

LUIS TOMASELLO

[1915-2014, Argentina/France]

Born to an Italian family in La Plata, a province of Buenos Aires, Luis Tomasello's first work experience was with his father as a bricklayer, carpenter, and painter. He began taking drawing classes in the evenings as a teenager and attended the Escuela de Bellas Artes Prilidiano Pueyrredón in Buenos Aires from 1932 to 1938. Two years later, he enrolled at the La Escuela Superior de Bellas Artes Ernesto de la Cárcova, where he studied until 1944. In the mid-1940s, young artists in Buenos Aires were challenging representational traditions in art; Tomasello met painters Emilio Pettoruti and Carmelo Arden Quin during this time, two important figures in the Argentine avant-garde.

In 1951, Tomasello traveled to Paris for the first time. He relocated permanently to Paris in 1957, joining a large and dynamic expatriate community of Latin American kinetic artists there. Many of these artists began making constructivist abstract work and then shifted to kinetic and optical art in the mid-1950s and early 1960s. Tomasello is internationally known for his *Atmospheres chromoplastiques*, in which he poses white cubes on a white background to engage with the colors of shadows and reflected light. As well as exhibiting extensively internationally, Tomasello has completed numerous large-scale public art commissions in Argentina, France, Mexico, and the United States. His *Chromoplastic Mural* (2011) is on view at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri, USA.

Tomasello's works have been shown in selected exhibitions, including *Afterimages: Geometric Abstraction and Perception*, Akron Art Museum, Ohio, USA (2021); *12 Latin American Artists Today*, Archer M. Huntington Art Gallery, The University of Texas at Austin, Texas, USA (1975); *Luis Tomasello: Muestra Antologica*, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2009); *Luis Tomasello, Rétrospective 1957-1990*, Cercle Noroît, Arras, France (1991); *Dynamo: A Century of Light and Motion in Art, 1913-2013*, Grand Palais, Paris, France (2013); *Konsekvens, Hommage a Olle Baertling (1911-1981)*, Liljevalchs Konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden (1981); *Lumière et mouvement*, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France (1967); *Tomasello*, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France (1976); *Retrospective (1957-1972)*, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Pau, France (1972); *Kinetika*, Musée du XXe Siècle, Vienna, Austria (1967); *Art d'Amérique Latine 1911-1968*, Musée National d'Art Moderne - Centre Pompidou, Paris, France (1992); *Manifeste*, Musée National d'Art Moderne - Centre Pompidou, Paris, France (1993); *Made in France*, Musée National d'Art Moderne - Centre Pompidou, Paris, France (1996); *Tomasello y Espinosa: Around the Square*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Buenos Aires (MACBA), Argentina (2019); *Luis Tomasello*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Rosario (MACRO), Argentina (2010); *Retrospective (1957 - 1984)*, Museo de Bellas Artes, Pamplona, Spain, Palacio Municipal de Exposiciones Kiosco Alfonso, A Coruña, Spain, and Sala Parpalló, Valencia, Spain (1986); *Retrospective (1957-1984)*, Museo Español de Arte Contemporáneo, Madrid, Spain (1985); *The Illusive Eye*, El Museo del Barrio, New York

City, New York, USA (2016); *Lo[s] Cinetico[s]*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (MNCARS), Madrid, Spain (2007); *Tomasello: Relieves*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina (1962); Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2002); *Luis Tomasello*, Museum Haus Ludwig, Saarlouis, Germany (1996); *North Looks South: Building the Latinamerican Art Collection*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA (2009); *Constructed Dialogues: Concrete, Geometric and Kinetic Art from the Latin American Collection*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA (2012); *Color into Light, Connecting Currents: Contemporary Art at the Fine Arts Museum Houston in the inaugural installation of the Nancy and Rich Kinder Building*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA (2020); *The Responsive Eye*, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York City, New York, USA (1965); *Paris du monde entier (Artistes étrangers à Paris dans la collection du Centre Georges Pompidou, 1900-2005)*, The National Art Center, Tokyo, Japan (2007); and *Contemporary Art in Latin America and Japan*, The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan (1981).

Tomasello's works are represented in several major collections including Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA; Centre National d'Art Contemporain (CNAC), Paris, France; Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; Centro de Arte Contemporáneo Wifredo Lam, Havana, Cuba; Musée d'Art Moderne de Paris (MAM Paris), France; Musée de Grenoble, France; Musée National d'Art Moderne - Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Rosario (MACRO), Argentina; Museo Moderno, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Museo de Arte Moderno de Medellín (MAMM), Colombia; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (MNCARS), Madrid, Spain; Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Museum für Konkrete Kunst (MKK), Ingolstadt, Germany; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Texas, USA; Museum moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien (mumok), Vienna, Austria; Museum Ritter, Waldenbuch, Germany; Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri, USA; New York University (NYU), New York City, New York, USA; Peter Stuyvesant Foundation, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; and Satoru Sato Art Museum, Tome City, Japan.