

Rosemarie Koczÿ's, raw painting

Solo show
24 rue de Penthièvre, 8^e Paris

Opening on Thursday 5 June from 6 pm
Exhibition from 5 June to 27 September 2025

To coincide with the exhibition *Dans l'intimité d'une collection. Donation Decharme* at the **Grand Palais**, co-produced by the **Centre Pompidou**, the **Françoise Livinec Gallery** is devoting an unprecedented retrospective to **Rosemarie Koczÿ** (1939-2007), from **5 June to 27 September 2025**. A tribute to an artist haunted by memory.

Biography

Born in Germany in 1939, **Rosemarie Koczÿ** moved to Switzerland in 1961. She studied at the **École des Arts Décoratifs** in Geneva, graduating in 1965 with a specialisation in tapestry. She then undertook ethnological research into primitive textile techniques in Africa, Oceania, Melanesia and the Hebrides, followed by plant dyeing in Europe and Latin America. In 1975 and 1976, her work was awarded the **Prix du Crédit Suisse** in Geneva and the **Peggy Guggenheim Foundation Research Encouragement Prize** in Venice, decisive support that contributed to her international reputation.

Winner of the **MacDowell Colony Fellowship** in New Hampshire (1980-1981), **Rosemarie Koczÿ** emigrated to the United States in 1984, where she became an American citizen in 1989. In 1985, **Jean Dubuffet** selected her for the inaugural **Neuve Invention** exhibition at the **Collection d'Art Brut in Lausanne**, considering that her uninhibited expression corresponded to one of the fundamental criteria of Art Brut.

A painting inhabited by memory

We will be presenting previously unseen works straight from her estate: **The Human Condition** (1975-1994), a series of oils on canvas in which colour intensifies the drama of the compositions. Here, the layers of material play an essential role: they embody the density of the human experience, adding a tactile and carnal dimension to the work.

Haunted by the memory of the Holocaust, in 1979 the artist began a series of Indian ink drawings entitled **I weave you a shroud**, which she produced compulsively each day until her death in an obsessive ritual. In this work, ghostly figures with pure outlines emerge, enclosed in networks of black lines.

Pictorial influences

Her affiliation with the 15th-century masters of Northern Europe, such as **Matthias Grünewald**, is evident in her compositions. She borrows from Gothic altarpieces the expressiveness of deformed bodies, tense between suffering and exaltation, where the intimate and the universal come together. The influence of modern art, notably **Edvard Munch** and **Oskar Kokoschka**, also shines through in her work.

Somewhere between Art Brut and Expressionism, **Rosemarie Koczÿ** explores the torments of the human soul with an intensity reminiscent of **Munch's** screams and **Grünewald's** tortured flesh.

In addition to this retrospective, **Rosemarie Koczÿ's** works are on show at the **Centre d'art singulier L'Hostellerie** in Dijon, France, until 1 June 2025. The **Françoise Livinec Gallery** is honoured to take over from 5 June, offering the public the chance to discover the rare and moving work of this major artist.

Public collections:

Museum Charlotte Zander, Bönningheim, Germany
Jüdisches Museum Westfalen, Dorsten, Germany
City University of New York, Queens, New York, USA
Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA
Tokushima Museum, Japan
Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, Italy
De Nederlands Stichting Collectie De Stadshof, Zwolle, Netherlands
Moscow Museum of Outsider Art, Moscow, Russia

The Human Condition | 1981-1994

[Selection]



The Human Condition n°62
26 January 1983
Acrylic on canvas
183 x 152cm



The Human Condition n°22
27 October 1983
Acrylic on canvas
183 x 366cm



The Human Condition n°135
19 December 1984
Acrylic on canvas
244 x 183 cm

I Weave You a Shroud | 1979-2007

[Selection]



Untitled n°29
1980
Oil pastel on paper
48 x 38cm



Untitled n°30
1980
Oil pastel on paper
38 x 48cm



17 September 1980, n°36
1980
Ink on paper
36 x 27,5 cm



10 May 1983, n°59
1983
Ink on paper
36 x 27,5cm



1st July 1987
1987
Ink on paper
36 x 27,5cm



19 November 1989, n°45
1989
Ink on paper
36 x 27,5cm



24 March 2001
2001
Ink on paper
36 x 27,5cm



24 December 2001
2001
Ink on paper
36 x 27,5cm



13 May 2002
2002
Ink on paper
36 x 27,5cm

Practical informations

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