

HERMANN NITSCH (b. 1938)

1938 born in Vienna, Austria, died on April 18th 2022 in a hospital in Mistelbach.

Represented by Galerie Kandlhofer, Vienna

Education:

2012-2016: practice-based PhD in Visual arts (Very Honorable with unanimous Jury
Congratulations)

Beaux-Arts de Paris and Ecole normale supérieure (PSL), France

2014: Painting Research Programme, Royal College of Art, London, UK

2006-2010: MA (Jury Honours), Beaux-Arts de Paris, France

2002-2006: BA, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, China

Solo Shows (2000 -):

2023: Hermann Nitsch. Hommage, Musée de L'Orangerie, Paris, FR

Hermann Nitsch, Bayreuth: Postlude, RX|Paris, Paris, FR

Gesamtkunstwerk, Hermann Nitsch, K&L Museum, Gyeonggi, KR

Hermann Nitsch, das 6-date Spiel, nitsch Museum, Mistelbach, AT

Hermann Nitsch, Bayreuth Walküre e relitti 158. Aktion, Museo Hermann Nitsch,
Napoli, IT

Kounellis/Nitsch, der theatralische Moment, Umberto Benappi, Turin, IT

Nitsch. A Homage by Ekrem Yalcindag, Nitsch Foundation, Vienna, AT

Hermann Nitsch, Farbenwelt, Museum St. Peter an der Sperr, Vienna, AT

Kolossal, Malerei im Großformat, Unteres Belvedere, Vienna, AT

K&L Museum, Art Music and Dreams, K&L Museum, Gyeonggi, KR

Hermann Nitsch, Carthatic Aversion, ABC-ARTE, Genua, IT

Hermann Nitsch, Selected Paintings, Actions, Relics, Pace, New York, US

Hermann Nitsch, Aktionsfotographie 1963-1984, Westlicht, Wien, AT

Nitsch. A Hommage By Paul Renner, Nitsch Foundation, Wien, AT

Group Shows:

THE PASSION, Kunstmuseum Schloss Derneburg, Derneburg, DE

2022: "hermann nitsch, 20th painting action secession", oficine 800, venice

„hermann nitsch“, Maruani Mercier, Brüssel, BE

„hermann nitsch“, Peres Projects, Berlin, DE

"hermann nitsch. das 6-tage- spiel", nitsch foundation, Vienna, AT

„hermann nitsch“, Galerie Kandlhofer, Wien, AT

"hermann nitsch. die partitur des 6-tage-spiels", galerie elisabeth & klaus thoman, innsbruck, AT

Group Shows:

"body images: intimacy – deconstruction – interaction", wilhelm hack museum, ludwigshafen

"richard gerstl. inspiration – legacy", kunsthaus zug

2021: painting action "valkyrie", bayreuth festival; exhibitions: "hermann nitsch – bayreuth walküre", nitsch museum, mistelbach

"hermann nitsch – sinfonia napoli", museo hermann nitsch, naples; "bayreuth prelude", galerie rx, paris; "bayreuth stories", galerie rx, new york

"farbe als material", burg vischering, lüdingshausen; "hermann nitsch. the orgies mysteries theatre", museum of decorative art and design, riga;

"hermann nitsch. mythos – passion" works from the sammlung jaegers, kunsthalle jesuitenkirche, aschaffenburg

"hermann nitsch. bilder der 88. malaktion", nitsch foundation, vienna; "hermann nitsch", galerie jahn und jahn, münchen

Group Shows:

"odore – l'art, l'odeur, e le sacré", galerie pauline pavec, paris; "resistance", maruani mercier, brüssel

"tense conditions", staatsgalerie stuttgart; "radical austria. everything is architecture", design museum den bosch, s'hertogenbosch

"costa/nitsch. il viaggio nell'ancestrale", galleria michela rizzo, venezia; concert: „weinviertel symphony", nitsch museum, mistelbach; others: "orgelmysterium", domkirche st. pölten;

2020: 158th action, museo hermann nitsch, naples

"hermann nitsch – new works", nitsch museum, mistelbach

"hermann nitsch", galerie bechter kastowsky, schaan

"rush of color", galerie jahn pfefferle, munich

"the shape of color", galerie rx, paris

"the orgies mysteries theater", opera gallery, geneva

Group Shows:

"the beginning. art in vienna from 1945 to 1980", albertina modern

"double lifes", bundeskunsthalle, bonn

"standing aside", gdansk city gallery, danzig

"passion and fervour. the art of powerful emotions", lwl museum für kunst und kultur, münster

"casper david friedrich / hermann nitsch", albertinum, dresden

2019: "hermann nitsch – the total work of art", lechner museum, ingolstadt

"hermann nitsch – rooms of color", albertina, wien

„hermann nitsch. katharsis“, palazzo ducale, mantua

"hermann nitsch", richard koh fine art, singapur

"hermann nitsch", marc straus gallery, new york

"hermann nitsch. pittura, fotografia, disegni", studio d'arte cannaviello, mailand

"hermann nitsch – life&work", the culture story, singapore

Group Shows:

"opéra monde/opéra monde/opera as the world – the quest for a total work of art",
centre pompidou, metz

"intriguing uncertainties", park view museum, peking

"disturbing narrative", park view museum, singapore

"dark side", musja, rome; "ikonen", kunsthalle bremen

8. internationale biennale for contemporary art, new tretjakov gallery, moscow

2018: 155th action / action-symphony for the 80th birthday, nitsch museum, mistelbach

"hermann nitsch – life and work", nitsch museum, mistelbach

"reliti 152 azione", 10 anni museo hermann nitsch, naples

"hermann nitsch – a monographic show in hagen", osthause museum hagen

"hermann nitsch" solo show, marc straus gallery, armory show, new york

"hermann nitsch – the orgies mysteries theatre", massimo de carlo, london

"hermann nitsch", galerie rx, paris; "hermann nitsch – to the concept of the orgies
mysteries theatre", kulturhaus hinterzarten

"hermann nitsch 80", nitsch foundation, vienna

"drawings 1957-2017", büro weltausstellung, vienna

"hermann nitsch 80", galerie zimmermann kratochwill and galerie kunst&handel,
graz

galerie 422, gmunden; group shows: "double lives", mumok, wien
"intriguing uncertainties", park view museum, singapur; lectures
"hermann nitsch meets robert c. morgan", armory show, new york
"nitsch&gelitin", massimo de carlo, london; artist talk with hermann nitsch,
sammlung hoffmann, berlin

2017: "hermann nitsch and his artistic pilgrimage", um museum, bongdam uhwaseong
korea

museum ciac foligno; iaga contemporary art, cluj

"hermann nitsch - da una collezione privata", fondazione opera santa rita, prato

"hermann nitsch - das druckgrafische werk", nitsch museum mistelbach

kunsthalle arlberg 1800, st. anton am arlberg; marc straus gallery new york

Group Shows:

"psycho drawing. art brut und die 60er und 70er in österreich" lentos
kunstmuseum, linz

"gemischter satz. hermann nitsch und vroni schwegler", verein für originalradierung,
münchen

2016: "existenzfest. hermann nitsch und das theater", museum villa stuck, münchen

"plakate aus 5 jahrzehnten", daniel löwenbrück, berlin

"gemälde, zeichnungen, druckgrafik", galerie fred jahn, münchen

"hermann nitsch. passion - auferstehung", nitsch foundation, wien

"arena - opere dall'opera", museo nitsch, naples; "rituale", nitsch museum,
mistelbach

"hermann nitsch", galerie 422, gmunden;

Group Shows:

"crocifissi - kreuzigungen, francis bacon - hermann nitsch - concetto pozzati",
palazzo montanari, bologna

"körper, psyche und tabu", mumok, wien

"closed universe? neue formen des wiener aktionismus in der heutigen kunst?",
galerie martinetz, köln

"synästhesieraum" dauerausstellung, sammlung friedrichshof, zurndorf;

2015: "das o.m. theater", zac palermo, "existenzfest. hermann nitsch und das theater",
theatermuseum wien

"12 arbeiten auf papier", galerie thoman, innsbruck

Group Shows:

"allegories & existence", summerhall edinburgh

"schlaflos", 21er haus - museum für zeitgenössische kunst, wien

"vienna for art's sake", winterpalais, wien

"mein körper ist das ereignis", mumok, wien

2014: "aktionsmalerei", dirimart, istanbul

"new york 2011", nitsch foundation, vienna

"arena - opere dell'opera", nitsch museum, mistelbach

"malaktionismus", museo nitsch, napoli

"das orgien mysterien theater", danubiana meulensteen art museum, bratislava

"carne e luce", fondazione ducci, rom

"hermann nitsch", culture industries association, hong kong

"arbeiten auf papier", nitsch foundation, vienna

Group Shows:

"made in austria", sammlung essl, klosterneuburg

"im dialog - wiener aktionismus", mdm, salzburg

biennale di disegno, rimini

2013: "sinne und sein - retrospektive", nitsch museum, mistelbach

"world metamorphosis", nitsch foundation, wien

"hermann nitsch", studio morra / alnitak art agency, art berlin contemporary;

"performance photography - 1960 to 1979", nitsch foundation, vienna

Group Shows:

"personal structures", palazzo bembo, venice

"la perversión de lo clásico: anarquía de los relatos", museo archeologico, cuba
pavillon, 55th biennale venice

"flesh and blood", museum on the seam, jerusalem

"faces past and present", ernst museum, budapest

"seeing wagner", k.u.k. post- and telegraphenamt vienna

"ernesto balducci and the 'mass of the artists'", fondazione ernesto balducci, palazzo
medici ricardi, florence

"duetto per napoli" (attersee e nitsch), castel dell'ovo, naples

2012: utopie gesamtkunstwerk im 21er haus, wien

levitikus, innsbruck/wien; kunstkulturkirche, frankfurt

thoman modern, innsbruck; 5 jahre hermann nitsch museum, mistelbach

explosion painting as action, moderna museet, stockholm

hermann nitsch personale im museum moderner kunst kärnten, klagenfurt

hermann nitsch: aus dem gesamtkunstwerk, galerie walker, schloss ebenau

in vivo hermann nitsch im centre pompidou, paris; galerie 422 margund lössl,
gmunden
explosion painting as action; fondacio joan miro, barcelona
"a bigger splash: painting after performance art", tate modern, london

2011: blood lines, mca denver

obsession and intimacy: the body in contemporary austrian drawings - from alfred
kubin to birgit jürgenssen, b&m theocharakis foundation for the fine arts and music,
athens

131th teaching action, leo könig inc., new york

hermann nitsch, leopold museum, vienn

costumes and settings by hermann nitsch for saint francois d'assise by olivier
messiaen, bayerische staatsoper münchen

Group Shows:

eroi, gam, turin; solo show, frühere werke aus der duerckheim collection, mzm,
mistelbach

personal structures, palazzo bembo, venedig

2010: masterpieces from the duerckheim collection, hermann nitsch museum, mistelbach

"personal structures. time-space-existence", künstlerhaus bregenz

exhibition of drawings at the cabinet des dessins, musée d'art moderne, st.
etienne

new museum installation, museum nitsch, naples

stella art foundation, moscow

2009: künstlerhaus, wien, publication of the book "das sein",

künstlerhaus, wien

kavernen, salzburg

de pont museum tilburg, holland, incubate festival in tilburg, holland, exhibition
gam turin, exhibition dirimart istanbul

2006: retrospective, martin-gropius bau, berlin

white space gallery alexander ochs, bejing; mike weiss gallery, new york

galerie yamamoto gendai, tokyo;

2005: "the triumph of painting", saatchi & saatchi, london; station museum of

contemporary art, houston
neue galerie, graz; slought foundation, philadelphia
nö dokumentationszentrum für moderne kunst, st. pölten
marco, mexico;

2004: museum moderner kunst stiftung ludwig, vienna; mumok, vienna
brucknerhaus, linz
graphic collection at städelmuseum, frankfurt; mike weiss gallery, new york
haus der musik, vienna;

2003: retrospective at the essl museum
traklhaus, salzburg

2002: fondazione morra, naples; kulturhaus, bruck an der mur
museum moderner kunst stiftung ludwig, vienna; museum der moderne, salzburg

2001: österreichische galerie oberes belvedere, vienna
hamburger bahnhof, berlin

2000: palazzo stelline, milan

Concerts (2000 -):

2020: "moscow symphony for string orchestra", nitsch museum, mistelbach;

2019: organ concert, angelica festival, bologna
organ concert, ars electronica festival, stiftskirche st. florian
"albertina string quartett", albertina, vienna; "the music of the 6-day-play"
nitsch museum, mistelbach; "rarely heard music" (attersee, lüpertz, nitsch, rühm,
wiener) belvedere21, vienna
"moscow symphony", new tretjakov gallery, moskau

2017: "traubenfleisch 2007-2017", nitsch museum, mistelbach
"orgelkonzert", marc straus gallery, new york
"orgelkonzert bern", saint ghetto festival, heiliggeistkirche, bern

2016: "orgelkonzert berlin", epiphaniienkirche, berlin
"orgelkonzert brüssel", begijnkerk, brüssel

2015: "sinfonia für mexico city", ex teresa arte actual, mexico

- 2014:** "selten gehörten musik", theater casino zug und musikakademie basel
2012: sinfonie for 100 pianists and 33 pianos and 1 synthesizer, tag der tausend finger /
 oö kulturquartier linz
2011: organ concert, mozarteum, salzburg
2010: nitsch quintett, musée d'art moderne, st. etienne
2003: organ-concerts in frankfurt and bad ischl
 premiere of the symphony punta campanella in italy

Events & Actions (2000 -):

- 2022:** 160th action: the 6-days-play (2nd extended version);
2020: "nitsch meets ... dr. erwin pröll", nitsch museum, mistelbach;
2019: "nitsch meets brus", nitsch museum, mistelbach;
2017: "pfingstfest", prinzenndorf; "150. aktion", dark mofo festival, hobart/tasmanien
 "151. aktion für den film wladimir majakowski", prinzenndorf
 "151. aktion", casa morra, neapel
2016: "147. aktion", museum villa stuck, munich
 "pfingstfest", prinzenndorf
2015: "eröffnungsaktion" thetermuseum wien; "pfingstfest"
2014: 142. aktion, pfingstfest, schloss prinzenndorf; 77. malaktion, galerie thoman, vienna
2013: 138th action (3-day-play), centraltheater leipzig;
 140th action (teaching action), abc berlin
 66th painting action, istanbul contemporary
 141st action (teaching action), nitsch foundation vienna
2012: 135th action havanna, cuba
 64th painting performance at museo di arte moderna e contemporanea, mart
 rovereto
2011: 60th painting action, mike weiss gallery, new york
2010: pentecost feast: 130th action, museum nitsch neaples
2009: 56th painting performance in hermann nitsch museum, mistelbach
 premiere of the "egyptian symphony", hermann nitsch museum mistelbach
 opening of the nitsch foundation
2008: 20th painting action in museum hermann nitsch mistelbach
 opening of the museo archivio laboratorio per le arti contemporanee hermann nitsch
 napoli by fondazione morra with an o. m. theatre
 consignment of the title of dr. h. c. from the university cluj, romania

- 2007:** opening of the hermann nitsch museum in mistelbach, set- and costume-design for
"szenen aus goethes faust" by robert schumann at the opera house zurich
- 2005:** 122th action burgtheater, vienna
- 2004:** performance of the 120th action: 2-day-play, prinzenndorf
- 2003:** performance of the 115th action essl museum, klosterneuburg
- 2002:** performance of the 110th lehraktion (teaching action) whitechapel art gallery,
london
- 2001:** set- and costume-design for the opera "satyagraha" by philip glass at the
festspielhaus st. pölten
performance of the 107th action in prinzenndorf
- 2000:** video presentation in several venues "6-day-play" including los angeles, portikus,
frankfurt and mönchengladbach
continous work on the o.m. theatre and development of the painterly and theatric
concept

Prizes (2000 -):

- 2006:** special prize at asolo film festival
prize of the asociacion espanola de cristicos de arte (aeca) at arco madrid
- 2005:** award of the "grossen österreichischen staatspreis"
golden medal of honor by the city of vienna

Collections:

moma, new york
guggenheim collection, new york
metropolitan museum, new york
museum university of yale
walker art center, mineapolis
hammer museum, los angeles
busch-reisinger museum harvard university, cambridge
saint louis art museum, st. louis, missouri
richard massey foundation, new york
hudson valley center for contemporary art, peekskill, new york
tang, saratoga springs, new york

station museum of contemporary art houston, texas
gallery of ontario, toronto; state tretyakov gallery, moscow
um museum, gyeonggi-do; tate gallery, london
musée centre georges pompidou, paris
stedelijk van abbe museum, eindhoven
stedelijk museum, amsterdam
design museum den bosch, s'hertogenbosch
castello di rivoli, rivoli; gam, turin
museo di capodimonte, neapel; museo nitsch, neapel
galleria d'arte moderna, bologna
mart, rovereto; mar - museo d'arte della città di ravenna
kunstsammlung nordrhein-westfalen, düsseldorf
sammlung jaegers, dusseldorf
museum ludwig, cologne; nationalgalerie berlin
lenbachhaus, münchen; staatsgemäldesammlung munich
museum brandhorst, munich
graphische sammlung, munich
duerckheim collection, munich
staatsgalerie stuttgart
kunsthalle hamburg
museum neue galerie, saarbrücken
albertinum, dresden
schloss moorsbroich, leverkusen
gfzk, leipzig, kunstmuseum bern
hall art foundation, derneburg
kunstmuseum winterthur
mumok, vienna; albertina, vienna
österreichische galerie belvedere, vienna
leopold museum, vienna
landessammlungen nÖ, st. pölten
lentos, linz
rupertinum, salzburg
ferdinandeum, innsbruck
sammlung essl, klosterneuburg
nitsch museum, mistelbach

Exhibitions, Events Actions, Concerts (1957 - 2000):

1999: exhibition of relicts, relict installations and video documentation of the „100th action - 6-day-play“ at the museum moderner kunst, stiftung ludwig, palais liechtenstein, vienna and at the kiscelli museum, budapest; hamburger bahnhof, berlin and at the kunst- und ausstellungshalle der brd, bonn; concert performance of the music of the 6-days-play at radiokulturhaus, vienna

1998: "6-day-play" from the 3rd to 9th of august in prinzenhof; exhibitions: kulturhaus, weiz; participation in the group show "out of action" moca, los angeles; mak, vienna; macba, barcelona; museum of contemporary art, tokyo; cd-publication "island symphonie" (world premiere 1980)

1997: 40th painting performance, museum of the 20th century, vienna exhibition, kunsthallen göteborg; musée d'art et d'histoire, luxemburg; neue galerie, linz; kunstraum, Innsbruck

1996: 96th action at vigna san martino, fondazione morra, naples; 38th painting performance, schömerhaus, klosterneuburg; exhibitions: museum moderner kunst stiftung wörlen, passau; palazzo delle esposizioni, rome; retrospective at centre d'exposicions i documentació de l'art contemporani, casa soler, palma de mallorca

1995: décor and contribution to the stage direction for the opera "héroclès" by jules massenet at the opera house, vienna, exhibitions: künstlerhaus, vienna; trinitatiskirche, cologne

1994: exhibitions: kunsthalle, krems; raiffeisenhalle, frankfurt; casina vanvitelliana, fusaro (naples); kärntner landesmuseum, klagenfurt

1993: exhibitions: national gallery, prague; neues museum weserburg, bremen

1992: exhibition: pabellón de las artes, expo sevilla

1991: exhibitions: galleria civica di arte contemporanea, trient; st. petri, lübeck; festspielhaus bregenz; trakthaus, salzburg

1990: world premiere of the 8th symphony, museum für angewandte kunst, vienna; exhibitions: gemeentemuseum, den haag; museum der moderne salzburg; national gallery prague; kunsthalle krems; martin-gropius-bau, berlin

1989: exhibitions: museum des 20. jahrhunderts, vienna; kunstverein, salzburg; luhring & augustine, new york. hermann nitsch teaches a class of interdisciplinary art at the städelschule, the frankfurt academy of fine arts (until 2003) and regularly at summeracademy in salzburg

1988: marriage with rita leitenbor; exhibition: städtische galerie im lenbachhaus, munich; participates at the sydney biennale

1987: 20th painting performance at the wiener secession, vienna; exhibition: villa pinatelli, naples

1986: exhibitions: sala pablo ruiz picasso, madrid; rupertinum, salzburg; secession, vienna; pac, milan; renaissance society at the university, chicago; städtische galerie im lenbachhaus, munich

1984: 80th action: 3-days-play, prinzenhof; exhibition: galleria franz paludetto, torino; hermann nitsch starts working on his large print oeuvre: "the architecture of the orgies mysteries theatre" published by fred jahn galerie, munich (1984-93)

1983: exhibitions: stedelijk van abbe museum, eindhoven, participation at the group show "der hang zum gesamtwerk", museum moderner kunst, vienna

1982: participates again at the documenta 7, kassel

1977: beate nitsch dies in a car accident

1975: the 24-hour 50th action is performed in prinzenhof (1st day and night of the 6-day-play)

1973: founding of the "verein zur förderung des orgien mysterien theaters" (association to support the o.m. theatre)

1972: participates at the documenta 5, kassel curated by harald szeemann; first 12-hour-action (40th action) at the mercer art center in new york

1971: acquisition of prinzenhof castle (stage of the orgies mysteries theatre)

1970: other "aktionen" in new york, munich and cologne

1968: cinémathèque, new york, performance of the 25th and 26th action; university of cincinnati, 28th action, moves to bayern, germany, marriage in munich with beate könig

1966: the destruction in art symposium (dias), london, 20th action, vienna

1962: 1st "aktion" in vienna

1960: aktionen (action performances) and exhibitions take place in vienna, which result in several court trials and three prison terms. therefore he leaves austria and moves to germany where he lives till 1978

1957: develops the idea of the orgien mysterien theatre, a six days long festival whose conception is based on the main artist philosophy and that has been developing till today. the o.m. theatre is a new form of a total work of art where reality is staged. all five senses of the participants are claimed.