



## Sam Francis - Press Folder

1. Biography and Exhibitions

Biography

Solo-Exhibitions (Selection)

Important Group-Exhibitions (Selection)

Performances (Selection)

2. Bibliography (Selection)

---

contact for press inquiries,  
further information, pictures and photographs:

BAUKUNST GALERIE  
fon: +49-(0)221-771 33 35  
fax: +49-(0)221-771 33 10  
e-mail: [anja.buck@baukunst-galerie.de](mailto:anja.buck@baukunst-galerie.de)

[www.baukunst-galerie.de](http://www.baukunst-galerie.de)  
[www.artnet.com/baukunst.html](http://www.artnet.com/baukunst.html)

BAUKUNST GALERIE  
Theodor-Heuss-Ring 7  
D - 50668 Cologne

opening hours:  
Tue-Fri 10 a.m.-6.30 p.m.  
Sat 11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
and by appointment



## BIOGRAPHY

- 1923        born in San Mateo, California
- 1941-43    studies botany, medicine and psychology at the University of California, Berkeley
- 1943-45    serves in the United States Army Air Corps; he suffers an emergency landing during a flying lesson, which leads to spinal tuberculosis and hospitalization in Denver; to relieve the tedium of hospital life given watercolours as therapy and begins to paint
- 1947        studies at the California School of Fine Arts
- 1948-50    studies art and art history at the University of California, Berkeley
- 1950        moves to Paris
- 1952-55    artistic breakthrough in Europe; first solo-exhibition organized by Nina Dausset at her Galerie du Dragon; first major museum exhibition at the Kunsthalle Bern
- 1957        travels around the world, including a long stopover in New York, three months in Mexico, a visit to California and an extended stay in Japan; returning to Paris by way of, Hong Kong, Thailand, India and Italy
- 1959-61    returns to Paris, traveling back and forth frequently between Paris, Bern and Tokyo (retaining studios in Paris, Bern, and Tokyo)
- 1962        settles in Santa Monica, California, where he buys a home on West Channel Road
- 1968        receives an honorary Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley
- 1970        establishes the Litho Shop in Santa Monica which, in addition to lithographic printing production, manages Francis' operations, exhibitions and archives
- 1973-74    lives and paints primarily in Tokyo
- 1980        receives commissions to paint murals for the Federal Building U.S. Courthouse in Anchorage, Alaska, and for Weinstock's Department Store, Sacramento, California; elected to the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Contemporary Art and to membership in its Architectural Committee; establishes large mural studio in San Leandro for the Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco commission
- 1983        completes the mural for the San Francisco Airport



- 1984        founds Lapis Press to publishes books on the visual arts etc.
- 1985        completes the mural for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
- 1986        receives commission to paint mural for the ceiling of the Opéra National, Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, Brussels
- 1987-90     lives with his family in Santa Monica and in Palo Alto, California;  
Foundation of the Sam Francis Medical Research Centre; founds the  
Sam Francis Museum
- 1993        commision for a monumental painting for the Deutscher Bundestag, the new  
federal parliament building in Bonn; gives The Museum of Contemporary Art  
(MOCA), Los Angeles, ten major works from 1950 through 1990
- 1994        University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley honors Francis with  
the Distinguished Alumnus Award and establishes the Sam Francis Graduate  
Student Endowment Fund; Daco Verlag Günter Bläse, Stuttgart publishes  
“The Monotypes of Sam Francis”
- dies on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November in Santa Monica, California

### **SOLO-EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)**

- 2004        Galerie Delaive, Amsterdam  
Baukunst Galerie, Cologne
- 2003        Ace Gallery, L.A., Beverly Hills  
Artemis Greenberg Van Doren Gallery, New York
- 2002-03     Touring-exhibition with paintings from own special stock,organized from  
Idemitsu Museum, Tokyo:  
The Museum of Modern Art, Toyama (J)  
Kawamura Memorial Museum, Chiba (J)  
Museum of Art, Ehime (J)  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo  
Iwaki City Art Museum, Fukushima (J)  
Oita Art Museum, Oita (J)  
Galerie Iris Wazzau, Davos (CH)
- 2002        Galerie Andreas Baumgartl, Munich  
Lovers of Fine Arts Ltd., Gstaad (CH)
- 2001        Meyerovich Gallery, San Francisco  
Baukunst Galerie, Cologne  
Galerie Guy Pieters, Saint-Paul (F)  
Alan Cristea Gallery, London  
Galerie Proarta, Zurich



- Brian Gross Gallery, San Francisco  
Lawing Gallery, Houston  
Gallery Delaive, Amsterdam  
2000 Galleri GKM Siwert Bergström, Malmö (S)  
Bruk Kahan Gallery, Boca Raton, Florida  
Richard Gray Gallery, New York, Chicago  
Rayuela Galeria De Arte, Madrid  
Ikon Ltd., Santa Monica  
Gallery Delaive, Amsterdam  
Lawrence Rubin Greenberg Van Doren Fine Art, New York  
Galleria il Gabbiano, Rome  
Springfield Art Museum, Springfield, Missouri  
Idemitsu Museum of Arts, Osaka, Tokyo  
2000-01 Major Retrospective: „Sam Francis: Paintings 1947-1990“  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles  
Menil Collection, Houston, Texas  
Konsthall Malmö, Malmö (S)  
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid  
Comunale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Rome  
1999 Leslie Sacks Fine Art, Los Angeles (prints)  
Robert Green Fine Arts, Mill Valley, California  
Galleri Faurschou, Copenhagen  
Ikon, Ltd., Los Angeles  
Manny Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles  
Galerie Pascal Retelet, Saint Paul de Vence (F)  
Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
Baukunst Galerie, Cologne  
Pace Editions, New York (prints)  
Galerie Loeper, Hamburg  
1998 Dorothy Blau Gallery, Bay Harbor Island, Florida (monotypes)  
Thomas Segal Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland (monotypes)  
ACA Gallery, Munich  
Gallery Guy Pieters, Knokke (B)  
Bobbie Greenfield Gallery, Santa Monica  
Gallery Delaive, Amsterdam  
Galleria d'Arte il Gabbiano, Rome  
1997 “Sam Francis: The Archetypal Image” (touring-exhibition):  
Frederick M. Weisman Museum of Art, Pepperdine University, Malibu  
The Fundacion Caja de Madrid  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Manny Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles  
Musée d'Arte, Mendrisio (CH)  
Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago  
Gallery Delaive, Amsterdam  
Galerie Retelet, St. Paul de Vence (F)  
1996 Smith Andersen Gallery, Palo Alto  
Sogetsu Art Museum, Tokyo



- Gallery Delaive, Amsterdam  
Gagosian Gallery, Beverly Hills, California  
Gallery Guy Pieters, Knokke (B)  
Galerie Michael Haas, Berlin  
Galerie Proarta, Zurich
- 1995 "The Last Paintings of Sam Francis", The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (exhibition with 152 small paintings, painted from June to August 1994)  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Manny Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles  
Grunwald/UCLA/Armand Hammer Museum, Los Angeles  
Kunstverein Ludwigsburg
- 1994 "Les années Parisiennes - 1950-1961", Jeu de Paume, Paris  
Long Fine Art, New York  
Galerie Delaive, Amsterdam  
Bobbie Greenfield Gallery, Venice, California  
Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
Galerie Proarta, Zurich  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Nantenshi Gallery, Tokyo  
Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago
- 1993 Retrospective (curated by Pontus Hulten): Kunst und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Bonn  
Galerie Pudelko, Bonn  
Bobbie Greenfield Fine Art, Venice, California  
Michele Cohen Gallery, New York  
Ochi Gallery, Ketchum, Idaho  
Manny Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles  
Galerie Iris Wazzau, Davos (CH)
- 1992 Galerie Daniel Papierski, Paris  
Museum van der Togt, Amsterdam  
Kukje Gallery, Seoul
- 1991 "40 Jahre – Retrospektive", Galerie Kornfeld, Bern  
Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
James Corcoran Gallery, Los Angeles  
Angles Gallery, Los Angeles  
Associated American Artists, New York (prints)  
Gagosian Gallery, New York  
Centre Regional d'Art Contemporain Midi-Pyrenees, Toulouse-Labege (F)
- 1990 André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Galerie Delaive, Amsterdam  
Heland Wetterling Gallery, Stockholm  
Ogawa Art Foundation, Tokyo (monotypes)  
Ochi Gallery, Ketchum, Idaho  
Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Smith Andersen Gallery, Palo Alto (prints)
- 1989 André Emmerich Gallery, New York



- Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
Bernard Jacobson Gallery, London  
Sun Valley Center Gallery, Ketchum, Idaho  
Linda Farris Gallery, Seattle  
Cantor/Lemberg Gallery, Birmingham  
Knoedler Gallery, London.  
Associated American Artists, New York (prints))  
Gallery Delaive, Amsterdam  
Heland Wetterling Gallery, Stockholm  
Ogawa Art Foundation, Tokyo (monotypes)  
Ochi Gallery, Ketchum, Idaho  
Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland
- 1988 Touring-exhibition through Japan (April 1988- March 1989): Toyama Museum  
Museum of Modern Art, Seibu Takanawa, Karuizawa  
Museum of Modern Art, Shiga  
Ohara Museum of Art, Murashiki  
Setagaya Art Museum, Tokyo  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
Nantenshi Gallery, Tokyo  
Smith Andersen Gallery, Palo Alto  
Greenberg Gallery, St. Louis, Missouri  
Galerie Seoul, Korea
- 1987 Knoedler Gallery, London  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Pamela Auchincloss Gallery, Santa Barbara  
Heland Thorden Wetterling Galleries, Stockholm  
G.Dalsheimer Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland  
Galeria Eude, Barcelona  
Manny Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles  
Galerie Pudelko, Bonn  
Lever/Meyerson Galleries, New York
- 1986 André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
Nantenshi Gallery, Tokyo  
Angles Gallery, Santa Monica  
Le Maire de Paris
- 1985 Galerie Kornfeld, Bern  
Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
Nantenshi Gallery, Tokyo  
Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago  
Smith-Andersen Gallery, Palo Alto  
Hokin Gallery, Bay Harbor Isle, Florida
- 1984 André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Pamela Auchincloss Gallery, Santa Barbara  
Brooke Alexander, New York  
Cantor/Lemberg Gallery, Birmingham, Michigan



- Robert Elkon Gallery, New York  
Thomas Babeor Gallery, La Jolla, California  
Knoedler Gallery, London  
Gemini G.E.L., Los Angeles  
Steven Wirtz Gallery, San Francisco  
1983 André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Galerie Kornfeld, Bern  
Smith-Andersen Gallery, Palo Alto  
Fondation Maeght, Saint Paul (F)  
Studio Marconi, Milan  
Colorado State University, Colorado (monotypes)  
Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
Art Attack Gallery, Idaho  
John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco  
Nantenshi Gallery, Tokyo  
1982 André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Nantenshi Gallery, Tokyo  
Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago  
1981 André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Ace Gallery, Los Angeles  
Ruth Schaffner Gallery, Santa Barbara  
Faith and Charity in Hope Gallery, Idaho  
1980 Abbaye de Senanque, Gordes (F)  
"Monotypes", Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles  
Riko Mizuno Gallery, Los Angeles  
James Corcoran Gallery, Los Angeles  
Smith-Andersen Gallery, Palo Alto  
1979 Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Brooke Alexander, New York.  
1978-79 Retrospective of works on paper: Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston  
Touring-exhibition with several stations in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Manila,  
Korea (with support by the U.S. International Communication Agency)  
1978 Nicholas Wilder Gallery, Los Angeles  
Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles  
1975-77 Nicholas Wilder Gallery, Los Angeles  
Galerie Jean Fournier, Paris  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago  
Kornfeld and Klipstein, Bern  
Smith-Andersen Gallery, Palo Alto, California  
1974 Idemitsu Art Museum, Tokyo  
Minami Gallery, Tokyo  
1972 Retrospektive: Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo  
Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York  
Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, Texas



- 1969-71 Museum of Art, Oakland, California  
Stanford University Museum of Art, Palo Alto, California  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles  
Martha Jackson Gallery, New York  
Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles  
André Emmerich Gallery, New York  
Nicholas Wilder Gallery, Los Angeles
- 1968 Centre National d'Art Contemporain, Paris  
Kunsthalle, Basel
- 1967 Minami Gallery, Tokyo  
Pierre Matisse Gallery, New York  
Retrospective (touring-exhibition):  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas  
University Art Museum, Berkeley  
San Francisco Museum of Art
- 1961-64 Minami Gallery, Tokyo  
Galerie Benador, Genf  
Kornfeld and Klipstein, Bern
- 1961 Esther Bear Gallery, Santa Barbara, California
- 1952-58 Gimpel Fils Ltd., London;  
Kornfeld and Klipstein, Bern  
Martha Jackson Gallery, New York  
Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena, California  
San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco  
Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington  
Kunsthalle Bern  
Moderna Museet, Stockholm
- 1955 Galerie Rive Droite, Paris  
Galerie Rive Droite, Paris  
Martha Jackson Gallery, New York
- 1957 Gimpel Fils, Ltd, London
- 1952 Galerie Nina Dausset, Paris  
Galerie du Dragon, Paris

### **IMPORTANT GROUP-EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)**

- 1975-77 "Art in Progress", Louisiana Museum of Art, Humlebaek (DK)  
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris  
Liljevalchs Konsthall, Stockholm  
Israel Museum, Jerusalem
- 1961-64 Documenta III, Kassel (D)
- 1957 Wandmalerei für die Sogetsu School, Sofu Teshigahara, Tokyo
- 1956 "12 Americans", Museum of Modern Art, New York



## PERFORMANCES

- 1967      Snow Painting Performance in Naibara (J)  
1966      Sky Painting Performance in Japan über der Tokyo Bay

## BIBLIOGRAPHY (SELECTION)

- 2003      *Sam Francis: Color is the Essence of It All*, Cat.: Santa Monica College, ed. Martin Sosin, Santa Monica, California 2003.
- 1999      *Sam Francis. Paintings 1947-1990*, Cat.: The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles 1999.
- 1997      **Barmann**, Matthias: *Sam Francis*, Cat.: Museo d'Arte Mendrisio, ^ Mendrisio 1997.
- 1994      *The Monotypes Of Sam Francis*, Daco-Verlag Gunter Blase, Stuttgart 1994.
- 1993      Hulten, Pontus. *Sam Francis*, Cat.: Kunst und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, textes by Sam **Francis** and Wenzel **Jacob**, Bonn 1993.
- 1992      **Lembark**, Connie W: *The prints of Sam Francis: A Catalogue Raisonné 1960-1990*, New York, Hudson Hills Press, 1992.