

# Antoni Tàpies

**1923**

Born on December 13 in Barcelona, Spain.

**1940**

Studies at Instituto Menéndez y Pelayo.

**1942-1943**

Develops a serious lung illness involving a lengthy convalescence.

**1944**

Attends courses in law at the Universitat de Barcelona, which he later abandons shortly before taking his degree. Studies drawing at the Acadèmia Valls in Barcelona for two months.

**1945**

Increasing commitment to painting.

**1948**

Meets Joan Miró with whom he establishes a close friendship.

**1950**

With the help of a grant, he moves to Paris, where he meets Pablo Picasso.

**1952**

Participates in the XXVI Biennale di Venezia.

**1954**

Marries Teresa Barba.

**1955**

Meets Michel Tapié, one the most thrilling friendships in his career.

**1958**

Participates in the XXIX Biennale di Venezia, where he receives the UNESCO Prize. Awarded first prize at the Carnegie International at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. Meets Marcel Duchamp.

**1963**

Receives the Providence Art Club Prize, Rhode Island, United States.

**1968**

His production of three-dimensional objects intensifies.

**1970**

Publishes a compilation of his writings, entitled *La pràctica de l'art*.

**1972**

Receives the Rubens Prize, Siegen, Germany.

**1974**

Publishes the book *L'art contra l'estètica*. Receives the British Arts Council Prize.

**1977**

Publishes the autobiographical book *Memòria personal*.

**1979**

Elected an honorary member of the Akademie der Künste in Berlin.

**1981**

Awarded the Medalla de Oro al Mérito en las Bellas Artes by the Spanish Ministry of Culture. Receives an honorary doctorate from the Royal College of Art in London. Begins working with fireclay in Saint-Paul-de-Vence, France.

**1983**

Named Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government. Receives the Medalla d'Or from the government of Catalonia. Unveiling in Barcelona of the artist's monumental sculpture in homage to Picasso.

**1984**

The Fundació Antoni Tàpies is legally founded in Barcelona.

**1985**

Receives the Prix National de Peinture in France. Publishes *Per un art modern i progressista*.

**1987**

Starts producing bronze sculptures.

**1988**

Awarded an honorary doctorate by the Universitat de Barcelona.

**1989**

Becomes a Honorary member of the Catalan Centre of the PEN Club.

**1990**

Named an honorary member of the Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando. Receives the Premio Príncipe de Asturias for the arts. Presents his monumental sculpture *Núvol i cadira* at the headquarters of the Fundació Antoni Tàpies, which opens to the public soon after.

**1992**

Named an honorary fellow of the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

**1993**

Creates the installation *Rinzen* for the Spanish Pavilion at the XLV Biennale di Venezia, for which he receives the Leone d'Oro. Publishes *Valor de l'art*.

**1995**

Receives the Premi Nacional d'Arts Plàstiques, awarded by the government of Catalonia.

**1996**

A major exhibition of Tàpies's work travels to several museums in Japan.

**1999**

Publishes *El arte y sus lugares*, which includes texts by the artist and pictures of art works of different periods and cultures selected by the artist.

**2002**

Awarded the Premio Nacional de Grabado y Arte Gráfico by the Calcografía Nacional-Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando in Madrid.

**2003**

Awarded the Premio Velázquez de las Artes Plásticas by the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports. Receives an honorary doctorate from the Universidad Complutense in Madrid.

**2005**

Receives the Lissone Prize for his life's work.

**2006**

Named Commandeur de la Légion d'honneur by the French Republic.

**2010**

Fundació Tàpies re-opens with the exhibition *Antoni Tàpies. The Places of Art*. Volume I of the complete writings of Antoni Tàpies is published in Catalan and Spanish; *Memoria personal. Fragment para una autobiografía (Obra escrita completa)*.

**2011**

Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona, inaugurates *Antoni Tàpies. The Places of Art. (Collection)*

**2012**

The artist dies at the age of 88 on February 6 in Barcelona.

## Public Collections

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York  
Allen Memorial Museum of Art, Oberlin College, Ohio  
Ars Nova Museum, Turku, Finland  
The Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland  
Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas  
Centro Calego de Arte Contemporánea, Santiago de Compostela  
City Hall, Barcelona  
Essl Museum—Kunst der Gegenwart, Klosterneuburg, Austria  
Fondation Beyeler, Riehen, Switzerland  
Fondation Maeght, Saint-Paul de Vence, France  
FRAC Picardie, Amiens  
FRAC Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Marseilles  
Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona  
Fundació Caixa de Pensions, Barcelona  
Funcació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
Galerie für Moderne Kunst, Hannover  
Galleria Communale d'Arte Moderna, Bologna  
Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome  
Göteborgs Konstmuseum, Göteborg, Sweden  
Guggenheim Bilbao, Spain  
Hakone Open-Air Museum, Hakone-machi, Japan  
Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington. D.C.  
Instituto di Tella, Buenos Aires  
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem  
I.V.A.M. Centre Julio González, Valencia  
Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki  
Kunsthalle Hamburg  
Kunsthau Zürich  
Kunstmuseum Basel  
Kunstmuseum Berlin  
Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, Switzerland  
Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Switzerland  
Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf  
Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark  
Marion Koogler McNay Art Museum, San Antonio  
Moderna Museet, Stockholm

Musée Cantini, Marseilles  
Musée d'Art Contemporain, Montreal  
Musée d'Arte Moderne de la Ville de Paris  
Musée des Beaux-Arts, Lyon  
Musée d'art moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris  
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Caracas Sofía Imber, Caracas  
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Internacional Rufino Tamaya, Mexico D.F.  
Museo de Arte Abstracto Español de Cuenca, Spain  
Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Madrid  
Museo d'Arte Moderna, Bologna  
Museo d'Arte Moderna, Venice  
Museo de Arte Moderno, São Paulo  
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía  
Museu d'Art Contemporain, Barcelona  
Museu Colecção Berardo, Lisbon  
Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, Barcelona  
Museum Bochum-Kunstsammlung, Bochum  
Museum Boijmans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam  
Museum Folkwang, Essen  
Museum Lissone, Milan  
Museum Ludwig, Cologne  
Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig, Vienna  
Museum des 20. Jahrhunderts, Vienna  
Museum of Art, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
The Museum of Modern Art, New York  
Museum of Modern Art, Shiga, Japan  
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
Nationalgalerie, Berlin  
Ohara Museum of Art, Okayama, Japan  
Reed College, Portland, Oregon  
Sammlung Essl, Vienna  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh  
Seibu Museum of Art, Tokyo  
Sezon Museum of Modern Art, Karuizawa, Nagano, Japan  
Sintra Museu de Arte Moderna, Portugal – The Berardo Collection  
The Solomon R Guggenheim Museum, New York  
Sprengel Museum, Hannover

Axel Vervoordt Gallery

Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart  
Städel Museum, Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
Städtische Galerie im Städelsches Kunstinstitut, Frankfurt am Main  
Städtische Kunsthalle, Mannheim  
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam  
Sutai Pinacotheca, Osaka  
Tate, London  
Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran  
University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley  
University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor  
Washington University Gallery of Art, St. Louis, Missouri  
Wilhelm Lehmbruck Museum, Duisburg  
Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, Massachusetts  
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut

For more biographical information, such as a list of solo and group exhibitions, please consult the [Fundació Antoni Tàpies](#).