

**TWELVE  
GREEK  
ARTISTS  
1960**

**REDFERN GALLERY  
LONDON**

707.4  
GB  
1960  
TWE



*Thaw II.* 1960

NICHOLAS GEORGIADIS

# TWELVE GREEK ARTISTS

1960

ΔΩΔΕΚΑ ΕΛΛΗΝΕΣ ΚΑΛΛΙΤΕΧΝΕΣ

ARLIOTI  
CALLIYANNIS  
COULENTIANOS  
CALOUTSIS  
GAITIS  
GEORGIADIS

MACRIS  
MAVROIDI  
MOLFESSIS  
PIERRAKOS  
PRASSINOS  
VOYATZIS

*Under the Patronage of  
His Excellency The Greek Ambassador*

March 22—April 22

**REDFERN GALLERY**  
20, CORK STREET  
BURLINGTON GARDENS - LONDON, W.1





*Bird: Bronze*

COULENTIANOS

## *Introduction*

THIS IS the first group exhibition of contemporary Greek artists to be held in London. It may be useful therefore to give a few general indications on the art-historical background against which they have developed. The biographical notes supply the facts of their lives. For their temperament and their achievement their works themselves can speak.

During the first century of the country's life as a modern independent state, the art of Greece had been fighting its way up the blind alley of neo-classicist and academic-realist German nineteenth-century art. In those years only some rarely gifted exceptions—the sculptor Halepas (1854–1938), the painters Bouzianis (1885–1959) and Parthenis (b. 1879) stood isolated above the current, with little reference to precedents outside themselves.

The main European trends of art, radiating from the great masters of Paris, started to penetrate the artistic conscience of the Greeks in the twenties. However, despite their vigour and seduction, and despite the fact that they were introduced by artists of the talent of Ghika (b. 1906), they were not to exert their influences freely, carrying all before them.

They came up against a strong native artistic tradition going back to the Byzantines, and even beyond, to the Greek painters of Fayyum and Pompei. Unrecognized by academics and purists, this tradition flowed on submerged in the art of the Greek people, borne by simple men who made their living as painters of ikons and shop signs, carvers of ornaments for churches and houses. Naturally most of them are anonymous; some, like Theophilos (1866–1934), found their work recognized precisely around 1930.

The study and appreciation of Byzantine art had only recently started. This, and the live popular tradition were the most vigorous native elements to come to the surface. Combined with the new trends coming in from Paris, they were to give Greek painting and sculpture from the 1930's onwards a truly contemporary, individual and characteristic idiom. In painting, its most significant exponents

are Tsarouchis (exhibited at the Redfern 1951), Diamantopoulos and Engonopoulos (all three born 1910) and Moralis (b. 1916) ; in sculpture, Apartis (b. 1899) and Kapralos (b. 1910).

With the introspection enforced by war and occupation the specifically Greek character of their styles was refined and strengthened. In 1946 even the most "Parisianised" of Greek artists found their works made richer and more significant by thorough assimilation of a heritage that had always belonged to them.

The generation now nearing its forties has been either directly (as pupils) or indirectly influenced by these masters, during or immediately after the war. They grew up along with the new trends that were being elaborated in that same period in Western Europe and the United States. In the elation and release of the first post-war years it was natural for them to seek the closest contact with the new movements. They came to Paris, London, or New York, with their talents formed and tempered by their experiences in Greece and consequently better prepared to make their contact with the new movements genuinely creative. Although most of them live abroad at present, they have kept their vital roots alive.

In this way they have become the bearers of the second wave of Western trends which is bringing Greek art abreast of what is best in painting and sculpture in this second half of the twentieth century.

At the same time they are enriching art of to-day with specific features which they carry with them from their origin and first training. In the works selected for exhibition here, from only a few of this new generation of Greek artists, one can perhaps discern some of these features. They can be defined as a sense of proportion and rhythm which keep abstraction organic and, despite the apparent contradiction, rational. Man, and his landscapes, are still there, more apparent, of course, in the paintings of Mavroidi than in those of Georgiades, visible more to the mind's eye than to the physical one, but still the "measure of all things," as the point of departure, the foundation on which these artists build their abstractions. There is also in most of them a lyrical restraint of feeling (expressionism is not a Greek mood) and a harmonious sensuousness of colours. Form generally is still a major concern. As for their individualism, more evident in their works even than in their faces, it explains why, in Greece, there can be no schools or groups of artists following a single course.

Since man and his problems are in no way absent from them, these paintings and sculptures may help one to see more clearly that there are human aspects to the most dishumanized artistic movements of to-day.

At a time when development—can one call it progress?—in the experience and knowledge of means of destroying and creating humanity have opened before us all such vast, miraculous and monstrous vistas, can one expect the artist to render them or his reactions to them in terms that have been intelligible mainly because familiar to us through long tradition and use? Is he to blame, therefore, when, not out of escapism—since he does not avert his gaze from them—but out of a deeply pressing urge for coherent expression, he has recourse to a new store of shapes, textures, rhythms, masses and gestures which are not less human than the more conventionally articulate language of old, since they arise organically, are born naturally out of man's need to recognize himself in this new universe?

A. G. XYDIS

# ARLIOTI



LILI ARLIOTI was born in Athens. She is a member of the Greek Chamber of Professional Artists and the Union of Greek Women Artists, and a founder member of the Group "Armos." Her work is represented in collections in France, the United States of America, England and in Israel.

*Exhibitions include :*

- 1948. Panhellenic Exhibition, Athens.
- 1950. Panhellenic Exhibition, Athens.
- 1950. Armos Group, Athens.
- 1952. Armos Group, Athens.
- 1955. Individual Exhibition, Athens.
- 1958. Individual Exhibition, Athens.
- 1956. Individual Exhibition, Iolas Gallery, New York.
- 1957. Fourth Biennale, São Paulo.
- 1959. Quatro Artisti Greci, Venice.
- 1959. Salon Art Libre, Paris.
- 1959. Biennale of Alexandria.
- 1960. Contemporary Greek Paintings, Smithsonian Institute, U.S.A.





4. *Lovers*

1.	AUTUMN	..	..	..	1957
2.	CHIMERAЕ	..	..	..	1959
3.	LUNAR LANDSCAPE	..	..	..	1959
4.	LOVERS	..	..	..	1959
5.	CRUCIFIX	..	..	..	1960

# CALLIYANNIS



MANOLIS CALLIYANNIS. Born September, 1923, in Lesbos, Greece, where he lived until 1940. During the war he was a navigator in the Royal Hellenic Air Force. Since 1948 he has lived in Paris, periodically visiting Lesbos. He has taken part in Group Exhibitions in France, England, Italy, Germany and U.S.A.

*One-Man Exhibitions include :*

Galerie Arnaud, Paris, 1951 ; Brussels, Amsterdam, London, Gimpel fils, 1955 ; simultaneously in Paris at the Galerie Dubourg and the Galerie Mouradian-Vallotton, 1957 ; recent watercolours at the Galerie Zervos (Cahiers d'Art) 1958 ; Leicester Galleries, London, 1958.

*Works in public collections include :*

Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris.  
Tate Gallery, London.  
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam.  
The Felton Bequest, Melbourne.

Paintings by him are also in private collections in England, France, Belgium, Germany, Holland and the U.S.A.



8. *Aegean II*, 1957-1958

6.	THE ROSES OF THE PRINCESS	..	1959
7.	VIEW OF LESBOS	.. ..	1957
8.	AEGEAN II	.. ..	1957-58
9.	STUDY : BLUE AND GREY	.. ..	1959
10.	LESBOS	.. ..	1959
11.	STUDY	.. ..	1959

# CALOUTSIS



VALERIOS CALOUTSIS. Born in Crete, 1927. He studied at the Athens School of Art, at the St. Martin's School of Art, London, and at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris.

He has been living and working in Paris since 1953.

*One-man Exhibitions :*

- 1957. Galerie 93, Paris.
- 1958. Galerie 93, Paris.

*Participation in :*

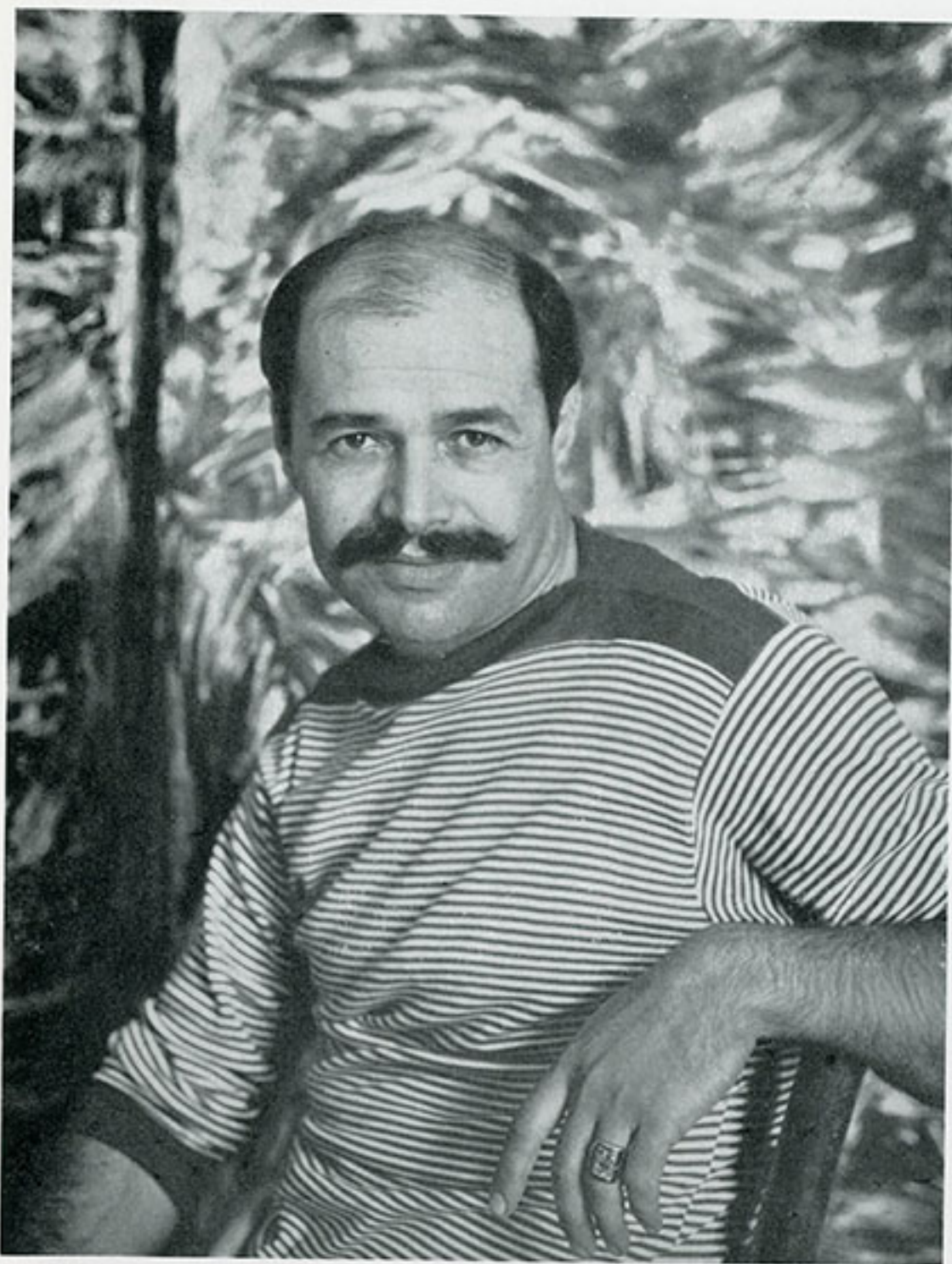
- 1957. Salon de Mai, Paris.
- 1958. Salon de la Jeune Peinture, Paris.
- 1959. Salon de la Jeune Peinture, Paris.



12. *Structure No. III*

- 12. STRUCTURE NO. III.
- 13. MATERIAL TRANSFORMATION.
- 14. ELEMENT ON BLACK.
- 15. STRUCTURE NO. IV.
- 16. LANDSCAPE.
- 17-29. IMAGES.

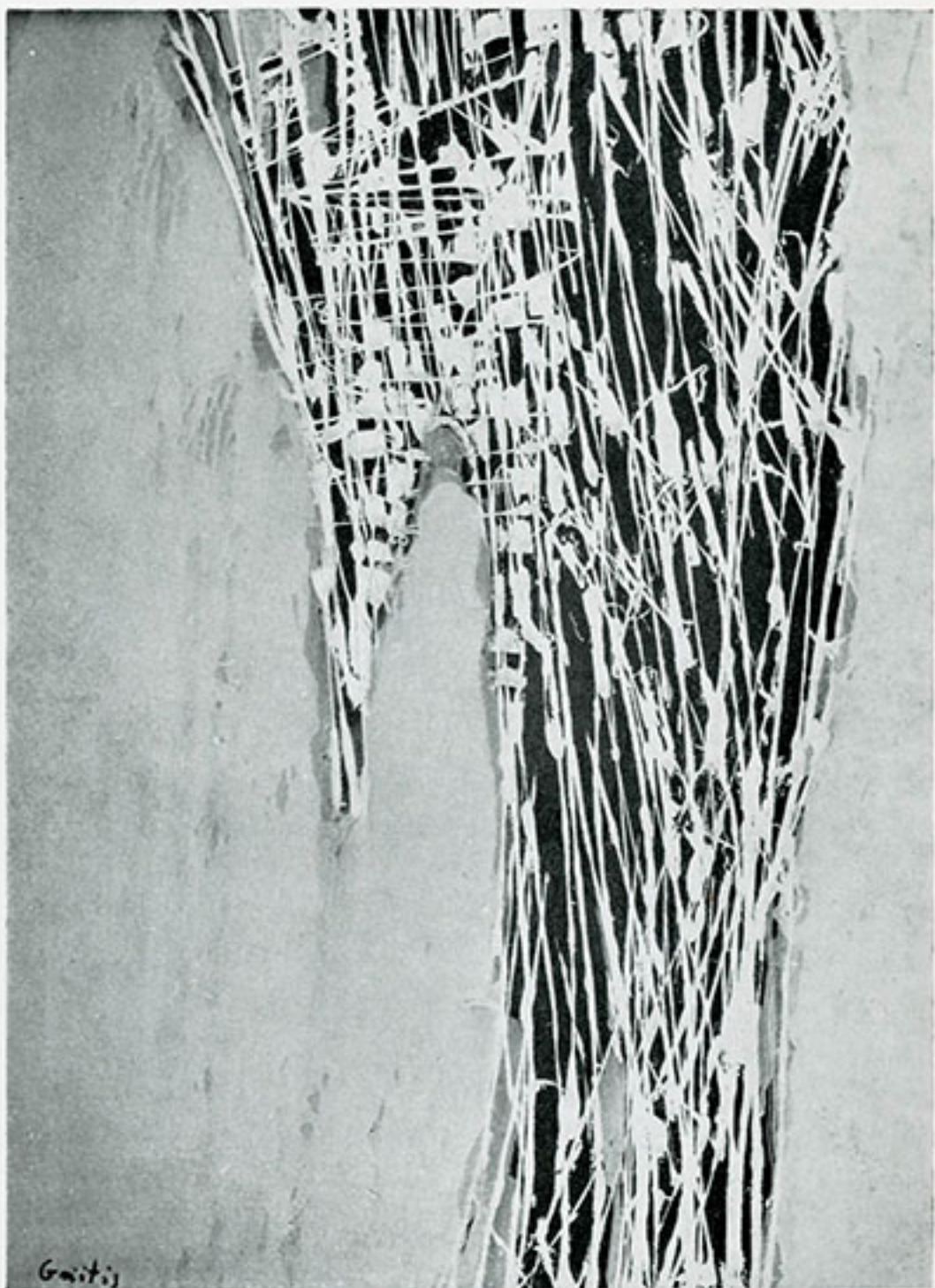
# GAÏTIS



YANNIS GAÏTIS. Born in 1923, in Athens. He entered the Fine Arts School in 1941 and held his first One-man Exhibition at the Gallery Parnassos, Athens, in 1947, exhibiting there the following year, and also in Stockholm.

*Other Exhibitions include :*

- 1952. Biennale São Paulo.
- 1954. Gallery Kentrikon, Athens.
- 1955. Salon d'Automne, Paris.
- 1956. Exposition des Arts Plastiques, Paris.  
Prix Othon Friesz, Paris.  
Salon des Réalités Nouvelles Paris.
- 1957. Galerie Diderot, Paris.  
Iris Clert, Paris.
- 1958. Micro Salon, Rome, Gallery Tartaruga.  
Gallery Niebelung, Düsseldorf.  
Artistes Grecs de Paris, Galerie Nord.
- 1959. Galerie Paul Facchetti, Paris.  
Galerie Numero, Florence.



34. *Aegean Sea*

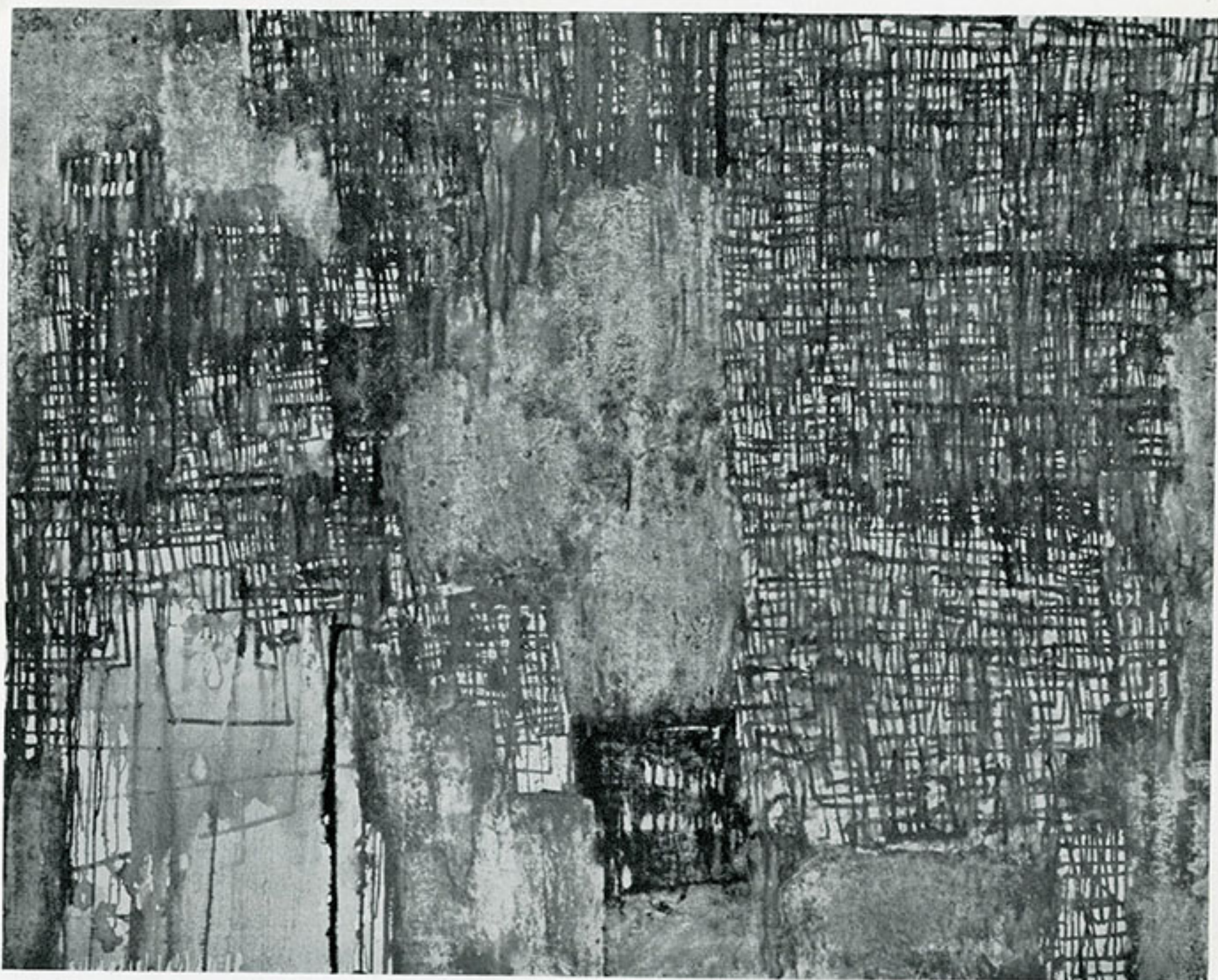
- 30. HYDRA.
- 31. CORNFIELD.
- 32. TEMPLE OF APOLLO.
- 33. WINTER, PARIS.
- 34. AEGEAN SEA.

# GEORGIADIS



NICHOLAS GEORGIADIS was born in Athens in 1925. He trained as an architect there and in New York and came to England in 1953 where he studied at the Slade until 1955. He has exhibited with the London Group and at the 1955 Carnegie International at Pittsburgh. He has designed several ballets for the Royal Ballet, London, and for the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. He now teaches at the Slade. He had his first London exhibition at the Redfern Gallery in 1959.

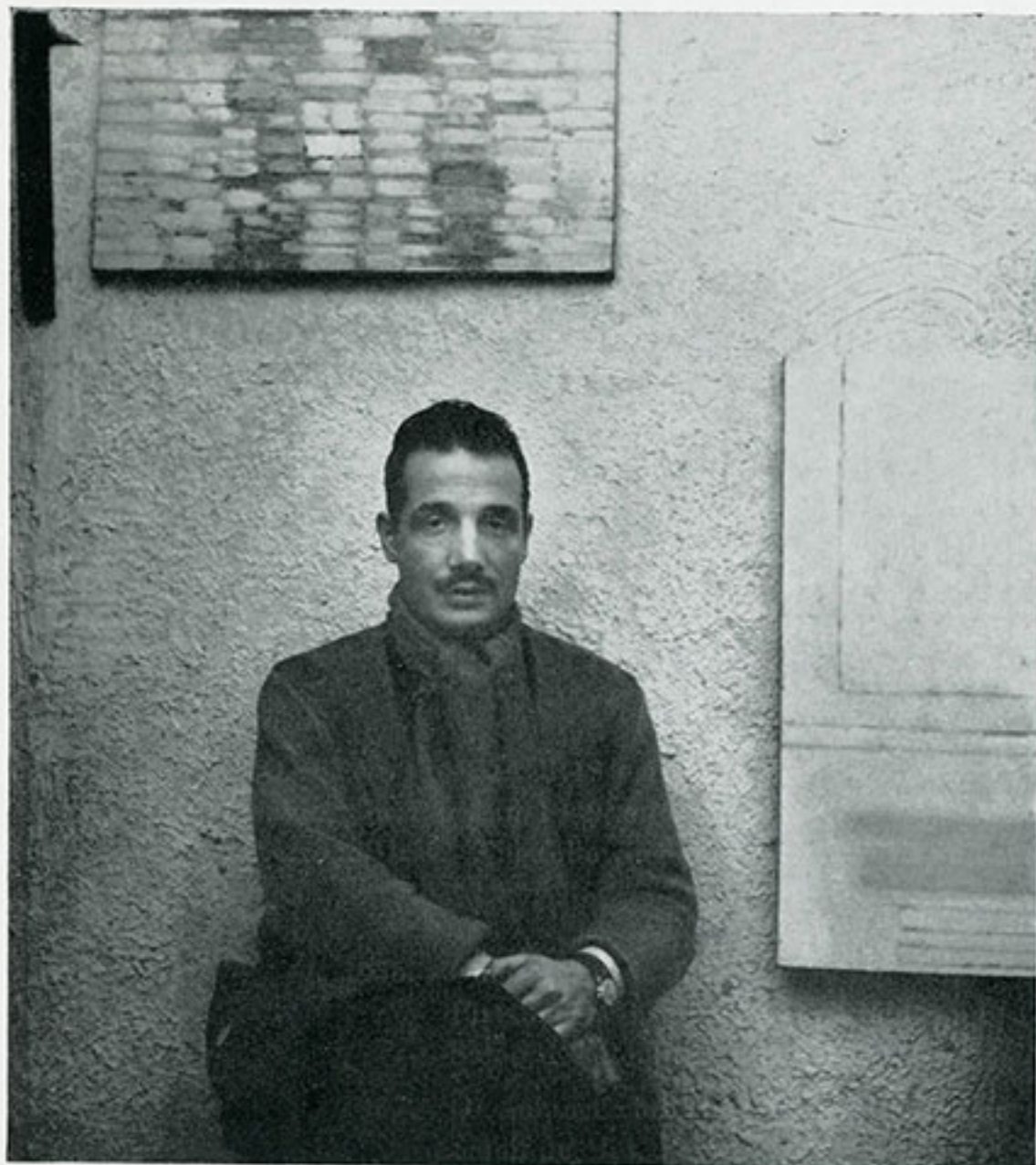




40 *Inland Harbour*, 1959

35.	THAW I	..	..	..	..	1959
36.	RECONSTRUCTED VIEW I	..	..	..	..	1960
37.	RECONSTRUCTED VIEW II	..	..	..	..	1960
38.	BURNED METROPOLIS I	..	..	..	..	1960
39.	THAW II	..	..	..	..	1960
40.	INLAND HARBOUR	..	..	..	..	1959
41.	OPEN VIEW	..	..	..	..	1960
42.	WINDHOUSE I	..	..	(watercolour)	..	1959
43.	WINDHOUSE II	..	..	(watercolour)	..	1959
44.	ANCIENT SITES	..	..	(watercolour)	..	1959
45.	INCOMPLETE STRUCTURE	..	..	(watercolour)	..	1959
46.	SUBTERRANEAN EXITS	..	..	(watercolour)	..	1959
47.	GOUACHE I	..	..	..	..	1957
48.	GOUACHE II	..	..	..	..	1957
49.	GOUACHE III	..	..	..	..	1957

# MACRIS



CONSTANTIN MACRIS was born in Cairo in 1919 and lived in Greece until leaving for Paris in 1948, and held his first one-man exhibition at the Galerie Pierre in 1956. The following year he left Paris and settled in Bergen, Holland.

*Exhibitions include :*

- 1956. Galerie Pierre, Paris.  
Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Art.  
Salon des Réalités Nouvelles, Paris.
- 1957. One-man Exhibition Galerie Pierre, Paris.  
Salon de Mai, Paris.  
Galerie Charpentier "Ecole de Paris, 1957."  
Salon des Réalités Nouvelles, Paris.
- 1958. Salon de Mai, Paris.  
Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Art.
- 1959. Albert Loeb Gallery, New York.



52. *Polders : Holland, 1958*

50.	THE GLADE	..	..	1958
51.	THE FOREST	..	..	1957
52.	POLDERS : HOLLAND	..	..	1958
53.	VILLAGE BY THE SEA	..	..	1959
54.	HOUSES IN THE TREES	..	..	1959

# MAVROIDI



GEORGE MAVROIDI was born in Piraeus (Greece) in 1913, was educated in Athens where he graduated in Law and Political Sciences. His interest in painting started very early, but he was unable to pursue it for many years and entered the diplomatic service. He now teaches at the School of Fine Arts, Athens. After World War II he started painting systematically in oils, water-colour, tempera and encaustic. For two years he studied in Paris (1950-1952). He is also known as a writer. In 1947 he published "Mirrors," a book of short stories. Other of his writings have been published in the review "Tetradio."

*Exhibitions include :*

- 1948. 1st Panhellenic Art Exhibition. 1st exhibition of the "Armos" group.
- 1952. 2nd Panhellenic Art Exhibition.
- 1953. 2nd Exhibition of the "Armos" group.
- 1954. First One-man Exhibition, "Ilissos", Gallery, Athens.
- 1955. III Biennale of São Paulo (Brazil).
- 1956. 2nd One-man Exhibition, New York, "Iolas" Gallery.
- 1956. 3rd One-man Exhibition, Athens, "Zyghos" Gallery.
- 1957. 3rd Panhellenic Art Exhibition.
- 1957. IV Biennale of São Paulo (Brazil) (where he received an honourable mention).
- 1958. Exhibition of "Armos" Group, Athens.



58. *Mykonos*

55.	MY GARDEN AT NIGHT	..	1959
56.	CELLAR .. .. .	..	1959
57.	ON THE SEASHORE	..	1957
58.	MYKONOS.. .. .	..	1959
59.	HYDRA .. .. .	..	1960
60.	MEMORY	..	1959
61.	EASTWARDS	..	1959
62.	DRAWING WITH A HORSE	..	1960

# MOLFESSIS



IASSON MOLFESSIS was born in Athens in 1924. He studied at the Athens School of Fine Arts (Atelier Parthenis) and has lived and worked in Paris since 1950.

*Exhibitions include :*

1952-53. International Exhibition, Paris.

1954. Salon d'Automne, Paris.

1955. Petit Palais : Foreign Artists in Paris.

Museum of Modern Art, Paris : Arts in the World

Museum of Tourcoing : Ecole de Paris.

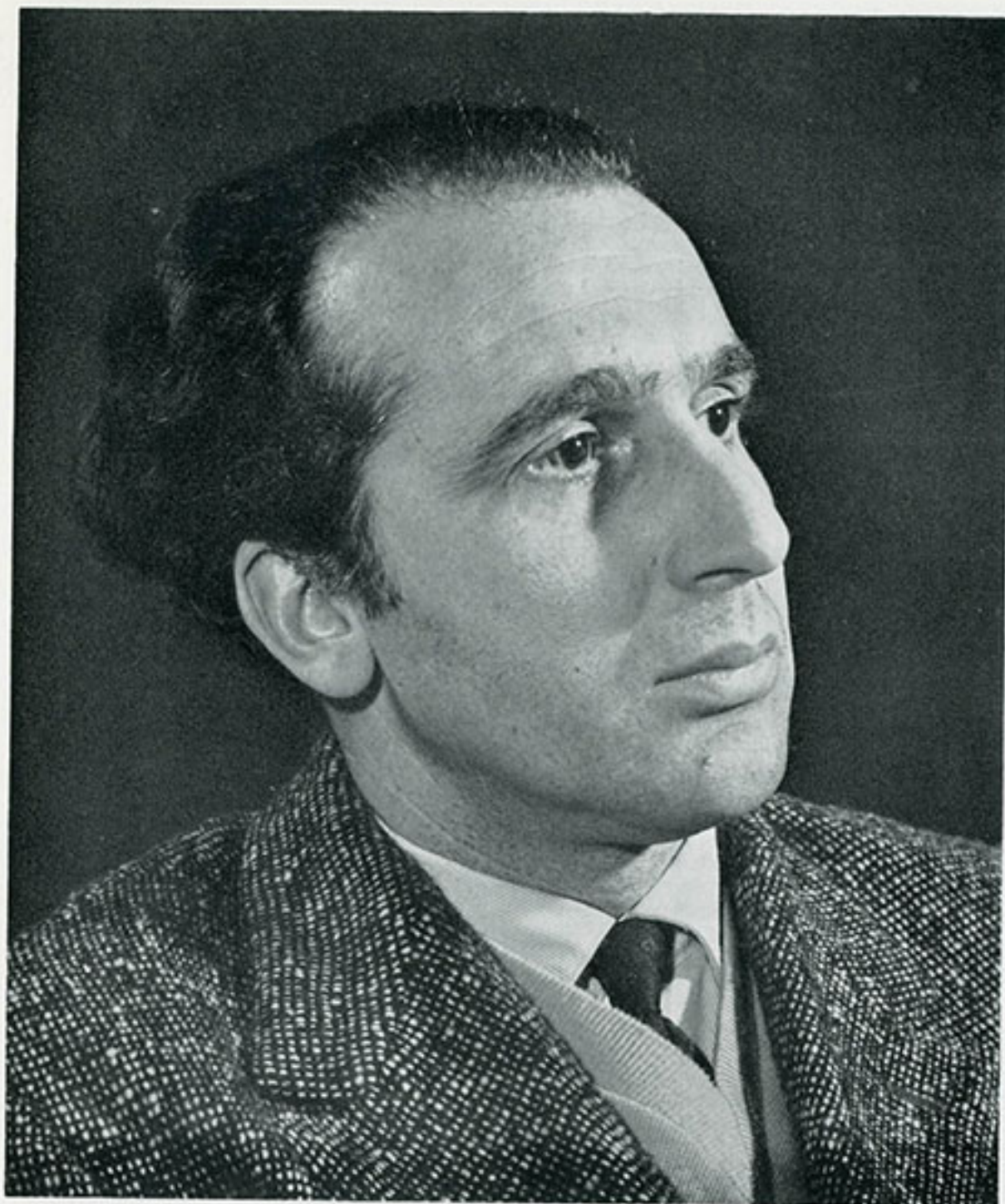
1956. Cincinnati Art Museum : Lithography.

He exhibits permanently at the Gallery St. Germain, Paris.



63. *The Shadows*, 1958

63.	THE SHADOWS	..	..	..	..	1958
64.	WIND	..	..	..	..	1958
65.	ANIMATION (1st part of a triptych)	..				1959
66.	ANIMATION (2nd part of a triptych)	..				1959
67.	MYTHOLOGY I	..	..	..	..	1956
68.	MYTHOLOGY II	..	..	..	..	1956



ALKIS PIERRAKOS was born in Salonika in 1920. He painted in Greece from 1938, making his first contact with the German Expressionists in Basle, 1948. He came to London in 1950 where he studied at the Slade and at the Central School of Arts and Crafts, later exhibiting in group shows. Since 1954 he has lived and worked in Paris and his work is permanently on view at the Galerie A.G.

*One-man Exhibitions include :*

- 1954. Galleria del Numero, Florence.
- 1955. Galerie Voyelles, Paris.
- 1958. Galerie A.G., Paris.
- 1959. Ruth White Gallery, New York.

He has participated in group exhibitions at the Galerie de Seine, the various Salons and the Muséed'Art Moderne, Paris.

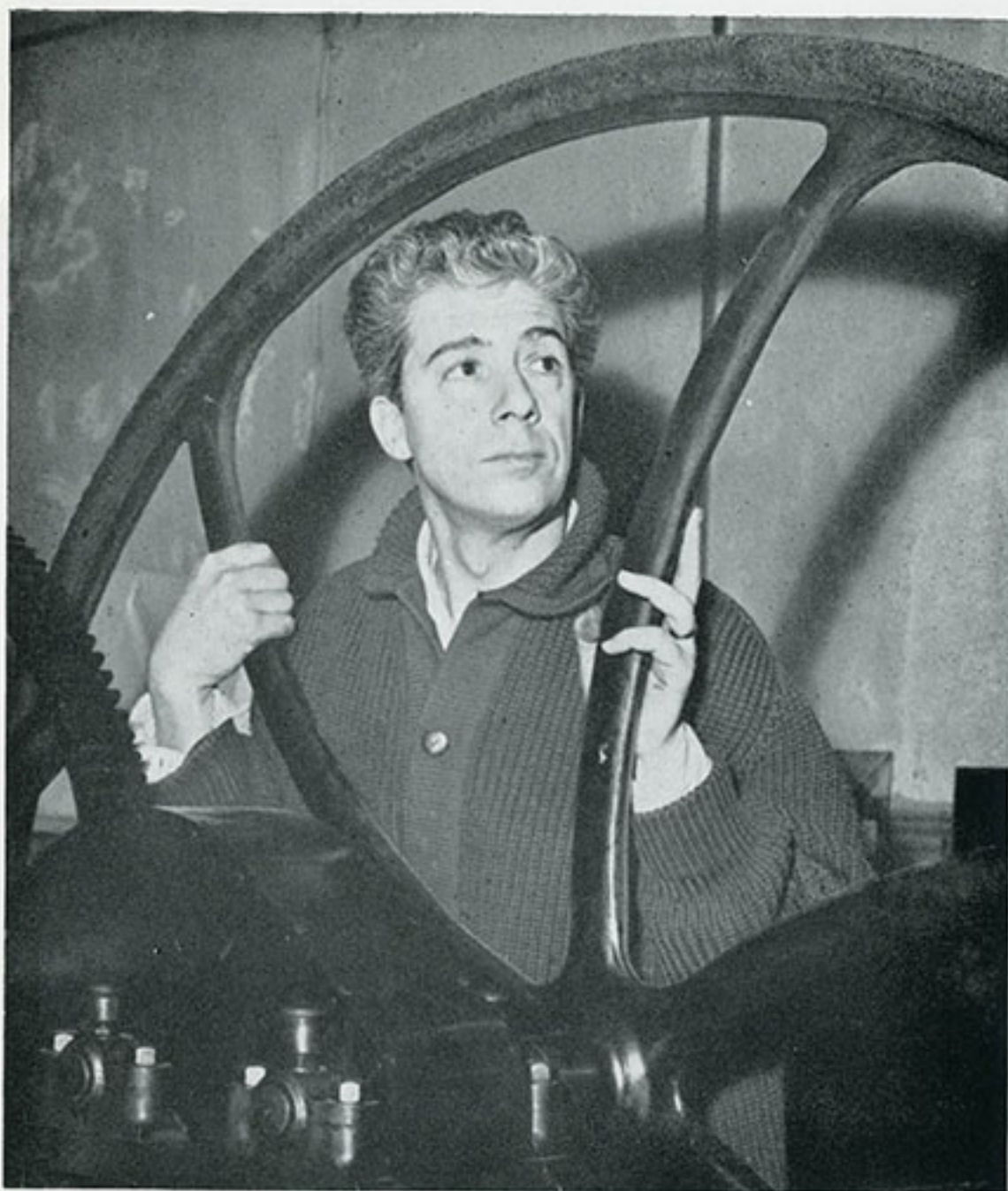




73. *Rose Landscape*

69. LIGHT.
70. CLOUDS.
71. LANDSCAPE IN GREY.
72. YELLOW LANDSCAPE.
73. ROSE LANDSCAPE.
74. LANDSCAPE.
75. BUILDINGS (*drawing*).
76. LANDSCAPE (*drawing*).
77. THUNDER (*drawing*).
78. QUARRY (*drawing*).

# PRASSINOS



MARIO PRASSINOS was born at Constantinople in 1916, of Greek origin. His work is permanently on view at the Galerie de France, Paris.

*Exhibitions include :*

- 1938. First exhibition, Galerie Billiet-Vorms.
- 1942. Galerie Charpentier : 13 Peintres.
- 1944-48. Salon d'Automne and Salon de Mai.  
Musée d'Art Moderne : Art et Resistance.
- 1949. Librairie-Galerie La Hune : Gravures.
- 1953. Librairie-Galerie La Hune : Gravures.  
Gallimard : Tapisseries.  
Galerie de France : Peintures et Tapisseries.
- Since 1954. "Ecole de Paris" : Galerie Charpentier.
- 1955-57. One-man Exhibitions Galerie de France.  
Biennale 1957.

Exhibitions abroad include : New York, Milan, San Francisco, Athens, Amsterdam, São Paulo, London, Stuttgart, Vienna, Montreal and Rio de Janeiro.

He has designed the décor and costumes for many productions in France and has illustrated several books. His work is represented in public collections, including the Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris, the Pinacothèque, Athens, the Museums of Turin, Essen and Wellington, and the Museum of Modern Art, New York.



79. *April, 1958*

79.	APRIL	..	..	..	..	1958
80.	THE ROUTE I	..	..	..	..	1957
81.	DECEMBER	..	..	..	..	1958
82.	THE CLOUD	..	..	..	..	1958
83.	DRAWING I	..	..	..	..	1959
84.	DRAWING II	..	..	..	..	1959
85.	DRAWING III				<i>(oil on paper)</i>	1959
86.	DRAWING IV				<i>(oil on paper)</i>	1959

# VOYATZIS



HARRY VOYATZIS was born in Athens in 1924. He studied at the School of Fine Arts, Athens, from 1942 until 1947. He went to France in 1954 and has since lived and worked in Paris. His work is permanently on view at Les Arts Plastiques Modernes : Galerie Mouradian-Vallotton.

*Exhibitions include :*

- 1955. Salon d'Automne.
- 1956. "L'art en France et dans le Monde."
- 1957. Groupe des Artistes Grecs, Bruxelles.
- 1958. Groupe des Artistes Grecs, Paris.
- 1959. Galerie Mouradian-Vallotton.



87. *Road with Poplar*, 1959

87.	ROAD WITH POPLAR	..	..	1959
88.	SKOPELOS	..	..	1960
89.	THE TREE	..	..	1960
90.	THE RED WALL	..	..	1958



## COULENTIANOS

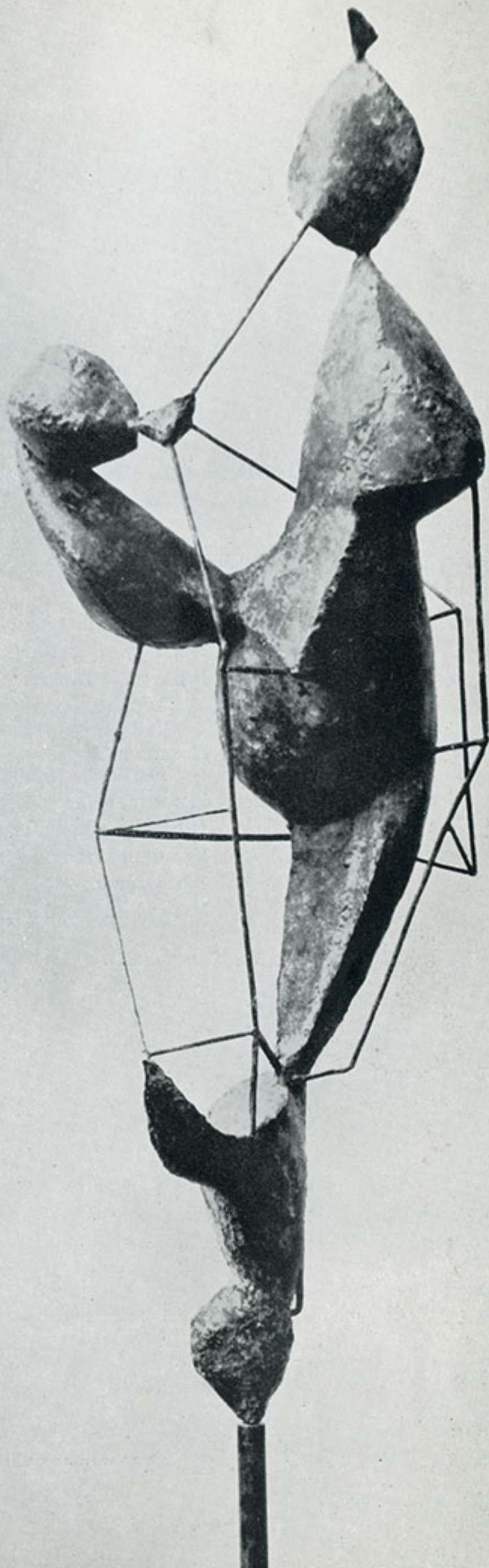
COSTAS COULENTIANOS was born in Athens in 1918. He studied at the School of Fine Arts, Athens, from 1936 until 1940. He left Greece for France in 1945 and has since had his studio and exhibited in Paris. He first showed his work at the Salon d'Automne in 1946. Since 1948 he has exhibited in the Salon de Mai, Paris.

*Other Exhibitions include :*

- 1947. Salon de la Jeune Sculpture, Paris.
- 1948. Salon de la Jeune Sculpture, Paris.
- 1950. Salon de la Jeune Sculpture, Paris.
- 1952. Galerie Galanis-Hentschel, Paris.
- 1953. Petit Palais : Les sept sculpteurs Grecs de Paris.
- 1954. Cincinnati Art Museum, U.S.A. Third Biennale.
- 1955. Third Biennale de São Paulo, Brazil.  
Groupe Espace, Paris.  
Obelisk Gallery, London.
- 1956. Exposition Internationale de Sculpture Contemporaine, Musée Rodin, Paris.
- 1957. Salon de la Jeune Sculpture.  
Galerie de France, Paris.
- 1958. Exposition de Groupe Galerie Claude Bernard, Paris.

## SCULPTURES

91.	ACROBAT.	Bronze	..	..	..	1956
92.	ACROBAT II.	Bronze	..	..	..	1957
93.	EQUILIBRIST.	Bronze	..	..	..	1957
94.	BIRD I.	Bronze	..	..	..	1959
95.	THE LAST OF THE ACROBATS. Bronze					1959
96.	DRAWING I					
97.	DRAWING II					
98.	RECLINING WOMAN.	Bronze	<i>(collection A. G. Xydis, Esq.)</i>			1958
99.	SITTING FIGURE.	Bronze	<i>(collection A. G. Xydis, Esq.)</i>			1959



## *Acknowledgements*

*The Directors of the Redfern Gallery wish to thank the following for their invaluable help in making this Exhibition :*

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GREEK AMBASSADOR  
Mr. A. G. XYDIS  
LADY NORTON  
MR. NICHOLAS GEORGIADIS  
MR. LOUDON SAINTHILL  
MR. PHILIP BOUCAS  
MADAME MYRIAM PREVOT and MONSIEUR HERBET, of the  
Galerie de France  
MONSIEUR MOURADIAN and MONSIEUR VALLOTTON, of Les Arts  
Plastiques Modernes  
MONSIEUR PIERRE LOEB, of the Galerie Pierre  
MONSIEUR BREHERAT  
MONSIEUR JACQUES DUBOURG  
THE GALERIE A.G.  
MADAME IASSON MOLFESSIS