



Yona Friedman, *Extensions to the Georges Pompidou Center*, 2008. Courtesy of the artist.

# | YONA FRIEDMAN

\_\_\_\_\_ *Solo show*

**March 18th - April 15th, 2017**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Public opening and performance on the Pompidou Center piazza*

**Saturday, March 18th**

---

## YONA FRIEDMAN - solo show

March 18th - April 15th, 2017

Public opening and performance on Saturday, March 18th

Galerie Jérôme Poggi is proud to collaborate for the first time with Yona Friedman. A solo exhibition will be devoted to him from March 18th to April 15th, 2017. On the occasion of the opening, Saturday, March 18th, a public performance will be organised on the Pompidou Center piazza, in partnership with the Centre National Edition Art Image (CNEAI) and Pompidou Center. The gallery will also dedicate a solo show to Yona Friedman in May during the Loop vidéo art fair, in Barcelona.

## News

---

### *Loop, Barcelona (ES)*

#### **The African tales**

May 25th - 27th, 2017

Galerie Jérôme Poggi is proud to present for the first time Yona Friedman at LOOP vidéo art fair. The African tales are a series of ten films produced by Yona Friedman and his wife Denise Charvein, between 1960 and 1963. The animations are produced from wooden blocs, carved and assembled to create the different scenes. The soundtrack primary material is the UNESCO African music library, and each film being inspired by an ancestral African tale. Broadcasted in Africa by ethnologist and moviemaker Jean Roch, they encountered great success. Lost until 2007, they were restored with the help of CNEAI= (National Center for Edition, Art and Image).

---

### *MAXXI, Roma (IT)*

#### **Mobile architecture**

June, 23rd to September, 24th 2017

Born out of a collaboration with the Power Station of Art, in Shanghai, the exhibition will tackle the intense and sometimes conflictual relationships between the utopian dimension of design and its materialisation in Yona Friedman's work. The mobile architecture theory, coined by Friedman in the 50s, questions the modernist vision according to which inhabitants must adapt to buildings, and not the opposite. The exhibition will explore improvisation as a possible view and practice on architecture through drawings, sculptures and installations.

## YONA FRIEDMAN - solo show

March 18th - April 15th, 2017

Public opening and performance on Saturday, March 18th

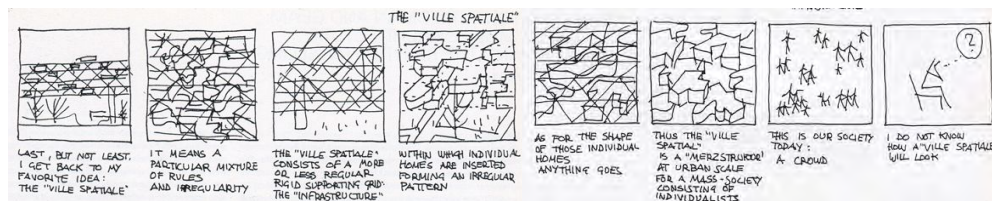
For the first exhibition at the gallery devoted to Yona Friedman (born in 1923, in Hungary), Jérôme Poggi invited Sylvie Boulanger, director of CNEAI and specialist of its work as associate curator. Yona Friedman will occupy the entire space of the gallery, inside and outside. He will produce a large installation, submitting one of his famous iconostase to special lighting in order to project shadows of the structure on the walls.



Conceptually creative, Friedman developed a precise terminology to name the architectural shapes he creates. Thus, the name Iconostase refers to a proteinic structure composed of geometric parts, elaborated follow the "chain-space" technique, that can host many projects, models, drawings, posters of the artist. The shape of those structures is as much an art piece, a model or a project awaiting activation. It is a technique for tridimensional structures, composed of plastic or aluminium circles. An Iconostase allows for the structure to be freed from geometric uniformity: a geometric grid can

be transformed into another whenever, wherever. Laboratory for shapes and gesture, this structure allows to discover the different typologies of building created by Friedman and incites the public to question the idea of an art piece. Open to many ever-changing settings, Iconostase is a structure in permanent evolution which reduces the distinction between the container and the contained, between an art piece and architecture.

Yona Friedman will present a series of original slideshows, including drawings that constituted the chapter dedicated to architecture in his book "The human being explained to aliens". In this book, over 2000 drawings, he develops a philosophy of life with concision, humour and pertinence. Most of the questions being raised by the 21st century are here, encapsulated in sketches of analyses truly riveting. Slideshows appear as comic strips which without pretending to universal truth, reflect on complex ideas with graphic intentions.



A series of historical and more recent models linked to Friedman's experimental practice of architecture will also be presented. These study models reflect the ideas developed by Friedman and his major concepts : the "Spatial City", the "Containers", the "Cylinders", the "Merz Strukturen", the "gribouillis" and the "Moebien structures". Usually made out of poor materials and domestic waste, they offer a materialisation of the theories dear to Friedman during his career, while revealing the utopian perspective of an architectural practice oriented towards the future, the hopes and needs of humanity.



Yona Friedman, *Ville Spatiale*, 1980, MAMVP collections, Paris

A library will be installed in the gallery as a result of a partnership with CNEAI and will gather most of the editions and books dealing with Friedman's works, amongst which :

- *L'humain expliqué aux extraterrestres*, 2016
- *Démocratie*, 2011
- *La grande licornerie*, 2010
- *Manuels*, volume 3, 2009
- *Manuels*, volume 2, 2008

---

## Performance on the Pompidou Center piazza

Saturday, March 18th, 2017 - 11am - 6pm

public performance in partnership with Pompidou Center and CNEAI=

 **Centre  
Pompidou**    **cneai =**

On the day of the opening, Saturday, March 19th, Yona Friedman will build on the Pompidou Center piazza a "Museum without walls" with the participation of the public. On the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of Pompidou Center, the audience will be invited to take action with bringing images, drawings to occupy the temporary structure. Conceived with coloured hula hoops, this structure will be produce as the final achievement of a workshop organised by CNEAI, with the artist and students from ENSBA TALM Angers, ENSA Paris-Cergy, and the architecture faculty of La Cambre Horta from the Free University of Bruxelles.

Architecture without building presents visual installations of unbuilt spaces which goal is to stimulate, provoke ideas and initiatives. Is it a call for one-self to produce projects which do not require external competences. The structure questions the value of art pieces and the exhibition - which then begins with the exhibited object. A museum can be a collection of objects. This performance aims to question a different way to produce museums, or enact museums. This museum, without doors, annihilates the distinction between inside and outside, a displacement of importance "not only because it is free, but because it is seen by every man or woman walking down the street".



---

## Biographie

né en 1923 en Hongrie, vit et travaille à Paris



Yona Friedman pursued architecture studies at the University of technical and economical sciences of Budapest, and then at the Technion school of Haïfa, Israël where he worked as architect from 1949 to 1957. Starting with his first habitation projects, he tries to delegate the responsibility of conception to the future users, a process he calls "autoplanification". In order to face the demographic needs of the post-war period in terms of re-building, he develops spatial structures on legs, and starting from 1953 the principals of "mobile architecture" : 1) touch the ground on a minimal surface; 2) to be replaceable and removable; 3) to be transformable at will by individual inhabitant. These structures bearing undetermined characteristics allow him to develop the "Spatial city" principles, an urban organisation truly innovative based on a nomadic lifestyle.

During the International Congress for Modern Architecture of 1956, Friedman engages into a thorough reassessment of modernist architecture which lead him to co-found the Study Group for Mobile Architecture, in 1958, and then in 1965 the International Prospective Architecture Group. As an architect, he realised very few buildings, amongst which the Bergson highschool of Angers, France, in 1979 : a true experiment of "autoplanification" led by teachers, students and the facility workers; as well as the Museum of Simple Technology in Madras, India, in 1987, build from local materials like bamboo.

Friedman is also author of numerous publications, his books and teachings have had a profound influence on many architects from the 70s to today, especially those who sought to lead experimental projects, like Archigram, transforming the concept of building and the lifestyle that adapted to it.

Since the last two decades, Friedman has gained attention of the contemporary art world for the multitude of project drawings, blueprints, models, marked by plastic intentions of shape, circulation, projection, volumetric and sculptural qualities and a remarkable aesthetics of mobility.

## SOLO SHOWS (Selection)

### 2016

- Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine, Paris
- Serpentine Summer Houses 2016, Serpentine Gallery, London
- L'humain expliqué aux extraterrestres, CNEAI, Chatou
- Prototype improvisé de type nuage, MAMAC, Nice

### 2015

- Power station museum of arts, Shanghai
- Prototype improvisé de type nuage, Galerie d'exposition du Théâtre de Privas - Espace d'art contemporain - Privas
- Yona Friedman, École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Paris-La Villette, Paris, 2014

### 2013

- Musée sans bâtiment and Architecture without building, CNEAI, Chatou
- Architecture without building, with Jean- Baptiste Decavèle, De Vleeshal, Middelburg

### 2012

- Musée sans bâtiment and Architecture without building, CNEAI, Chatou
- Architecture without building, with Jean- Baptiste Decavèle, De Vleeshal, Middelburg
- Entry by Yona Friedman, installation curated by Maurizio Bortolotti at the Istanbul Design Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey
- Le musée de Rue et le musée Iconostase + Architectures Mobiles, CNEAI, Chatou
- Handbuch, Berlin - Paris 2012, Galerie Chert, Berlin

### 2011

- Eckhard Schulze-Fielitz & Yona Friedman, Arena, Kunsthaus Bregenz.
- Merz World, Yona Friedman & Tomas Saraceno, Cabaret Voltaire, Zurich.
- Métropole Europe/ Europa Metròpolis, Musac, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León.
- 2011: «Architecture Without Buildings», Ludwig Museum, Budapest
- Architecture without buildings, Biennale de Lyon
- video conference at architecture [in] jout[ politics, The Lisbon Architecture Triennale, Lisbon, Portugal
- Une ville spatiale pour artistes, Hangar Bicocca, Milano

### 2010

- Around The Ville Spatiale, (Autour La Ville Spatiale); Mala Galerija / Moderna Galerija, Ljubljana, Slovénie
- Métropole Europe et autres projets, kamel mennour, Paris.
- Art Unlimited, kamel mennour, Art Basel, Bâle.
- Merz Tier, neugerreimshneider, Berlin.
- Des utopies réalisées, Espace de l'Art Concret, Mouans-Sartoux, France

### 2009

- La Licorne Eiffel, Centre international d'Art et du Paysage, Île de Vassivière, France.
- Improvisations, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris
- La création, Centre d'art contemporain la Synagogue de Delme, France. Part 1 : Autour de la ville spatiale (1957-1975) & Part 2 : Maquettes d'études, kamel mennour, Paris.
- Cartoline Postali, Galeria Massimo Minini, Brescia, Italie.

### 2008

- Musée du Graffiti, Côme, Italie.
- Tu ferais ta ville, Arc en rêve / CAPC - Musée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux.
- Yona Friedman, Portikus, Frankfurt.
- Utopie réalisée, Bund 18, Shanghai
- Les ponts de Shanghai, Musée des Beaux-arts, Bordeaux.

### 2007

- Dare to make your own exhibition, CNEAI, (centre national de l'estampe et de l'art imprimé), Chatou, France
- Yona Friedman, Musée d'art contemporain, Lyon.

### 2006

- Utopias Realizables, CAAC, Séville.

## GROUP SHOWS (Selection)

### 2016

- Volcano Extravaganza 2016 "I Will Go Where I Don't Belong", Fiorucci Art Trust, Stromboli
- Serpentine Summer Houses 2016, Serpentine Gallery, London
- L'humain expliqué aux extraterrestres, CNEAI, Chatou
- Prototype improvisé de type nuage, MAMAC, Nice

### 2014

- Double-jeu, Les Turbulences, FRAC Centre - Orléans.

### 2013

- Monacopolis, Villa Paloma & Villa Sauber, Monaco. Commissaire : Nathalie Giordano-Rosticher.

### 2010

- Utopies & Innovations / Architectures transfrontalières, Espace Fernet-Branca, Saint-Louis.
- Biennale internationale Design, Saint-Etienne.
- Collection'10, IAC, Institut d'Art Contemporain, Villeurbanne /Rhône-Alpes.

### 2009

- Etc., Balkis Island, avec Jean-Baptiste Decavèle, Centre international d'Art et du Paysage, Île de Vassivière.
- Modernism as a ruin, an archaeology of the present, Generali Foundation, Vienne.
- Fare mondi / Making worlds, Arsenale, 53ème Biennale de Venise.

### 2008

- Manifesto Marathon, Serpentine Gallery, Londres.
- Old Masters, P74 Center and Gallery, Ljubljana, Slovénie.
- Peripheral vision and collective body, Museion -Museum für moderne und zeitgenössische Kunst, Bolzano, Italie.
- Ambition d'art, IAC -Institut d' art contemporain de Villeurbanne/Rhône-Alpes, Villeurbanne.

### 2007

- Habitat / Variations, Bac -Bâtiment d'art contemporain / CECCH - Centre d'édition contemporaine, Genève.
- About Cities, Drawing Center, New York.
- A project for Mart, Musée d'art moderne et contemporain de Trente et Rovereto, Italie.

### 2006

- On mobility, De Appel, Amsterdam, Pays-Bas.
- What is positive ? Why ?, WUK, Kunsthalle Exnergasse, Vienna

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- The human being explained to aliens. L'humain expliqué aux extra-terrestres, Paris, Editions de l'éclat, 2016, 1311 p
- The Dilution of Architecture12, avec Manuel Orazi, Zurich, Park Books & Archizoom EPFL, 2015
- Alternatives énergétiques, plaidoyer pour une autosuffisance locale , Paris, Dangles, 2011
- Dessins & maquettes - 1945-2010, Dijon, Les Presses du réel, 2010
- L'Ordre compliqué et autres fragments, Paris, Éditions de l'éclat, 2008
- Manuels. 3 vol., (200 p., 344 p., 340 p.) ; 29,7 x 21 cm (vol. 1 et 3) et (21 x 29,7 cm (vol.2) , 2007-2009
- Pro domo, Barcelone, Actar, 2006
- L'Architecture de survie. Une philosophie de la pauvreté (1978), Paris, Éditions de l'éclat, 2003
- Vous avez un chien. C'est lui qui vous a choisi(e) (en collaboration avec Balkis Berger-Doberman), Paris, Éditions de l'éclat, 2004
- Théorie et images, Paris, Institut français d'architecture, 2000
- Utopies réalisables11, Paris, Éditions de l'éclat, 2000



The Jérôme Poggi Gallery essentially carries out a task of prospection orientated towards young contemporary creation but also toward those figures already recognized, even historical, for whom it supports the process of recognition as much in economical as in critical and historical spheres.

The Gallery was founded by Jérôme Poggi in 2009, and was originally based near Gare du Nord in Paris. In 2014, the gallery has opened a new space in Le Marais Paris, next to the Centre Pompidou.

Jérôme Poggi is also director of «SOCIETIES», a production and studies facility created in 2004, to make art appear within the society through private and public commissions as part of the New Patrons initiated by La Fondation de France.

## | ARTISTES REPRÉSENTÉS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Babi Badalov</b> (AZ, 1959)             | <b>Yona Friedman</b> (HUN, 1923)           |
| <b>Fayçal Baghriche</b> (DZ, 1972)         | <b>Kapwani Kiwanga</b> (CA, 1978)          |
| <b>Anna-Eva Bergman</b> (NO/FR, 1909–1987) | <b>Bertrand Lamarche</b> (FR, 1966)        |
| <b>Maxime Bondu</b> (FR, 1985)             | <b>Wesley Meuris</b> (BE, 1977)            |
| <b>Juliana Borinski</b> (BR/DE, 1979)      | <b>Sophie Ristelhueber</b> (FR, 1949)      |
| <b>Gregory Buchert</b> (FR, 1983)          | <b>Société Réaliste</b> (FR/HU, 1982/1972) |
| <b>Julien Crépieux</b> (FR, 1979)          | <b>Georges Tony Stoll</b> (FR, 1955)       |
| <b>Cédric Eymenier</b> (FR, 1974)          | <b>Marion Verboom</b> (FR, 1983)           |
| <b>Larissa Fassler</b> (CA, 1975)          | <b>Kees Visser</b> (NL, 1948)              |

2 rue Beaubourg, F-75004 Paris  
+33 (0)9 84 38 87 74 – [galeriepoggi.com](http://galeriepoggi.com)

Mar. – Sam. 11.00 – 19.00  
Tue. – Sat. 11 am – 7 pm