

The Trinity College Dublin Art Collections

Artist: François Fiedler
Title: *François Fiedler, Galerie Maeght*
Medium: limited edition poster

b. 1921, Kassa, Hungary d. 2001, Paris

François Fiedler is a French lyrical abstract expressionist painter of Hungarian origin. It is said that he started painting at the age of 5, and was copying the Old Masters by the time he was 10. He graduated from the Budapest Fine Art Academy in 1946, and settled in France shortly afterwards, where he became fascinated with abstract art. To generate an income during his early days in France, Fiedler made official copies of famous paintings for museums. This side of his career was soon eclipsed by his abstract work, which had caught the eye of fellow artist Joan Miro. Struck by the energy of the young artist's works, Miro befriended Fiedler and introduced him to a number of influential figures in the Parisian art world.

The most recognisable feature of Fiedler's style is his use of gestural brushstrokes, which give a sense of movement and vitality to his non-figurative works. Although Fiedler was a member of the Post-War School in Paris, he was utilizing the same "process" as the Abstract Expressionists were in New York. Instead of traditional tools Fiedler preferred to use scrapes, knives, trowels, stones, sand. The surfaces of many of his works are very sculptural and three dimensional - they are scratched, scraped and multilayered, built up in a manner which resembles relief-sculpture.

Alongside painting, which would remain his principal means of expression, Fiedler experimented for several years with etching. As many young collectors did not have the money to buy an oil painting, he decided to find a way to convey the same feeling and meaning in etchings that he had achieved in oils. He started a series of etchings, some in very limited editions. It was original artwork for an affordable price, which is exactly what Fiedler intended.

His work is held in many prestigious collections around the world, including the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, the Musée Jenisch in Switzerland and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York City.

Information contained in this article is taken from www.fiedlerfoundation.com and http://www.galeriajan.com/art/Francois+Fiedler_001/Fiedler+1.jpg.html

This information has been compiled by Art Collections assistants, interns, and volunteers
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