns; Seoul, South Korea

# 2006

Life as a Legend - Marilyn Monroe, Boca Raton Museum of Art, Florida

# 2005

Made in USA – ausgewählte Graphik, Galerie & Edition Bode GmbH; Nuremberg, Germany

Summer of Love Art of the Psychedelic Era, Tate Liverpool, England

Do It Yourself—Positionen von den sechziger Jahren bis Heute, Hamburger Bahnhof, Museum für

Gegenwart; Berlin, Germany

40 Jahre Galerie Thomas; Galerie Thomas; Munich, Germany

2004-05



Robert Indiana 66: Paintings and Sculpture; Price Tower Arts Center; Bartlesville, Oklahoma

# 2003

Letters, Words and Numbers; L & M Gallery; New York

# 1998

Retrospective; Musée D'Art Moderne Contemporain; Nice, France

#### 1991

Prints Retrospective, Susan Sheehan Gallery, New York

#### 1990

Prints as Process; Baxter Gallery, Portland School of Art; Maine

#### 1986

Vinalhaven Press 1985-1986, Portland Museum of Art, Maine

#### 1982

Indiana's Indianas: A 25-Year Retrospective of Paintings and Sculptures from the Collection of Robert Indiana; National Museum of Art, Smithsonian Institution; Washington, D.C.

# 1978

Art About Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

# 1977-78

Traveling retrospective; University Art Museum at University of Texas, Austin, Texas; Chrysler Museum,

Norfolk, Virginia; Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indiana; Neuberger Museum, State University of New York,

Purchase; Art Center, South Bend, Indiana

# 1976

Thirty Years of American Art, Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York

# 1975-76

Galerie Denise Rene, New York



American Art Since 1945, Museum of Modern Art, New York

# 1972

The Modern Image; High Museum of Art; Atlanta, Georgia Galerie Denise Rene, New York

#### 1969-70

The Prints and Posters of Robert Indiana; St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana; Traveled to Colby College of Art Museum, Waterville, Maine; Currier Gallery of Art, Manchester, New Hampshire; Hopkins

Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire; Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, Maine;

Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts.

#### 1969

70 Years of American Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

# 1968

Solo exhibition traveled to Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Marion Koogler McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, Texas; and Herron Museum of Art in Toledo, Ohio.

Word and Image, Museum of Modern Art, New York

# 1967

Ninth Sao Paulo Biennial; San Paolo Brazil

#### 1966

LOVE Exhibition, Stable Gallery, New York

1966 Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Sculpture, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Galerie Alfred Schmela; Dusseldorf, Germany

Museum Haus Lange; Krefeld, Germany

# 1965

Word and Image, Guggenheim Museum, New York

Annual Exhibition of American Paintings, Whitney Museum of Art, New York



Solo exhibition, Stable Gallery, New York

# 1963

Americans 1963, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Exhibition with Richard Stankeiwicz at Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Traveled to The
Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, Massachusetts
New Realists, Sidney Janis Gallery, New York

# 1962

Stable Gallery, New York. First solo exhibition.

# 1961

The Art of Assemblage, Museum of Modern Art, New York