

FONDATION BEYELER

Biography

1938 Born January 23 in Deutschbaselitz, in Saxony, Germany, and given the name Hans-Georg Bruno Kern.

1956 Admitted to the Hochschule für bildende und angewandte Kunst, in East Berlin, where he studies painting with Walter Womacka and Herbert Behrens-Hangelar.

1957 Obligated to leave the Hochschule after two terms because of “sociopolitical immaturity.” Continues studies with Hann Trier at the Hochschule für bildende Künste in West Berlin, graduating from the master-class in 1963.

1960 Paints the so-called *Rayski* portraits, his first “official” works.

1961 Adopts the artist’s name Georg Baselitz, after his birthplace. Has exhibition with Eugen Schönebeck in Berlin-Charlottenburg, accompanied by the “Erstes Pandämonisches Manifest” (“First Pandemonic Manifesto”).

1962 Marries Elke Kretschmar and their son Daniel is born.

1963 First solo exhibition at Galerie Werner & Katz, in Berlin, immediately causes a scandal. Of the works exhibited, *Die grosse Nacht im Eimer* (*The Big Night Down the Drain*, 1962–63) and *Der nackte Mann* (*The Naked Man*, 1962) are confiscated by the state attorney’s office; the ensuing trial does not end until 1965, when the pictures are returned.

1964 Makes his first etchings, in the printing workshop of Schloss Wolfsburg, Lower Saxony.

1965 Receives scholarship to the Villa Romana, in Florence. Has solo exhibition at Galerie Friedrich & Dahlem, in Munich. Works on the series of *Helden* (*Heroes*) paintings in Berlin until 1966.

1966 Has solo exhibition at Galerie Rudolf Springer, in Berlin, accompanied by the manifesto “Warum das Bild *Die grossen Freunde* ein gutes Bild ist!” (“Why the Painting *The Great Friends* is a Good Picture!”). Son Anton is born and the family moves to Osthofen, near Worms in Rhineland-Palatinate.

1968 Receives a grant from the Kulturkreis im Bundesverband der deutschen Industrie.

1969 Begins to work with inverted motifs: one of the first paintings is *Der Wald auf dem Kopf* (*The Wood on Its Head*).

1970 Makes his museum debut with an exhibition of drawings in the Kupferstichkabinett at the Kunstmuseum Basel. Has first exhibition of pictures with inverted motifs, presented by Franz Dahlem, Galeriehaus in Lindenstrasse, in conjunction with the Cologne art fair.

1971 Moves to Forst an der Weinstrasse, in Rhineland-Palatinate.

1972 Participates in *documenta 5*, in Kassel. Sets up a studio in Musbach, in Baden-Württemberg.

1975 Moves to Derneburg, near Hildesheim, Lower Saxony. Participates in the 13th São Paulo Biennial.

1976 Has retrospectives at the Kunsthalle Bern; the Staatsgalerie moderner Kunst, in Munich; and the Kunsthalle Köln, in Cologne. Sets up an additional studio in Florence until 1981.

1977 Engaged by the Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste, in Karlsruhe, where he holds a professorship from 1978–83. Withdraws his pictures from *documenta 6*, in Kassel, as a reaction against the participation of “official representative GDR painters.” Makes first large-format linocuts.

1979 Has the exhibition *Bilder 1977–1978* (Paintings 1977–1978) at the Van Abbemuseum, in Eindhoven. Gives the lecture “Vier Wände und Oberlicht oder besser kein Bild an der Wand” (“Four Walls and Skylight, or Rather No Picture on the Wall at All”) on the theme of museum buildings, at the architecture convention in Dortmund.

1980 Finishes *Strassenbild* (*Street Picture*, 1979–80), a cycle of eighteen painted panels.

Exhibits *Modell für eine Skulptur* (*Model for a Sculpture*, 1979–80), his first sculptural work, in the German Pavilion at the 39th Venice Biennale, alongside work by Anselm Kiefer.

1981 Participates in the exhibitions *A New Spirit in Painting* at the Royal Academy of Arts, in London, and *Westkunst* at the Messehalle, in Cologne. Works on the series of *Orangenesser* (*Orange Eaters*) and *Trinker* (*Drinkers*) paintings.

Sets up an additional studio in Castiglione Fiorentino, near Arezzo, Italy, until 1987. First exhibition in New York, at Xavier Fourcade.

1982 Participates in *documenta 7*, in Kassel, and the exhibition *Zeitgeist* at the Martin-Gropius-Bau, in Berlin. Intensifies his work on sculpture.

1983 Finishes the large compositions *Nachtessen in Dresden* (*Supper in Dresden*) and *Der Brückechor* (*The Brücke Chorus*).

Participates in the exhibition *Expressions: New Art from Germany*, organized by The Saint Louis Art Museum, which tours the United States.

Retrospective presented at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, in London, which is later shown at the Stedelijk Museum, in Amsterdam, and the Kunsthalle Basel. Holds professorship at the Hochschule der Künste, in Berlin, until 1988, and from 1992 to 2003.

1984 Traveling retrospective of drawings opens at the Kunstmuseum Basel. Appointed member of the Akademie der Künste, in Berlin, until 1992.

1985 In Paris, the Bibliothèque nationale shows the retrospective of his graphics, taken over from the Staatliche Graphische Sammlung München and supplemented by an overview of his sculptures produced to date. Writes the manifesto “Das Rüstzeug der Maler” (“The Painter’s Equipment”).

1986 Awarded the Kaiserring by the City of Goslar and the Art Prize of the Norddeutsche Landesbank, Hannover.

FONDATION BEYELER

1987 Receives the French honor of the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

Sets up an additional studio in Imperia, on the Italian Riviera.

1988 Completes the composition *Das Malerbild (The Painter's Picture)*.

1989 Participates in the exhibition *Bilderstreit*, in Cologne.

Finishes '45, a twenty-part painting, and begins work on the monumental sculpture series *Dresdner Frauen (Women of Dresden)*.

1990 His most comprehensive painting retrospective to date opens at the Kunsthau Zürich and then travels to the Kunsthalle Düsseldorf. Michael Werner publishes the artist's book *Malelade*, with poems and forty-one etchings by Baselitz.

1991 Until 1995, works on the series *Bildübereins (PictureOverOne)*, comprising thirty-nine pictures.

1992 Presentation of the 1989 vintage of Château Mouton Rothschild, which features a label designed by Baselitz.

Receives the French honor of the Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. Gives the lecture "Purzelbäume sind auch Bewegung und noch dazu macht es Spass" ("Somersaults Are Also Movement, and They're Fun Too") at the Münchner Podium in den Kammerspielen, in Munich, as part of the series entitled "Reden über Deutschland" ("Talking about Germany").

1993 Creates the stage design for a production of Harrison Birtwistle's opera *Punch and Judy*, commissioned by the Dutch National Opera, in Amsterdam.

1994 Writes the manifesto "Malen aus dem Kopf, auf dem Kopf oder aus dem Topf" ("Painting Out of My Head, Upside Down, Out of a Hat"). Completes the wood and cloth sculpture *Armalamor*, which in 1996 is installed in the entry hall of the newly built Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, in Frankfurt am Main.

1995 First major retrospective in the United States opens at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, in New York, which then travels to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, in Washington, DC; and the Neue Nationalgalerie, in Berlin. Begins work on a series of family portraits based on old photographs.

1996 Has major retrospective at the Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris. Completes the sculptures *Sentimental Holland* and *Mutter der Girlande (Mother of the Garland)*.

1997 *Portraits of Elke* opens at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, in Texas, then travels to the North Carolina Museum of Art, in Raleigh; the Carnegie Museum of Art, in Pittsburgh; and the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey, Mexico.

The Deutsche Bank exhibits its Baselitz collection at the Moscow State Exhibition Hall "Small Manege", and thereafter at the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz and the Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa. Realizes the sculpture *Mondrians Schwester (Mondrian's Sister)*.

1998 The Museo Rufino Tamayo presents the first survey of Baselitz's works in Mexico City. Completes the large-format paintings *Friedrichs Frau am Abgrund (Friedrich's Woman on the Abyss)* and *Friedrichs Melancholie (Friedrich's Melancholy)* for the Reichstag, in Berlin.

1999 Has the solo exhibitions *Reise in die Niederlande, 1972–1999 (Journey to the Netherlands, 1972–1999)* at the Stedelijk Museum, in Amsterdam, and *Gravures monumentales, 1977–1999 (Monumental prints, 1977–1999)* at the Musée Rath, in Geneva. Receives honorary membership of the Royal Academy of Arts, in London. First winner of the Rhenus Kunstpreis, Mönchengladbach.

2000 Receives honorary professorship at the Kraków Academy of Fine Arts. The exhibition *Im Walde von Blainville: Malerei 1996–2000 (In the Woods of Blainville: Painting 1996–2000)* opens at the Sammlung Essl—Kunst der Gegenwart, in Klosterneuburg near Vienna.

2001 The exhibition *Escultura frente a pintura / Sculpture versus Painting* opens at the IVAM Centre Julio González, in Valencia; he becomes the first winner of the Julio González International Prize.

2002 Receives the French distinction of the Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. Works on the large-scale linocut series *Belle Haleine*.

2003 The exhibition *Die monumentalen Aquarelle / Aquarelles monumentales (Monumental watercolors)* opens at the Albertina, in Vienna, then travels to Frac Picardie, in Amiens, France.

Completes the self-portrait *Meine neue Mütze (My New Hat)*, an over-life-sized sculpture.

Receives prize for best work at the first Beijing International Art Biennale. Awarded the Niedersächsischer Staatspreis, Hannover.

2004 Completes the over-life-sized sculpture *Frau Ultramarin (Mrs. Ultramarine)*, a portrait sculpture of his wife. Has retrospective at the Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, in Bonn. Awarded the Praemium Imperiale, Tokyo. Receives honorary professorship at the Accademia di Belle Arti, in Florence. Works on the series of the *Negative* portraits, *Spaziergang ohne Stock (Stroll without a Stick)*, and *Ekely*.

2005 Has joint exhibition with Benjamin Katz, *Attori a rovescio (Actors upside down)*, at the Villa Faravelli, in Imperia. Begins work on the *Remix* series. Receives the Austrian distinction of the Österreichisches Ehrenzeichen für Wissenschaft und Kunst.

2006 Has retrospectives at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, near Copenhagen, and the Fondation de l'Hermitage, in Lausanne. The following year, the Lausanne exhibition travels in slightly modified form to the Museo d'Arte Moderna in Lugano, Switzerland. The *Remix* exhibition opens at the Pinakothek der Moderne, in Munich, and travels the subsequent year to the Albertina, in Vienna. Made honorary citizen of the city of Imperia. Moves to Bavaria.

FONDATION BEYELER

2007 The exhibition *Russenbilder* (Russian paintings) opens at the Musée d'Art moderne, in Saint-Etienne, then travels to the National Museum of Contemporary Art in Seoul, and the Deichtorhallen, in Hamburg. Exhibits in dialogue with Emilio Vedova in the Venetian Pavilion at the 52nd Venice Biennale. Has major retrospective at the Royal Academy of Arts, in London.

2008 The exhibition *23. Januar 1938* opens, and his seventieth birthday celebration (together with Jonathan Meese, who was born on the same day) takes place at the Contemporary Fine Arts gallery, in Berlin. Has retrospective at the Madre, museo d'arte contemporanea Donnaregina, in Naples, and the exhibition *Baselitz: Top* at the Kunsthalle Würth, in Schwäbisch Hall. Completes the series Mrs. Lenin and the Nightingale.

2009 The retrospective *Gemälde und Skulpturen / Painting and Sculpture: 1960–2008* opens at the Museum der Moderne Salzburg and travels thereafter in modified form to the Rudolfinum, in Prague. Finishes the monumental sculpture *Volk Ding Zero—Folk Thing Zero*. The exhibition *Dresdner Frauen* (Women of Dresden) opens at the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden, Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister. Has parallel retrospectives *50 Jahre Malerei / 30 Jahre Skulptur* (50 years of painting / 30 years of sculpture) at the Museum Frieder Burda and the Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden.

2010 *Remix* exhibition presented at the Helsinki Art Museum Tennis Palace, accompanied by photographic portraits by Benjamin Katz. Has exhibition *Pinturas recentes / Recent Paintings* at the Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo. Begins the series of *Elke* nudes, followed by the *Blaue Adler* (*Blue Eagle*) series and the double-portraits *Seid bereit, immer bereit* (*Be Prepared, Always Prepared*). Made honorary citizen of the city of Castiglion Fiorentino.

2011 Paints the series *Herfreud Grüssgott* (*Greetings, Mr. Freud*) and *In London gesucht und nichts gefunden* (*Sought in London, Nothing Found*). Has the exhibitions *Re-Mixed* at the

Kunstforeningen GL Strand, in Copenhagen; *A la pointe du trait, gravures*, a retrospective of graphics, at the Musée Cantini, in Marseille; and *Lustspiel, Neues aus dem Atelier / New Works from the Studio*, together with Arnulf Rainer, at the Arnulf Rainer Museum, in Baden near Vienna. The Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris shows the major retrospective *Baselitz Sculpteur*. Makes the sculpture pair *Sing Sang Zero*.

2012 Produces early in the year the large-format *Auf dem Weg nach Manchester* (*On the Way to Manchester*) and, in the spring, paintings based on color negatives.

Has the exhibition *Romantiker kaputt: Gemälde, Zeichnungen und Druckgrafik aus der Sammlung GAG* (Broken Romantic: Paintings, drawings, and prints from the GAG Collection) at the Kunstmuseum des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt, Stiftung Moritzburg, in Halle. Completes the sculpture *BDM Gruppe* (*BDM Group*), consisting of three figures, which is displayed the following summer in the garden of the Victoria and Albert Museum, in London. Receives the French honor of the Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur.

2013 *Werke von 1968 bis 2012* (*Works from 1968 to 2012*), seventy-fifth birthday exhibition opens at the Essl Museum, in Klosterneuburg near Vienna. Works on several sculptures, the *Schwarzer Adler* (*Black Eagle*) series, and *Willem raucht nicht mehr* (*Farewell Bill*). The exhibition *Hintergrundgeschichten* (*Background Stories*) is shown at the Residenzschloss of the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden, followed by *Le récit et la condensation*, a joint exhibition with Leroy at the Musée des Beaux-Arts Eugène Leroy, in Tourcoing, France, and *Besuch bei Ernst Ludwig* (*A Visit with Ernst Ludwig*) at the Kirchner Museum Davos, Switzerland.

2014 Produces the large-format self-portraits *Avignon*, which are shown at the 56th Venice Biennale in 2015, and additional sculptures and paintings. The exhibition *Tierstücke: Nicht von dieser Welt* (*Animal Pieces: Not of This World*) is presented at the Franz Marc Museum, in Kochel am See.

The major exhibition *Damals, dazwischen und heute* (*Back Then, In Between, and Today*) is shown at the Haus der Kunst, in Munich.

2015 Works on the series *Las bum sik* (*Rass bum sic*), which is shown in a specially designed pavilion at the Glynde-bourne Festival, East Sussex. Obtains Austrian citizenship. The exhibition *Inbetween: Baselitz—McCarthy* is presented at the George Economou Collection, in Athens, followed by *How it began ...* at the State Russian Museum, in Saint Petersburg, with works from the collection of the Albertina, in Vienna. Produces the extensive series of drawings *Besuch von Hokusai* (*Visit from Hokusai*) and the sculptures *Bündel* (*Bundle*) and *Zero Dom* (*Zero Dome*), as well as the series of paintings *Dystopisches Paar* (*Dystopian Couple*) and *Wir fahren aus* (*We're Off*).

2016 Continues working on the series of paintings *Abgang mit Marcel* (*Descending with Marcel*). The exhibition *Mit Richard unterwegs: Druckgrafik 1996–2016* (*On the go with Richard: Prints 1996–2016*) is shown at Schloss Dachau, near Munich. The Städel Museum, in Frankfurt am Main, and the Moderna Museet, in Stockholm, show for the first time *Die Helden* (*The Heroes*), the 1965–66 series of paintings and drawings, to a larger extent. The exhibition then travels to Rome and Bilbao. The exhibition *Eksperiment og fornyelse* (*Experiment and renewal*), is presented at the Museum Jorn, in Silkeborg, Denmark.

2017 The exhibition *Preview with Review* is presented at the Hungarian National Gallery, in Budapest.

2018 *Georg Baselitz*, an exhibition commemorating his eightieth birthday, is shown at the Fondation Beyeler, Riehen/Basel, and at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC. Parallel to this, the Kunstmuseum Basel presents *Werke auf Papier* (*Works on Paper*).

Lives and works in Basel, in Salzburg, at Ammersee, and in Imperia.