

Biography: a summary

1915. Born in Madrid.

1932-34. Starts architectural studies in Madrid University.

1934-36. Studies architecture at the School of Arts and Crafts of Oxford. Intermediate exam of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

1936-39. Spanish civil war. Returns to Spain. Aircraft pilot.

1939. Devotes himself entirely to painting.

1945. Buchholz Gallery, Madrid: "Madrid's Young School" exhibition.

1947. Tutored by Spanish painter Daniel Vázquez Díaz.

1948. Abandons figurative art and produces only abstract works. Wins a scholarship from the French Government and moves to Paris where he will live for the next 20 years. Meets Ellsworth Kelly and starts a long friendship with Eduardo Chillida. Bernard Dorival, curator of the Musée National d'Art Moderne invites him to take part in the "Salon de Mai". Collective exhibition at the Denise René Galerie.

1949. Meets Mr. & Mrs Maeght. Collective exhibition "Les Mains Eblouies" at Maeght. Takes part in the "Salon de Mai".

1950. "Les Mains Eblouies", Maeght. "Salon de Mai".

1951. "Tendances", Maeght.

1952. "Tendances", Maeght, with Ellsworth Kelly and others. Kunsthaus, Zurich, "Peintres d'Aujourd'hui a Paris". Lausanne, Musée des Beaux Arts, "Rythmes et Couleurs".

1953. Guggenheim, N.Y., "Young Spanish Artists".

1954. First sculpture "Ascendente", in bronze. Kunsthalle, Bern, "Tendances Actuelles de l'Ecole de Paris".

1955. First solo exhibition at Maeght, Paris (19 oil paintings). Lausanne, Musée des Baux Arts, "Le mouvement dans l'art contemporain. Du futurisme à l'art abstrait". Pittsburg, Carnegie International Museum of Art.

1956. Basel. Beyeler Galerie, "Abstrakte Maler".
1958. Solo exhibition at Maeght Paris. Awarded the V Carnegie International Prize.
1959. Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris: "13 Peintres Espagnols Actuels". Darro Gallery, Madrid: "Homage to Spanish Artists".
1960. Zurich, Kunsthaus: "Kunst und Naturform- Form in Art & Nature", exhibition and book.
1961. Carnegie Institute. Pittsburg.
1962. 4 mock-up sculptures for HISA Group, Madrid.
1963. Solo exhibition at Maeght, Paris
1964. Opening celebrations, Marguerite & Aimé Maeght Foundation, Saint-Paul-de-Vence. Carnegie Institute, Pittsburg.
1965. Moulded woden ceiling at private residence. Madrid.
1966. Beyeler Gallery, Basel: exhibition "1944-1955 Aspekte".
1967. "Forma Nueva" exhibition, Madrid, with Millares, Oteiza, Chillida, Saenz de Oiza, Ferández Alba and Fullaondo.. "Arte Español Actual" exhibition that tours several german cities.. Carnegie Institute, Pittsburg.
1969. Moves to the family estate "La Peraleda", Galapagar, near Madrid.
1970. Solo exhibition at Maeght, Paris. Colective exhibition on the occasion of Maeght Zurich inauguration. Buys the XIV century castle in Monroy, Cáceres and stars a full restoration with the help of his brother Juan, architect. Works last more than 10 years.
1972. Solo exhibition at the Musée des Beaux Arts de La Chaud-de Fonds. Solo exhibition at Maeght Zurich.
1973. Iolas Velasco Gallery, Madrid, first solo exhibition in Spain after his return from France. Paints the ceiling of the main hall of BANKINTER, Madrid. Moves for extend periods of time to Monroy, Where he works in a very large studio in the castle.

1974. Colective exhibition on the occasion of the inauguration of Maeght Barcelona.

1977. Exhibition at Maeght Barcelona and Theo Gallery, Madrid, including sculptures.

1978. Maeght Paris, exhibition.

1979. Sculpture in corten steel for the Abstract Sculpture Museum in Castellana Av., Madrid.

1980. First monography is published by Maeght, written by Claude Esteban.

1981. Signs the declaration "For Liberty, Democracy and the Constitution", after the attempted coup d'Etat.

1982. Bellas Artes gold medal.

1983. Circle of Bellas Artes, Madrid: series of conferences and workshops.

1984. Spanish Parliament orders a sculpture.

1985. Circle of Bellas Artes, Madrid: series of conferences and workshops.. Exhibition "Présence de la Réalité dans l'Art Espagnol Contemporain", tours several European and Southamerican cities.

1986. L.P. "El Número y las Aguas" with composer Frederic Nyst.

1988. Exhibition, "Le Siécle de Picasso", Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris.

1990. Wall sculpture for "Torre Picasso" building in Madrid.

1991. First exhibition at Soledad Lorenzo Gallery, Madrid.

1994. Madrid's Región prize for plastic creation.

1995. Retrospective exhibition, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid.

1996. Royal Mint, Madrid prize Tomas Francisco Prieto.

1999. With Rafael Moneo, esculpture in Barcelona Auditori.

2004. Velázquez Prize of Plastic Arts.

2005. Exhibition of 1995-2005 works, Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid.

2006-07. MACBA Museum Barcelona and Guggenheim Bilbao, retrospective exhibition. Later (2008) exhibition travels to Bogotá and Sao Paulo.

2007. October. Dies at "La Peraleda", Galapagar, near Madrid.