



PALAIS DE LA PORTE DORÉE

MUSÉE DE L'HISTOIRE
DE L'IMMIGRATION

PRESS RELEASE

July 2016

VIVRE!!

70 œuvres de ma Collection
choisies par Sam Stourdzé
agnès b.

Exhibition: 18 October 2016 to 8 January 2017

Curator: Sam Stourdzé, Director, *Rencontres de la photographie d'Arles*.



John Giorno, *Millions of stars come into my heart, welcome home*, 2005, Courtesy of the agnès b. Collection.



Malick Sidibé, *Christmas Eve*, 1965
Courtesy of the agnès b. Collection.

From 18 October 2016 to 8 January 2017, the agnès b. Collection will be featured at the Musée National de l'Histoire de l'Immigration, interacting in a wholly original way with contemporary works in the museum. This is the first time that agnès b. has chosen to display a selection of works in Paris from the extraordinary collection of contemporary art which she has built up over the years, including photographs, installations and paintings.

For this project, she has entrusted Sam Stourdzé, Director of the *Rencontres d'Arles* festival and curator of the exhibition, with choosing approximately one hundred works linked to 11 related themes which punctuate the tour, including rebellion, love, war and youth. Works by Claude Lévêque, Henri Cartier-Bresson and John Giorno rub shoulders with those of Mona Hatoum, Kader Attia and Chéri Samba, offering a sensitive perspective on the stories of men and women who have come to France from abroad.

MUSÉE NATIONAL DE L'HISTOIRE DE L'IMMIGRATION
PALAIS DE LA PORTE DORÉE

293, avenue Daumesnil - 75012 Paris
www.histoire-immigration.fr

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Claude Lévêque, *Untitled (Dansez!)*, 1995. Courtesy of the agnès b. Collection.

« Collectors are unique because they can give completely free rein to their passion. The works which they assemble express their relationship with the world and their own identity. agnès b. has been collecting for many years and enjoys the special status of being a prominent figure on the French artistic scene in her own right.

Her choices as a collector reveal an eclectic mix of major themes which make powerful statements – WORK! REBEL! LOVE! – and issues relating to gender and eternal youth are never far from the surface. These very same themes form the framework of the contemporary art collection at the Musée National de l’Histoire de l’Immigration: leaving, arriving, rebuilding a life and a private life, and working.

This is the story – the stories – which we want to share with visitors to the Musée National de l’Histoire de l’Immigration, by trying to establish a dialogue between two collections which share a belief that art and culture are powerful vehicles for telling simple, sensitive stories accessible to all. »

Sam Stourdzé, exhibition curator

► ABOUT THE AGNES B. COLLECTION

agnès b. has been a gallery owner since 1983, but is also a collector. Over the years, she has built up a major collection of contemporary art which was displayed for the first time in 1992 at the Espace des arts in Chalon-sur-Saône, before transferring to the Musée Picasso in Antibes and then the Abattoirs museum in Toulouse in 2004.

The wealth of material in her photographic archive was exhibited at the Centre National de la Photographie in Paris in 2000 and at the Pavillon des Arts in Nogent-sur-Marne in 2002. In 2008, the prestigious C/O Berlin venue hosted an exhibition of her photographs coinciding with the publication of a monograph about her collection by JRP Ringier, which was re-issued in 2016.

Most recently, in 2015, Lille Métropole Musée d’art moderne, d’art contemporain et d’art brut staged the exhibition *Un regard sur la collection agnès b.*

The “Fonds de dotation agnès b.” endowment fund is responsible for conserving this unique contemporary art collection and presenting it to the public by loaning a large number of works for major exhibitions worldwide.

Biography of agnès b.

agnès b. was born in Versailles. Her father, who was a lawyer, shared his love of music and art with her from an early age and her childhood dream was to become a curator. At the age of 17, she married the publisher Christian Bourgois, a passionate devotee of books and film. She has always retained the initial letter of his surname in her signature as a designer: agnès b.

She registered her own brand in 1973, and opened her first store in 1975 in a former butcher's shop in the Les Halles district of Paris. In 1984, she opened an art gallery adjacent to the store, the Galerie du jour, which is now located on the rue Quincampoix, featuring a bookshop, the Librairie du jour. Since then, agnès b. has opened several hundred stores worldwide.

She set up the "hybrid periodical" Point d'ironie with artist Christian Boltanski and exhibition curator Hans-Ulrich Obrist, and 100,000 copies are now distributed free of charge worldwide.

agnès b. supports many artistic and humanitarian projects. In 2010, she was awarded the "Croix d'Officier de la Légion d'Honneur" by Stéphane Hessel and Gilles Jacob presented her with the "Commandeur des Arts et des Lettres" medal in 2012.

To mark her commitment to marine conservation, she was awarded the SeaKeepers Award in Monaco in 2012.

François Hollande presented agnès b. with the "Commandeur de la Légion d'honneur" medal in 2016.

► EXHIBITORS

agnès b. Collection

Pierre Ardouvin	Gilbert & George	Dennis O.Callwood
Eugène Atget	John Giorno	Antionette Ohannessian
Roger Ballen	Nan Goldin	Abbé Pierre
Banger	Emmet Gowin	Damir Radovic
Jean-Michel Basquiat	Raymond Hains	Man Ray
Olivia Bee	Lucien Hervé	Clare Richardson
Alighiero Boetti	Rodolf Hervé	Willy Ronis
Anastasia Bolchakova	Katsuhiko Hibino	Paul Seawright
Emmanuel Bovet	Bodys Isek Kingelez	Malick Sidibé
Brassaï	Claude Lévêque	Ernest T.
Frederic Bruly Bouabré	Helen Levitt	Claire Tabouret
Henri Cartier-Bresson	El Lissitzky	Rirkrit Tiravanija
Andre de Dienes	Ryan McGinley	Alan Vega
Claudine Doury	Annette Messager	Andy Warhol
Robert Filliou	Duane Michals	Gillian Wearing
Nat Finkelstein	Vincent Michéa	Weegee
Martine Franck	Radenko Milak	Christian Xatrec
Regina José Galindo	Pierre Molinier	

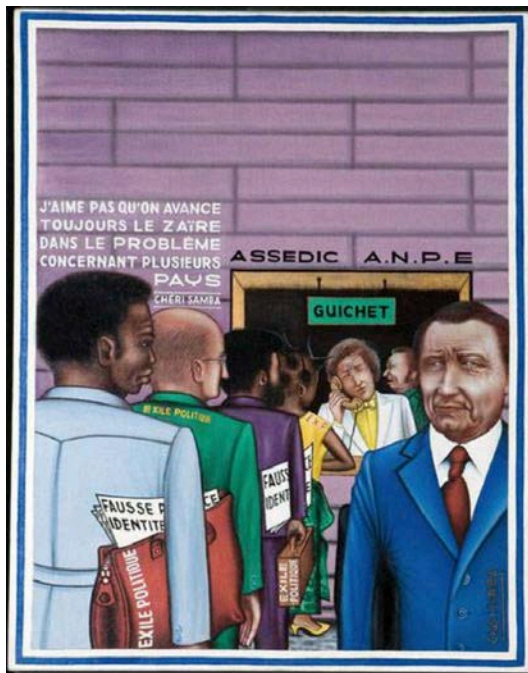
Musée national de l'histoire de l'immigration

Kader Attia	Mona Hatoum	Djamel Tatah
Roman Cieslewicz	Chéri Samba	



Mona Hatoum, *Bukhara (red and white)* 2008/Wool rug (143 x 225 cm). Musée National de l'Histoire de l'Immigration collection. Photo: Martin Argyroglo, Courtesy of Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris © ADAGP Paris 2016.

► THE CONTEMPORARY ART COLLECTION OF THE MUSÉE NATIONAL DE L'HISTOIRE DE L'IMMIGRATION



Chéri Samba, *Assedic-ANPE*, 1982
© Musée national de l'histoire de l'immigration.

The Museum aims to make art an integral part of its collections in order to gradually build up a coherent body of material which sheds a meaningful light on immigration. Taken as a whole, the documents and artefacts in the permanent exhibition – and those which are collected on a regular basis – interact with, and compare themselves against the yardstick of, unusual individual works. These works invite visitors to focus their attention and feelings on issues raised by the history of immigration. Anecdotal personal and family history rubs shoulders with official history to challenge it and occasionally undermine it.

This unique collection now boasts an extremely wide reach and makes a significant number of loans both within France and internationally.

Noteworthy examples include: the loan of works by **Mona Hatoum** and **Djamel Tatah** for the exhibition *Mirages d'Orient, grenades et figues de barbarie* (9 December 2012 - 28 April 2013) at the Collection Lambert in Avignon; *Bukhara (red and white)* by **Mona Hatoum** was loaned for the exhibition *Mona Hatoum* at the Centre Pompidou (24 June - 28 September 2015).

A major loan from the collection was agreed for the exhibition *Le Pont* (25 May - 20 October 2013) at the Musée d'art contemporain [MAC] in Marseille as part of the Marseille-Provence 2013 year of culture, with works by **Bruno Boudjelal**, **Mohamed Bourouissa**, **Ad Van Denderen**, **Ghazel**, **Olivier Jobard**, **Thomas Mailaender**, **Malik Nejmi**, **Melik Ohanian**, and **Mathieu Pernot**. Key works by **Kimsooja**, **Mathieu Pernot** and **Bruno Serralongue** were presented at the exhibition *Rêver d'un autre monde. Représentations du migrant dans l'art contemporain* (4 February – 29 May 2016) at the Centre d'Histoire de la Résistance et de la Déportation in Lyon.

The collection also tours to international venues with loans to the Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno (Spain) for the exhibition *Entre el mito y el espanto. El mediterráneo como conflicto* (18 February 2016 – 3 July 2016).

Lastly, **Zineb Sedira's** work *Middlesea* (2008) has been at Mucem since it first opened in 2013.



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MUSÉE DE L'HISTOIRE DE L'IMMIGRATION

► THE MUSÉE NATIONAL DE L'HISTOIRE DE L'IMMIGRATION



The Musée National de l'Histoire de l'Immigration is a multidisciplinary cultural institution with a broad visitor base. It combines an exhibition venue with a resources centre and multimedia library and is a place where people can come together and engage in debate as well as a research and information dissemination facility. The museum also boasts a rich cultural programme featuring live events, concerts, symposia and conferences.

The museum aims to bring together and preserve materials relating to the history of immigration in France since the 19th century in particular, raising their profile and making them accessible to as many people as possible so that the role of immigration in the construction of France is recognised and immigrants' contribution to economic development, social change and the cultural life of the nation is shown.

The museum's collections comprise tangible and intangible works which offer overlapping perspectives on history, anthropology and art so that artefacts, documents, accounts and contemporary creative works can enter into dialogue with each other.

Practical **information**

VIVRE !!

70 works from the agnès b. Collection selected by Sam Stourdzé

From 18/10/16 to 08/01/17

www.histoire-immigration.fr

Curator: Sam Stourdzé, Director, *Rencontres de la photographie d'Arles*.

Acces

293, avenue Daumesnil - 75012 Paris

Metro Line **8** - Tramway **3a** - Bus **46** : Porte Dorée

Persons with reduced mobility can access the galleries via the staff entrance (293, avenue Daumesnil).

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