

## walter storms galerie

*For immediate release*

### TURI SIMETI

March 18 – May 29, 2021

Walter Storms Gallery  
Schellingstrasse 48  
80799 Munich, Germany  
Tue-Fri 10 am – 6 pm, Sat 11am - 4 pm

**The solo exhibition "Turi Simeti" at Walter Storms Galerie shows recent works of the Milanese artist. Since his participation in 1965 in the exhibition "ZERO Avantgarde" in the studio of Lucio Fontana in Milan, Turi Simeti (\*1929-2021) has been internationally recognized for his monochrome pictorial reliefs with oval structures.**

**We honor Turi Simeti who unexpectedly passed away, with a composition of selected works by artist friends. Therefore, we present in parallel the group exhibition "Turi Simeti in the Context of the European Concrete Art Movement of the 60s/ 80s" with works by Dadamaino, Ulrich Erben, Rupprecht Geiger, Stanislav Kolíbal, François Morellet, Roman Opalka, Giuseppe Spagnulo and Günther Uecker.**

Born in Alcamo, Sicily, in 1929, Turi Simeti discovered his passion for art at an early age. At the age of 29, he therefore moved to Rome in 1958. There he quickly finds access to the studios of important artists, including Aberto Burri, one of the defining artists of the 20th century. He spends a lot of time in Burri's studio, whose informal material paintings will have a great influence on his later work. But Simeti wants to go his own way and experiments with a wide variety of materials. Among other things, he burns the corners of rectangular cardboard boxes with a candle, and the disappearance of the corners and edges creates an oval shape. A pictorial motif that will define his artistic work for a lifetime.

Long stays in London, Paris and Basel followed, where Turi Simeti met numerous representatives of the contemporary avant-garde. Inspired by his travels and the desire to free his art from the traditional and previously established codes, Simeti decides in the early 60s to use the monochrome and the relief as pictorial elements. The ellipse becomes his trademark and code of his artistic work. The relief-like elevations achieve a unique, three-dimensional effect thanks to their interplay of light and shadow. This impression is reinforced by the monochrome color scheme white, blue, red, green, black or yellow. He gives his paintings



Turi Simeti  
*7 ovali rossi*, 2017  
Acrylic on shaped canvas  
80 x 80 cm  
© Studio Turi Simeti  
Courtesy Walter Storms Galerie

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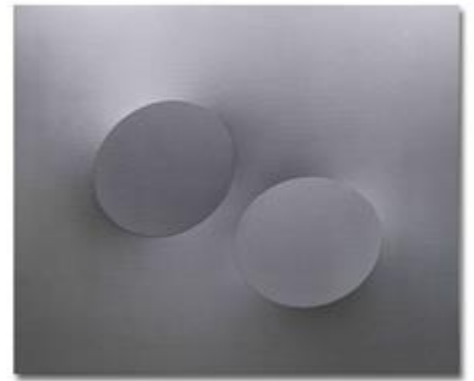
names like "un ovale nero" or "due ovali bianchi", depending on how many of these mysterious elevations are hidden under the canvas and which shade he chooses.

In 1965 Simeti moves to Milan, where he soon finds contact with the environment of the active art scene around Lucio Fontana and Piero Manzoni. As part of this new generation, he participates with Agostino Bonalumi, Enrico Castellani, Dadamaino and other pioneers from Europe and the founders of the movement Heinz Mack, Otto Piene and Günther Uecker in the legendary exhibition "ZERO Avantgarde" in the studio of Lucio Fontana. In the same year, his first solo exhibition takes place at the Wulfengasse Gallery in Klagenfurt.

From 1966 to 1969 Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey invites him as an artist in residence and Simeti spends a lot of time in New York, where he opens his own studio. With the beginning of the 70s Turi Simeti exhibits his works throughout Europe, before going to Rio de Janeiro to work in the 80s and also exhibiting there several times.

After years abroad, Simeti returned to Milan in 1989 with a solo exhibition at the Vismara Gallery. A year later, the Milan gallery Millenium presents the exhibition "Bonalumi - Castellani - Simeti", paying tribute to the three most important Italian representatives of the ZERO movement. In the 90s, his works are characterized by a multiplication and scattering of oval elements on the surface and a more intense and varied color scheme.

To date, Turi Simeti's work has been recognized internationally in numerous solo and group exhibitions and retrospectives. Turi Simeti passed away unexpectedly in Milan on March 16, 2021.



Turi Simeti  
*2 ovali argento, 2020*  
Acrylic on shaped canvas  
100 x 120 cm  
© Studio Turi Simeti  
Courtesy Walter Storms Galerie



Turi Simeti  
*3 ovali neri sovrapposti, 2018*  
Acrylic on shaped canvas  
100 x 120 cm  
© Studio Turi Simeti  
Courtesy Walter Storms Galerie

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### Turi Simeti in the context of the European Concrete Art movement of the 60s/ 80s

With a composition of selected works by artist friends we honor Turi Simeti, who unexpectedly passed away on March 16, 2021. Therefore, we present in parallel the group exhibition "Turi Simeti in the context of the European movement of Concrete Art of the 60/ 80s" with works by Dadamaino, Ulrich Erben, Rupprecht Geiger, Stanislav Kolíbal, François Morellet, Roman Opalka, Giuseppe Spagnolo and Günther Uecker.



Günther Uecker  
*Struktur*, 1958  
Acrylic and paper maché on canvas  
100 x 100 cm  
© Sammlung Schaub, München  
Courtesy Walter Storms Galerie

**Walter Storms Gallery** - The internationally active Walter Storms Gallery has been showing contemporary, concrete and conceptual art since its founding in 1977. It works continuously with members of the Zero Group, important representatives of the European avant-garde, Biennale and documenta participants, and promotes emerging talent. The gallery participates in numerous art fairs and supports its artists in organizing and staging exhibitions in museums and other institutions. Catalogs, monographs and artists' books are produced in cooperation with renowned publishing houses or in the gallery's own publishing house. A special focus of the gallery's activities is the administration of the estate of Günter Fruhtrunk (1923-1982) and the art estate of the widow of Raimund Girke (1930-2002). The gallery maintains two separate exhibition spaces: A spacious, light-flooded exhibition hall covering more than 500 m<sup>2</sup> in Munich's "Kunstareal" and further exhibition rooms with a separate open space for sculptures in the Bogenhausen district.

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### EXHIBITIONS – a selection

#### 1965

*Zero Avantgarde*, Atelier di Lucio Fontana, Milan / Galleria il Punto, Turin / Gallerie del Cavallino, Venice  
*Bonalumi, Simeti*, Galerie Wulfengasse, Klagenfurt

#### 1966

*Simeti*, Galleria Vismara, Milan  
*Weiss auf Weiss*, Kunstmuseum, Bern

#### 1967

*Simeti*, Galerie Toni Brechbühl, Grenchen  
*Studio exhibition, curated by Willoughby Sharp*, New York City

#### 1968

*Turi Simeti*, Galleria Cadario, Rome and Milan

#### 1969

*Turi Simeti*, J. Henry Gallery, Saint Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands  
*Hommage an das Schweigen*, Tiroler Kunstpavillon, Innsbruck

#### 1971

*Ulrich Erben, Turi Simeti*, Galerie m, Bochum  
*Ulrich Erben, Turi Simeti*, Galerie Loehr, Frankfurt

#### 1972

*Faites votre jeu*, Galleria del Cavallino, Venice

#### 1973

*Turi Simeti*, Forum Kunst Rottweil  
*Turi Simeti*, Galerie Ursula Wendtorf + Franz Swetec, Dusseldorf

#### 1974

*Turi Simeti*, Galerie Thomas Keller, Munich

#### 1975

*Turi Simeti*, Galerie Edith Wahlandt, Schwäbisch Gmünd

#### 1976

*Turi Simeti, opere dal 1962 al 1976*, Galleria Il Milione, Milan

#### 1977

*Turi Simeti*, Galerie 44, Dusseldorf

#### 1980

*Turi Simeti, Lo spazio della mente*, Musei Comunali, Macerata

#### 1981

*Less is More*, Galerie Nordenhake, Malmö

#### 1982

*Turi Simeti*, Studio Carlo Grossetti, Milan  
*Simeti*, Kunstverein Schaffhausen, Schaffhausen

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### 1983

*Kunst nach 45 aus Frankfurter Privatbesitz, curated by Peter Weiermair, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt*

### 1984

*Simeti, Espaço Petite Galerie, Rio de Janeiro*

### 1985

*Turi Simeti, Galerie van der Koelen, Mainz*

*Turi Simeti, Paulo Figueiredo Galerie de Arte, São Paulo*

*Eine Europäische Bewegung, Bilder + Objekte aus der Sammlung*

*Lenz Schönberg, Museum Carolino Augusteum, Salzburg*

*Arte italiana degli anni Sessanta, Castello di Rivoli, Turin*

### 1986

*Simeti, Galeria de Arte do Centro Empresarial Rio, Rio de Janeiro*

### 1988

*Zero, Vision und Bewegung, Werke aus der Sammlung Lenz Schönberg, Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus, Munich*

### 1989

*Turi Simeti, nuovi lavori, Galleria Vismara, Milan*

*Eine Europäische Bewegung in der Bildenden Kunst von 1958 bis heute, Sammlung Lenz Schönberg, Zentrales Künstlerhaus am Krimwall, Moscow*

### 1990

*Bonalumi Castellani Simeti, Millenium, Milan*

### 1991

*Turi Simeti, 1961-1991 Trent'anni di lavoro, Museo Civico di Gibellina, Sicily*

### 1992

*Aus der Stille der Zeit - über die Grenzen von Raum, Sammlung Lenz Schönberg, Galeria Zacheta, Warsaw*

### 1994

*Turi Simeti, 10 verões cariocas, Paço Imperial, Ministério da Cultura, Rio de Janeiro*

*Museiondocumenta, Museion, Bolzano*

### 1996

*Turi Simeti, Werke 1962-1996, curated by Ingrid Mössinger, Kunstverein Ludwigsburg – Villa Franck, Ludwigsburg*

### 1997

*Turi Simeti, Revelos, Museu Victor Meirelles, Florianópolis*

### 1998

*Konkret konstruktiv, Sammlung Staechelin, Städtisches Museum, Freiburg*

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### 2000

*Die Sammlung Marli Hoppe-Richter*, Mannheimer Kunstverein, Mannheim

### 2002

*Turi Simeți, Opere recenti*, Fondazione Mudima, Milan

### 2003

*Spazio e luce. Superficie e volume. Struttura e movimento*, Fondazione Calderara, Vacciego

### 2004

*Zero, die europäische Vision von 1958 bis heute, Sammlung Lenz Schönberg*, Museum für zeitgenössische Kunst, Zagreb

### 2006

*Zero, Künstler einer europäischen Bewegung, Sammlung Lenz Schönberg 1956-2006*, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg

### 2009

*Stanza d'Artista*, Padiglione della Repubblica Arabo Siriana, 53. Biennale di Venezia, Venice

### 2010

*Turi Simeți*, Galleria Salvatore + Caroline Ala, Mailand  
*Turi Simeți, Opere 1960-2010, curated by Bruno Corà*, former Jesuit College, Alcamo, Sicily

### 2012

*Turi Simeți, Pianissimo*, The Mayor Gallery, London

### 2013

*Turi Simeți, Anni Sessanta*, Galleria Dep Art, Milan  
*Bianco Italia*, Tournaboni Art Gallery, Paris  
*Zero Avantgarde 1965-2013*, Galleria Christian Stein, Milan  
*Incontri*, Sammlung Schaufler, Sindelfingen

### 2014

*A New Visual Dialogue*, De Buck Gallery, Saint-Paul-de-Vence, New York, Antwerp  
*Zero International*, Setareh Gallery, Dusseldorf  
*Biasi, Dadmaino, Simeți – Il movimento delle cose*, Galerie Stefan Hildebrandt, St. Moritz

### 2015

*Turi Simeți, Opere bianche*, Dep Art, Milan  
*Turi Simeți*, Almine Rech Galerie, Brussels

### 2017

*Turi Simeți*, Leeahn Gallery, Seoul

### 2020

*Spring*, Almine Rech Galerie, Brussels  
*Turi Simeți, Works 1960-2020*, Dep Art, Milan