

Anni ALBERS

The Alan Cristea Gallery at  
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## Biography

- 1899** Born in Berlin, Germany
- 1916/19** Studies painting privately with Martin Brandenburg
- 1922** Enrols at the Bauhaus and begins the Preliminary Course in April
- 1924** First published writings, her piece on "Bauhausweberei," appears in a special Bauhaus issue of the magazine *Junge Menschen*. Her article "Wohnökonomie" is published in a women's magazine. It promotes the Bauhaus idea of design for efficient living.
- 1925** The Albers' move with the Bauhaus to Dessau. Josef and Anni are married on May 9<sup>th</sup> and travel to Italy on their honeymoon.
- 1927** Anni takes Paul Klee's class for the weaving students. She designs wall coverings and curtains for the Theater Café Altes in Dessau and the curtain for a theater in Oppeln.
- 1929** Josef and Anni travel to Barcelona where they visit the International Exposition and its German Pavilion designed by Mies van der Rohe. Anni designs a sound-absorbing and light-reflecting wallcovering using a new material, cellophane. The wallcovering is used in the auditorium of a trade union school—the Allgemeinen Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundeschule—designed by Bauhaus director Hannes Meyer, in Bernau just outside Berlin. She receives her Bauhaus Diploma for this innovative work.
- 1931** Her textiles are shown at the Berlin Building Exhibition and she is awarded a City of Berlin prize for her work.
- 1932** Josef and Anni move to Berlin after funding is withdrawn from the Bauhaus by the city of Dessau and the school is forced to move there.
- 1933** In August, after harassment by the Nazi authorities, remaining faculty members officially close the Bauhaus. On the recommendation of Philip Johnson and Edward M.M. Warburg at New York's Museum of Modern Art, Josef and Anni are invited to teach at the newly-founded Black Mountain College, North Carolina
- 1936** Inspired by her Mexican travels Anni makes two monumental weavings, *Monte Alban* and *Ancient Writing*.
- 1939** The Albers' become United States citizens.
- 1944** Anni is commissioned by Philip Johnson to create a drapery fabric for the Rockefeller Guest House at East 57th Street in New York City. Using cotton chenille, white plastic, and copper foil yarn she creates a fabric which is transformed into a sparkling surface at night.
- 1949** Philip Johnson organizes the exhibition *Anni Albers Textiles* at the Museum of Modern Art, New York
- 1954** The Honolulu Academy of Arts has an exhibition of Anni's weavings.
- 1959** *On Designing*, a compilation of Anni's writings on design and aesthetics, is published by Pellango Press in New Haven. MIT presents the exhibition *Anni Albers. Pictorial Weavings*.

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### Biography continued

- 1961** Anni is awarded the American Institute of Architects' Craftmanship Medal.
- 1963** Begins to experiment with lithography techniques, creating *Enmeshed I* and *Enmeshed II*, her first works in this medium.
- 1965** The seminal text *On Weaving* is published by Wesleyan University Press.
- 1970** Anni gives up weaving and devotes herself to printmaking.
- 1977** *Anni Albers Prints and Drawings* is presented by the Brooklyn Museum.
- 1981** Receives the American Craft Council's gold medal.
- 1990** Travels to London where she is awarded an honorary doctorate by the Royal College of Art.
- 1994** Anni Albers dies May 9, in Orange, Connecticut.

### Solo Exhibitions

- 2011** *Anni Albers: Design Pioneer*, Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, UK  
Anni Albers, Dovecot, Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland
- 2010/11** *Anni Albers: Design Pioneer*, Ruthin Craft Centre, Wales
- 2010** *Anni Albers: Prints and Studies*, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK  
*Anni Albers- Truth to Material*, Design Museum, London, UK
- 2009** *Anni and Josef Albers: Latin American Journeys*, Pinacoteca do Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2008** *Anni and Josef Albers: Latin American Journeys*, Museu Oscar Niemeyer, Curitiba, Brazil
- 2005** *Josef and Anni Albers: Designs for Living*, Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, New York, USA
- 1985** *The Woven and Graphic Arts of Anni Albers*, Renwick Gallery, Washington D.C; touring to Yale University Art Gallery, Yale, USA
- 1979** *Anni Albers Prints and Drawings*, Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA
- 1975** Kunstmuseum, Dusseldorf, Germany  
Bauhaus Archiv, Berlin, Germany

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### Group Exhibitions

- 2011**      *Abstract Thought*, Babcock Gallery, Virginia, USA
- 2010**      *Utopia matters: from Brotherhoods to Bauhaus*, Deutsche Guggenheim, Berlin, Germany & Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, Italy  
*Textiles, Art and the Social Fabric*, Muhka Contemporary Art Museum, Belgium  
*Bauhaus, 1919-1933: Workshops for Modernity*, MoMA, New York, USA  
*The Jewel Thief*, Tang Teaching Museum, Saratoga Springs, New York, USA
- 2009**      *Abstraction and Empathy*, Deutsche Guggenheim, Berlin, Germany  
*Modell Bauhaus 1919-1933*, Martin Gropius Bau, Berlin, Germany  
*ahoi herbert! bayer and modernism*, Lentos Kunstmuseum, Linz, Germany  
*Das Bauhaus kommt*, Klassik Stiftung Weimar, Germany
- 2008**      *Georges Vantongerloo*, Musee departemental Matisse, Palais Fenelon, Le Cateau-Cambresis, France  
*Collage/Collages from Cubism to New Dada*, Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, GAM, Torino, Italy
- 2006**      *Starting at Zero: Black Mountain College 1933-1957*, Arnolfini, Bristol, UK & Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK
- 2005**      *Logical Conclusions: 40 Years of Rule-Based Art*, Pace Wildenstein, New York, USA  
*Art and Utopia. Action Restricted*, Museu d'Art contemporani, Barcelona, Spain & Musee des Beaux-Arts de Nantes, France
- 2003**      *Bauhaus Furniture*, Bauhaus-Archiv, Berlin & Bauhaus Museum, Weimar, Germany  
*New World's Old World*, AXA Gallery, New York, USA  
*Black Mountain College Experiment in Art*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain  
*Seeing Red*, Hunter College, New York, USA
- 2003/02**      *Shopping*, Tate Gallery, Liverpool, UK & Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, Germany

### Public Collections

- DE**      Die Neue Sammlung Munich, Germany
- IT**      Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice
- UK**      Tate Britain, London
- USA**      The Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit  
Museum of Modern Art, New York
- USA**      Busch-Reisinger Museum, Harvard University Art Museums, Massachusetts  
Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, New York, New York  
Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington DC  
American Craft Museum  
Middlebury Museum, Vermont