

ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG Chronology

1925

Is born Milton Ernest Rauschenberg, October 22, Port Arthur, Texas.

1943

Is drafted into the United States Navy after briefly studying pharmacology at the University of Texas at Austin.

1947

Enrolls at the Kansas City Art Institute on the G.I. Bill.

1948

Enrolls at the Académie Julian in Paris.

1948-52

Oscillates between the Art Students League in New York (where he studied with Vaclav Vytlačil and Morris Kantor, and met Knox Martin and Cy Twombly) and the Black Mountain College in North Carolina (where he studied under Josef Albers and met John Cage and Merce Cunningham).

1951

Creates *White Paintings*, seemingly blank canvases activated by the shadow of the viewer.

First solo exhibition, Betty Parsons Gallery, New York.

1952

Participates in the event at Black Mountain College sometime referred to as the first Happening alongside John Cage, Charles Olson, David Tudor, and Merce Cunningham.

Travels to Europe and North Africa with Cy Twombly; worked on a series of small collages, hanging assemblages and small boxes.

Exhibits in Rome and Florence.

1953

Exhibits *White Paintings* at the Stable Gallery, New York, NY.

1954

Solo show, Charles Egan Gallery, New York, NY.

1954-64

Works on *Combines*, pulling topical images and objects into the realm of abstract painting.

1961

Is invited to participate in an exhibition at the Galerie Iris Clert, Paris, France.

1962

Creates lithographs at Universal Limited Art Editions in West Islip, NY.

1963

Major exhibition at the Jewish Museum in New York.

1964

Receives Grand Prix for Painting at the 32nd Venice Biennale.

The Museum of Modern Art in New York purchases *Inferno*, a series of drawings based on the 34 cantos of Dante's *Inferno*.

Solo exhibition at the Whitechapel Gallery, London, England.

1965

Solo exhibition at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN.

1966

Launches Experiments in Art and Technology (E.A.T.) with Billy Klüver. E.A.T. is a non-profit organization established to promote collaborations between artists and engineers.

1967

Is awarded an Honorary Doctorate, Grinnell College, IA.

1968

Solo exhibition at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

1970

Invited by NASA to witness the Apollo 11 launch, created his *Stoned Moon* lithograph series in response.

1970

Establishes his home and studio on Captiva Island, FL.



Founds Change, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides emergency funds for artists.

1974

Solo exhibition at the Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel.

1975

Solo show at Cà Pesaro, Venice, Italy.

1976-77

Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris purchases *Oracle*.

Is recognized as America's bicentennial artist with a retrospective exhibition at the National Collection of Fine Arts (now the Smithsonian American Art Museum), Washington, D.C. The exhibition travelled to four major American cities, as well as Asia and Spain.

Is awarded Honorary Doctorate, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

Receives commission from BMW to paint a full-size BMW 635 CSi for the 6th BMW Art Car Project.

Contributed set and designs for Merce Cunningham Dance Company performance of *Travelogue*.

1978

Is elected as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Science, Boston, MA.

Receives Creative Arts Award, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA.

1979

Wins Grand Prix d'Honneur, International Exhibition of Graphic Art, Ljubljana, Yugoslavia.

Is awarded the Gold Medal for Graphics, Oslo, Sweden.

1980-81

Solo exhibition at Staatliche Kunsthalle, Berlin, Germany.

1980

Is elected Foreign Member of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Stockholm, Sweden.

1981

Is elected Officer in the Ordre des Arts et Lettres, Ministry of Culture and Communication, Paris, France.

Solo exhibition at the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France.

Is appointed Fellow, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI.

1982

Is awarded Skowhegan Medal for Painting, Skowhegan College, ME

1984

Solo exhibition at Fondation Maeght, Saint-Paul, France.

Announces the Rauschenberg Overseas Culture Interchange, ROCI (supported by the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.), at the United Nations. This began a seven year, ten country tour through Mexico, Chile, Venezuela, China, Tibet, Japan, Cuba, Soviet Union, Germany and Malaysia. Rauschenberg produced over 200 paintings, drawings, photographs, assemblages and other multi-media works inspired by the cultures he visited.

Wins a Grammy Award for Best Album Design for his work on the Talking Heads album, *Speaking in Tongues*.

1985

Is presented Band of Honour from the Order of Andres Bello, Venezuela.

Solo exhibition at Fundación Juan March, Madrid and Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona, Spain.

1986

Receives Golden Plate Award, 25th Anniversary Salute to Excellence, American Academy of Achievement, Washington, D.C.

Solo exhibition at the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX.

1987

Receives Art Award from the International Center of Photography, New York.

1989

Receives the Algur H. Meadows Award of Excellence in the Arts, Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX

1990

Founds The Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, a non-profit organization devoted to further Rauschenberg's philanthropic and educational initiatives, and to preserve and advance global understanding of his life and work.

Solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.



1991

ROCI works are exhibited at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Solo exhibition at the Menil Collection, Houston, TX.

1993

Is presented the National Medal of the Arts Award by President George H. W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush.

Wins the Second Hiroshima Art Prize, Hiroshima Museum of Contemporary Art, Japan.

1995

Is awarded the Leonardo Da Vinci World Award of Arts, World Cultural Council, Mexico City, Mexico.

1996

Receives Lifetime Achievement Award in Contemporary Sculpture, International Sculpture Center, Washington, D.C.

1997

The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum presents "Robert Rauschenberg: A Retrospective." The exhibition is exhibited simultaneously at the Guggenheim on Fifth Avenue, SoHo, and Ace Gallery. It then traveled to the Menil Collection, the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, before moving on to the Museum Ludwig, in Cologne, Germany and finally at the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, Spain.

Wins First Prize in Contemporary Art, ARCO and Fundación Argentaria, Madrid, Spain.

Solo exhibition at Aktionsforum Praterinsel, Munich, Germany.

2000

Is elected Royal Academician, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England.

Wins the Eighth Wexner Prize, Ezner Center, OSU, Columbus, OH.

Solo exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY.

2000-01

Solo show at the Baltimore Museum of Art, MD.

2001

Is awarded the Harbourfront Centre World Leaders Prize, Toronto, Ontario.

2002

Receives Medal Award, The School of the Museum of

Fine Arts, Boston, MA.

Solo show at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; Musee Maillol, Paris, France.

2004

Solo show at the Palazzo dei Diamanti, Ferrara, Italy.

2005

Receives the Julio Gonzalez Award, Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno (IVAM), Valencia, Spain.

Solo show at the Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno (IVAM), Valencia, Spain.

2005-06

Awarded first place, U.S. Art Critics Association Best Monographic Museum Show, "Robert Rauschenberg: Combines."

Solo exhibition at the Musee d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain de la Ville de Nice, Nice, France.

2006-08

Solo exhibition at The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA.

2008

Dies at home on Captiva Island, FL, from heart failure, May 12.

2009-10

"Robert Rauschenberg: Gluts," the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, opens in Venice, Italy.

Awarded Texas Medal of Arts Lifetime Achievement.

2010

Received posthumous Honorary Doctorate, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO.

2011

Gagosian Gallery and the Rauschenberg Foundation exhibit personal art collection for the first time in "The Private Collection of Robert Rauschenberg."

2012

The Philadelphia Museum of Art presents "Dancing Around the Bride" examining the artistic exchange and collaboration with Marcel Duchamp, Jasper Johns, Merce Cunningham, and John Cage.

2013

SFMOMA publishes their first comprehensive online collection catalogue entitled "Rauschenberg Research Project" as part of the Getty Foundation's Online Scholarly Catalogue Initiative.