

Horacio Torres

b. 1924 Livorno, Italy - d. 1976 New York City



Of the many painters who studied with his father, the great Constructivist artist Joaquín Torres-García, Horacio Torres made the quantum leap into the Contemporary art world of abstract and expressionistic painters in New York's 1970s. That he did so with figurative canvases was a singular achievement. Taken under the wing of the critic Clement Greenberg, who understood that Horacio's work was really about painting and was thoroughly modern, Horacio explored the thunderous territory of Titian, Velasquez and late Goya with a unique background of skill and aesthetic education in a contemporary way. Thus the series of headless nudes and of figures with faces obscured, make clear his painterly intentions and concerns. His monumental canvases are wondrous exercises of painted imagination formed with the structure of the depicted figure, but they are not about nudes, they are about painting.

Public Collections

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Museum of Modern Art, New York
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
Davis Museum, Wellesley College, Massachusetts
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
Brandeis University Museum, Waltham, Massachusetts
Hastings College, Nebraska
Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence, Rhode Island
Musée d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Edmonton Museum, Alberta, Canada
Biblioteca Nacional, Montevideo, Uruguay
Museo Blanes, Montevideo, Uruguay

Main Solo Exhibitions (partial listing)

2023 *Horacio Torres: Eight Nudes, 1971-1975*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
2016 *Horacio Torres: Early Works*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
1999 Salander-O'Reilly Gallery, New York
Cecilia de Torres, Ltd. New York
1989 Salander-O'Reilly Gallery, New York
1986 Salander-O'Reilly Gallery, New York
1983 Edmonton Art Gallery, Alberta, Canada
1982 Mendel Art Gallery, Saskatoon, Canada

- 1981 Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York
- 1980 Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York
- 1979 Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York
- 1976 Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York
- 1975 Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York
- 1978 Galería Karlen Guggerlmeier, Montevideo
- 1977 Meredith Long Contemporary, New York
- 1975 Watson/de Nagy & Co., Houston, Texas
- 1974 Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
- Richard Grey Gallery, Chicago
- Nicholas Wilder Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1973 Noah Goldowsky Gallery, New York
- 1968 Galería Moretti, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 1965 Galería Moretti, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 1963 Biblioteca Nacional, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 1961 Galería Witcomb, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1956 Galerie Du Haut-Pavée, Paris, France

Group Exhibitions (partial listing)

- 2016 *Under the Influence*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 2015 *The South was Their North: Artists of the Torres-García Workshop*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 2006 *Line-Plane-Volume/Sculpture: 1940-2006*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 2002 *Modernism in Montevideo & Buenos Aires: 1930s-1960s*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 2000 *A Latin American Metaphysical Perspective*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 1998 *The Murals of Sant-Bois Hospital*, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Montevideo, Uruguay
- The School of the South*, Anderson Gallery, Buffalo, New York
- La Escuela del Sur-El Taller Torres-García*, Iturralde Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- Sixties by Six*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 1997 *A Escola do Sul*, Pavilhão Cultural Renée Behar, São Paulo, Brazil
- La Escuela del Sur*, Museo Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
- T-G y 10 Artistas del Taller*, Galería Ruth Benzacar, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Dibujos en papel*, Galería Clavé, Caracas, Venezuela
- El Taller Torres-García*, Museo Central de Costa Rica, San Juan
- 1996 *The Still Life*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York City
- Constructive Universalism*, Art Museum of the Americas, Washington, D.C.
- 1995 *65 Years of Constructivist Wood*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 1993 *El Taller Torres-García, The School of the South*, Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid;
- 1991 Archer M. Huntington Art Gallery, Austin, Texas; Museo de Monterrey & Museo Rufino Tamayo, México;
- The Bronx Museum, New York.
- 1992 *Les Tutoyeurs de L'Arc-en-ciel*, Galerie Gerald Piltzer, Paris, France

- 1990 *Group 1990*, Salander - O'Reilly Gallery, New York
Figuring the Body, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
- 1982 *Latin American Artists in New York since 1970*, Huntington Art Gallery, Austin, Texas
- 1981 *Contemporary Realism*, The Castle Gallery, College of New Rochelle, New York
The Figure, Tibor de Nagy, New York
- 1980 *Tibor de Nagy: Works from the Personal Collection*, Syracuse U. Gallery, N.Y.
- 1979 *The Image of Post-Modern Man in Contemporary Painting*, University of Virginia Art Museum, Charlottesville
- 1979-78 *Painterly Realism*, Watson de Nagy & Co., Houston, Texas; Philbrook Art Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma;
Waco Creative Art Center, Texas
- 1978 *Selected Twentieth Century American Nudes*, Harold Reed Gallery, New York
- 1974 *New Accessions U.S.A.*, Colorado Springs Fine Art Center, Colorado
- 1966 *One Hundred Years - Uruguayan Painting*, Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 1956 *Jonges Schilders uit Uruguay*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Works for Public Spaces

- 1962 *Three Murals in brick relief*, Seminario de Toledo, Canelones, Uruguay (interior)
- 1958 *Mural in relief* (polychrome sheet steel), Liceo Miranda N°9, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 1950 *Mural decoration*, ANCAP executive suite, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 1944 *Two Murals*, Hospital Saint Bois, Montevideo, Uruguay

Selected Bibliography

- Bell, Jane. Horacio Torres at Noah Goldowsky, Arts Magazine, vol. 47, no.7, May-June, 1973
- Lubell, Ellen. Arts Magazine, vol. 47, no. 6, April 1973
- Crimp, Douglas. Art News, vol. 72, no. 4, April 1973
- Moffett, Kenworth. Horacio Torres, with Some Notes on Contemporary Representational Painting. Art International, Volume XIX/2, February 1975
- Moffett, Kenworth. Horacio Torres and the Affirmation of a Monumental Figurative Art, Arts Magazine, November 1975
- Nochlin, L. & Leslie, A. Torres, New Uses of History, Art in America, March-April 1976
- Frech-Frazier, Nina. Horacio Torres, Arts Magazine, April 1979
- Tatransky, Valentin. Horacio Torres, Arts Magazine, April 1981
- Yau, John. Art in America, October 1981
- Brenson, Michael. Horacio Torres, The New York Times, Friday, Jan. 5, 1990 (review of the exhibition at Salander-O'Reilly Gallery)