

WOLFGANG LAIB

Biography

Wolfgang Laib was born on March 25, 1950 in Metzingen, Germany. He began to study medicine in 1968 at the University of Tübingen and became a doctor in 1974. Since then he has worked exclusively as an artist. In 1975 he made his first Milkstones; in 1977 he collected the first pollen; in 1983 he began the first works with rice, in 1987 with beeswax. 1988 he realizes the first wax chamber which is followed by several others all over the world, including a chamber in the Pyrenees made in the year 2000, and one next to his studio in southern Germany. From 2002 onward he makes major works with Burmese lacquer. 2009 he realizes a collaboration for an artwork and an exhibition with 45 Brahmin priests from South India in the Foundation Merz in Turin, opening up totally new dimensions in his work. He is currently planning the construction of a huge Brahmanda to be carved within the granite hills of Pulimalai – Tiger Mountain – near Madurai/India. He has spent much time in the Far East and in New York. He lives in a small village in southern Germany and maintains a studio in South India and New York.

1950 Born Metzingen, Germany.
 Lives and works in southern Germany, South India, and New York.

Awards

2015 Praemium Imperiale Prize for Sculpture, Japan

Solo Exhibitions

1976 Galerie Müller-Roth, Stuttgart, Germany
1978 Galleria Salvatore Ala, Milan
 Galerie Konrad Fischer, Düsseldorf
 Kunstraum München, Munich (catalogue)
 Galerie Rolf Preisig, Basel
1979 Sperone Westwater Fischer, New York
 Kabinett für aktuelle Kunst, Bremerhaven, Germany
 Galerie Jean et Karen Bernier, Athens
1980 Ink, Zurich, Switzerland (together with Brice Marden, Gerhard Merz, Gilberto Zorio)
1981 Sperone Westwater Fischer, New York
 Galerie Max Hetzler, Stuttgart
 Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris
 Kabinett für aktuelle Kunst, Bremerhaven, Germany
1982 Gewad, Gent, Belgium
 Galerie Konrad Fischer, Zurich
 Biennale, Venice, German Pavilion (together with Hanne Darboven and Gotthard Graubner)
1983 Städtisches Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach (catalogue)
 “the sixty-three rice meals for a stone,” Konrad Fischer, Düsseldorf
1984 “the rice meals for the nine planets / die Reismahlzeiten für die Neun Planeten,” Kabinett für
 aktuelle Kunst, Bremerhaven, Germany
1985 “Wolfgang Laib, Robert Ryman, Ian Wilson,” Galerie Maeght Lelong, New York
 Kunstverein St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland
 Whitechapel Art Gallery, London (catalogue)
1986 ARC, Musee d’Art Moderne, Paris (catalogue)
 Galerie Maeght Lelong, New York
 Galerie Crousel-Hussenot, Paris

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- 1987 capc Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux
Galerie Buchmann, Basel (catalogue)
- 1988 Gallery Lelong, New York
Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines (catalogue)
"Wolfgang Laib: Selected Works," Burnett Miller Gallery, Los Angeles
"Lichtjahr 1988," Ruine der Künste, Berlin
- 1989 Musee Departemental de Rochechouart, Chateau de Rochechouart, France (catalogue)
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona (catalogue)
Galerie Buchmann, Basel (catalogue)
Galerie Crousel-Robelin Bama, Paris
Württembergischer Kunstverein, Stuttgart (catalogue)
- 1990 Kabinett für aktuelle Kunst, Bremerhaven, Germany
Galerie Buchmann, Basel
Galerie des Beaux-Arts, Brussels
Kunstmuseum Luzern, Lucerne, Switzerland (catalogue)
Galerie Konrad Fischer, Düsseldorf
Burnett Miller Gallery, Los Angeles
Rhona Hoffmann Gallery, Chicago
- 1990-91 "Lightseed," Watari-um, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo (together with Cy Twombly and Michel Verjux) (catalogue)
- 1991 "Wolfgang Laib," Sperone Westwater, New York, 9 February – 2 March
Gallery Senda, Hiroshima, 23 March – 20 April
Galerie Buchmann, Basel, 4 May – 29 June
Kanransha, Tokyo, 1 – 27 July (catalogue)
Galerie Crousel-Robelin Bama, Paris, 19 October – 16 November
"Wolfgang Laib, Pollen Installation," Center for Contemporary Arts, Santa Fe, 1 – 30 November (brochure)
- 1992 "Wolfgang Laib," Musée national d'art moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, 25 February – 13 April
Galleria Artiaco, Naples, April
Museo Comunale d'Arte Moderna, Ascona, Italy, 10 April – 31 May (catalogue)
The Douglas Hyde Gallery, Trinity College, Dublin, April 21 – May 16 (catalogue)
- 1992-93 capc Musée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux, 4 December 1992 – 28 February 1993 (catalogue)
Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn, 6 November 1992 – 24 January 1993 (catalogue)
The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 20 December 1992 – 7 February 1993 (catalogue)
Burnett Miller Gallery, Los Angeles, 19 December 1992 – February 1993
- 1993 "Wolfgang Laib," Sperone Westwater, 121 Greene St., New York, 9 January – 27 February
Galerie Buchmann, Basel, November – December
- 1993-94 J.H. de Pont Foundation, Tilburg, The Netherlands, 8 October 1993 – 6 February 1994 (catalogue)
- 1994 Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Salzburg, November – December
Kabinett für aktuelle Kunst, Bremerhaven, Germany
- 1994-95 Henry Moore Studio, Dean Clough, Halifax, England, 29 June – 23 October 1994; Camden Arts Centre, London, 2 December 1994 – 22 January 1995 (brochure)
Sprengel Museum, Hannover
- 1995 "Wolfgang Laib," Sperone Westwater, New York, 16 September – 21 October
- 1996 Galerie Konrad Fischer, Düsseldorf
Gallery Artek, Helsinki, Finland
Galerie Ropac, Salzburg, May – June
Diözesanmuseum, Köln, Germany, 26 January – 10 April

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- Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris, 7 September – 31 October
Kenji Taki Gallery, Nagoya, 16 November – 26 December
- 1997 Kenji Taki Gallery, Nagoya, 4 March – 4 April
Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, Orangerie, Germany, 27 September – 30 November (catalogue)
- 1998 The Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago, 21 January – 4 April (brochure)
“Wolfgang Laib: Nowhere-Everywhere,” Sperone Westwater, New York, 2 May – 13 June
Kenji Taki Gallery, Nagoya, 24 October – 28 November
Kenji Taki Gallery, Tokyo, 27 October – 28 November
Galleria Artiaco, Naples
- 1999 Carré d’Art, Musée d’art contemporain, Nîmes, France, 6 March – 30 May (catalogue)
Milleventi, Milan, 18 March – April 30
Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz, 9 July – 19 September
- 2000 “Wolfgang Laib; Blütenstaub von Kiefern” Buchmann Galerie Köln, Köln, 5 May – 10 June
“Wolfgang Laib: Une chambre de cire pour la montagne,” Roc del Maure (Pyrénées Orientales),
Prieuré de Marcevol, 26 July – 30 September
“Wolfgang Laib,” Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco, 14 October – 17 November
“Wolfgang Laib,” Sara Hildén Kunstmuseum, Tampere, Finland, 16 September – 3 December
“Wolfgang Laib/Matrix 188: Pollen from Pine,” UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film
Archive, Berkeley
- 2000-03 “Wolfgang Laib, A Retrospective,” Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C.,
26 October 2000 – 22 January 2001; Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, 13 February – 6 May
2001; Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, 29 May – 2 September 2001; Scottsdale Museum of
Contemporary Art, Scottsdale, AZ, 7 October – 6 January 2002; Museum of
Contemporary Art, San Diego, La Jolla, CA, 25 January – 21 April 2002; Haus der
Kunst, Munich, 8 October 2002 – 5 January 2003
- 2001 “Wolfgang Laib,” Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf, 31 March – 5 May
“Für einen anderen Körper Wolfgang Laib,” Sprengel Museum Hannover, 23 September – 25
November
- 2001-02 Wolfgang Laib, Drawings and ‘Ship’, Kenji Taki Gallery, Tokyo, 13 December 2001 – 31
January 2002
- 2002 “Selection of Sculpture and Drawing,” Goethe Institute, New York, 28 January – 1 February
“Wolfgang Laib: Photographies – Oeuvres récentes,” Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris, 20 April –
25 May
“Wolfgang Laib,” Sperone Westwater, New York, 1 November – 15 December
“Wolfgang Laib: Drawings and Photographs,” Leslie Tonkonow Artworks and Projects, New
York, 9 November – 4 January
“Wolfgang Laib. The Nine Planets – or How the Interrelationships Also Could Be,” Museum
Folkwang Essen, Essen, 26 April – 9 June
- 2003 “Wolfgang Laib: Drawings and Photographs,” Kenji Taki Gallery, Nagoya, 17 January – 8 March
“Wolfgang Laib: Durchgang-Übergang,” The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, 18
January – 9 March; Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, 21
March – 15 June (catalogue)
“Wolfgang Laib: Passageway-Overgoing,” National Museum of Contemporary Art, Korea, 9 July
– 12 September (catalogue)
- 2004 “Wolfgang Laib,” Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Japan, 5 January – 23 March (catalogue)
“Wolfgang Laib: Where the Land and Water Ends,” Buchmann Galerie Köln, 31 January – 27
March
“Wolfgang Laib—Passageway—Overgoing,” Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China, 2
April – 16 May
“Wolfgang Laib,” Museum Villa Rot, Burgrieden-Rot, June-August

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- 2005 “Wolfgang Laib: Passageway-Overgoing,” Lawrence-Wilson Art Gallery, The University of Western Australia, 15 February – 3 April
“The Essence of the Real Wolfgang Laib: Drawings and Photographs,” Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn, 30 January – 3 April, De Pont Museum Tilburg, Tilburg, Netherlands, 5 June – 25 September
- 2005-06 “Wolfgang Laib,” Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, 11 August – 6 November
“Wolfgang Laib,” Museo d’Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome, 13 October 2005 – 9 January 2006
“Wolfgang Laib,” Fondation Beyeler, Basel, 27 February 2005 – 27 February 2006
“Wolfgang Laib,” Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand, 10 December 2005 – 5 March 2006
- 2006-07 “Wolfgang Laib,” Galerie Beyeler, Basel, 7 November 2006 – 24 February 2007
“Wolfgang Laib,” Buchmann Galerie, Berlin, 17 November 2006 – 6 January 2007
- 2007 “Wolfgang Laib: Without Beginning and Without End,” Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, 17 April – 16 July
- 2008 “Wolfgang Laib: Without Place – Without Time – Without Body,” Musee de Grenoble, Grenoble, France, 5 July – 28 September
- 2009 “Wolfgang Laib,” Fondazione Merz, Turin, 9 April – 7 June (catalogue)
“Wolfgang Laib,” Gian Enzo Sperone, Sent, Switzerland, August
“Wolfgang Laib. Pasotraspaso,” MUAC (Museo Universitario Arte Contemporáneo), Mexico City, 29 August – 22 November
- 2009-10 “Wolfgang Laib: Without Place—Without Time—Without Body,” The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO, 26 September 2009 – 17 January 2010
- 2010 “Wolfgang Laib: Drucksache,” MMK Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt, 16 April – 6 June
- 2011 “Wolfgang Laib: Unlimited Ocean,” The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, 25 October – 23 December
- 2011-12 “Wolfgang Laib: Passageway,” Chemould Prescott Road, Mumbai, 16 December 2011 – 13 January 2012
- 2012 “Wolfgang Laib: Passageway,” Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi, 9 November – 17 December
- 2013 “Wolfgang Laib,” Museum of Modern Art, New York, 23 January – 11 March
“Wolfgang Laib: Without Beginning and Without End,” Sperone Westwater, New York, 1 – 30 March
Laib Wax Room, The Phillips Collection, Washington D.C., opened 2 March
“Wolfgang Laib: From Me All Has Risen, In Me All Exists, In Me All Dissolves (kaivalya upanisad),” Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects, New York, 19 March – 4 May
- 2014 “From the Known to the Unknow - To Where is Your Oracle Leading You?,” Studio Anselm Kiefer, La Ribaute, Barjac, France, opened in May
“Wolfgang Laib,” Blueproject Foundation, Barcelona, 28 June – 23 November
“Wolfgang Laib: Lebensfries – Frieze of Life,” Konrad Fischer Galerie, 5 September – 25 October
“Wolfgang Laib,” Basilica of Sant’Apollinare, Classe, Ravenna, 4 October – 23 November (catalogue)
- 2015 “Wolfgang Laib,” Buchmann Box, Berlin, 11 September – 31 October
“Wolfgang Laib,” Kenji Taki Gallery, Tokyo, 24 October – 12 December
- 2016 “Wolfgang Laib,” ADAA: The Art Show, Park Avenue Armory, New York, 2 – 6 March
“Wolfgang Laib,” Alfonso Artiaco, Naples, 29 October – 10 December
- 2017 “Where the Land and Water End,” Secretariat Yangon, Goethe Institut Myanmar, Yangon, Myanmar, 14 January – 6 February
“Somewhere Else,” Church of Santa Maria della Spina, Pisa, 25 March – 5 June
“Wolfgang Laib: The Beginning of Something Else,” Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris Marais, 8 September – 13 October
- 2017-18 “Wolfgang Laib,” Il Museo d’arte della Svizzera Italiana (MASI), Lugano, 3 September 2017 – 18

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- March 2018 (catalogue)
- 2018 “Wolfgang Laib: Where the Land and Water End,” Sperone Westwater, New York, 9 March – 21 April
- 2019-20 “Wolfgang Laib: Without Time, Without Place, Without Body,” organized by the Museo Novecento, Florence, Convento di San Marco, Polo museale della Toscana, Museo di San Marco, Florence, 25 – 27 October 2019; Cappella Magi, Palazzo Medici Riccardi, Florence, 25 October 2019 – 26 January 2020; Cappella Rucellai, Museo Marino Marini, Florence, 25 October 2019 – 26 January 2020; Cappella Pazzi, Complesso monumentale di Santa Croce, Florence, 26 October 2019 – 26 January 2020 (booklet and catalogue)
- 2020 “Wolfgang Laib,” Kenji Taki Gallery, Tokyo, 13 February – 21 March
- 2021 “Wolfgang Laib,” Konrad Fischer Galerie, Berlin, 17 September – 13 November
- 2022 “Wolfgang Laib: Crossing the River,” Bündner Kunstmuseum, Chur, Switzerland, 19 March – 31 July (catalogue)
- “Wolfgang Laib,” Buchmann Galerie, Berlin, 29 April – 25 June
- “Wolfgang Laib,” Kenji Taki Gallery, Tokyo, 30 June – 30 July
- “Wolfgang Laib,” Kenji Taki Gallery, Tokyo, 16 September – 5 November
- 2023 “Wolfgang Laib: City of Silence,” Thaddaeus Ropac, London, 8 September – 3 October
- “Wolfgang Laib: Recent Works,” Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris, 11 March – 22 April
- “Wolfgang Laib: The Beginning of Something Else,” Kunstmuseum Stuttgart, Stuttgart, 17 June – 5 November (catalogue)
- 2023-24 “Wolfgang Laib: ‘...e vidi cose che ridire né sa né può...,’” Galleria Lia Rumma, Milan, 24 October 2023 – 12 January 2024
- “Wolfgang Laib: Passageway,” Villa e Collezione Panza, Varese, Italy, 27 October 2023 – 24 March 2024
- “Wolfgang Laib,” Buchmann Galerie, Lugano, 16 December 2023 – 27 April 2024
- 2024 “Contemporary Counterpoint: Wolfgang Laib. A Mountain not to climb on. For Monet,” Musée de l’Orangerie, Paris, 6 March – 8 July
- “Wolfgang Laib for Jakob Bräckle in Winterreute,” curated by Wolfgang and Carolyn Laib, organized by Museum Biberach, Jakob Bräckle’s Studio House, Winterreute, Germany, 8 – 30 June (catalogue)
- 2025 “Wolfgang Laib: Towers of Silence,” Sperone Westwater, New York, 1 May – 21 June

Group Exhibitions

- 1980 “I. Ausstellung der Jürgen Ponto-Stiftung,” Karmeliterkloster, Frankfurt (catalogue)
- 1981 “Art Allemagne Aujourd’hui,” ARC, Musée d’Art Moderne, Paris (catalogue)
- “Annemarie-und-Will Grohmann-Stipendium,” Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Baden-Baden, (catalogue)
- 1982 University Art Museum, Providence, RI (catalogue)
- “documenta 7,” Museum Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany (catalogue)
- “Kunst wird Material,” Nationalgalerie, Berlin (catalogue)
- 1983 “Materie + Form,” ETH, Naturwissenschaftliches Gebäude, Zurich
- “Ars ‘83 Helsinke,” Ateneumin Taidemuseo, Helsinki, Finland (catalogue)
- “Kosmische Bilder in der Kunst des 20. Jahrhunderts,” Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Baden-Baden, and The Tel Aviv Museum, Tel Aviv, Israel (catalogue)
- 1985 “1945 bis 1985, Kunst in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland,” Nationalgalerie, Berlin (catalogue)
- East West Visual Arts Encounter,” Jehangir Art Gallery, Bombay
- “Spuren, Skulpturen und Monumente ihrer präzisen Reise,” Kunsthaus Zurich, Zurich (catalogue)
- “Ouverture II,” Castello di Rivoli, Turin

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- 1986 "Falls the Shadow, Recent British and European Art," The Hayward Annual, Hayward Art Gallery, London (catalogue)
"The Sixth Biennale of Sydney 1986: Origins, Originality + Beyond," Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
"3. Triennale der Kleinplastik," Fellbach, Germany (catalogue)
"De Sculptura," Wiener Festwochen im Messepalast, Vienna (catalogue)
"SkulpturSein," Städtische Kunsthalle, Düsseldorf (catalogue)
- 1987 "Wechselströme. Kontemplation, Expression, Konstruktion," Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn (catalogue)
"documenta 8," Museum Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany (catalogue)
"Bremer Kunstpreis 1987," Kunsthalle Bremen, Bremen (catalogue)
"Century 87," Oude Kerk, Amsterdam (catalogue)
"New Locations," Wolff Gallery, New York (catalogue)
- 1988 "Zeitlos," Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (catalogue)
"Rosco," Dublin (catalogue)
"Defacto," Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (catalogue)
"Carnegie International 88," The Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (catalogue)
- 1989 "Hortus Artis," Orto Botanico, Turin (catalogue)
"Color and/or Monochrome," The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo and Kyoto (catalogue)
"Glanzlichter," Städtisches Kunstmuseum, Bonn
"Einleuchten," Deichtorhallen, Hamburg
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (with Gerhard Merz and Franz Erhard Walther)
- 1990 "Threshold," The National Museum of Contemporary Art, Oslo (catalogue)
"Signs of Life," Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia (catalogue)
"Lead and Wax," Stephen Wirtz Gallery, San Francisco
- 1991 "5th Anniversary Group Exhibition," Burnett Miller, Los Angeles
"Un Detail immense," Palais de Beaux-Arts, Charleroi, France
"Das Goldene Zeitalter," Württembergischer Kunstverein, Stuttgart
"With Nature," Galerie Lelong, New York, June – July
"The Lick of the Eye," Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Santa Monica, 20 July – 21 September
- 1992 "Vorhut aus dem Hinterland," Neues Museum Weserburg, Bremen
"Exposition Sentimentale," Musee d'Art Moderne, Collioure, France
"Territorium Artis," Kunst-und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Bonn
"Anselmo, Laib, Nauman, Umberg," Miller Nordenhake, Cologne, 10 January – February
"Habeas Corpus," Stux Gallery, New York, 4 – 25 April
"15th Anniversary Exhibition," Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, 8 May – 13 June
- 1992-93 "De Opening," De Pont Foundation for Contemporary Art, Tilburg, The Netherlands, 12 September 1992 – 31 January 1993
"The Language of Flowers," Paul Kasmin, New York, 12 December 1992 – 16 January 1993
- 1993 "Les Environs," Pamela Auchincloss Gallery, New York, 5 January – 3 February
"A Century of Silence," University Art Museum, State University of New York at Binghamton, NY, 22 January – 28 February (catalogue)
"The 21st Century," Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, 18 April – 20 June
Chateau d'Oiron, Oiron, France
"Azur," Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Jouy-En-Josas, France, 28 May – 12 September (catalogue)
"GAS, Grandiose Ambitieux Silencieux," capcMusée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux, May (catalogue)
"Les Pensées Blues," CAPC Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux, Bordeaux, 24 September – 7 November (catalogue)

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- 1994 “Figur, Natur,” Sprengel Museum, Hannover
“German Art: Aspekte Deutscher Kunst 1964-1994,” Die Salzburger Festspiele; Galerie Ropac, Salzburg, 26 July – 31 August; Galerie Ropac, Paris, September – October
“Drawing On Sculpture,” Cohen Gallery, New York, 9 June – 28 July
- 1995 “Entre le ciel et l’eau,” Lenbachhaus, Munich, 1994; capcMusée d’art contemporain, Bordeaux
“Fondation Cartier: A Collection,” Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei, 25 January – 12 March
“From Nature,” Haines Gallery, San Francisco, 4 May – 17 June
“Auf Papier: Kust des 20. Jahrhunderts aus der Deutschen Bank,” Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt
“Kunst in Deutschland,” Kunst und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Bonn
- 1996 “The House Transformed,” Barbara Mathes Gallery, New York, 12 January – 2 March
“Time Wise,” The Swiss Institute, New York, 12 April – 11 May
“Luis Barragán: Sitio + Superficie. Su obra y la vanguardia en el arte,” Mexico City, March – April (catalogue)
“Spirit and Place,” Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
“Wolfgang Laib, Tatsuo Miyajima, Michel Verjux: Entgrenzung,” Buchmann Galerie, Cologne, 9 – 30 November
- 1997 “Città Natura,” Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, 21 April – end of June
Epicerter Ljubljana, Moderna Galeria, Ljubljana, Slovenia
“La Biennale di Venezia. XLVII Esposizione Internazionale d’Arte,” Venice, 15 June – 9 November (catalogue)
“4e Biennale de Lyon d’art contemporain,” Halle Tony Garnier, Lyon, France, 9 July – 24 September (catalogue)
“97 Kwangju Biennale: Unmapping the Earth,” Kwangju, Korea, 1 September – 28 November (catalogue)
“Anselmo, Boetti, Laib, Merz, Nauman, Paolini, Pistoletto, Vital, Zorio,” Sperone Westwater, New York, 13 September – 18 October
- 1997–98 “Objects of Desire: The Modern Still Life,” The Museum of Modern Art, New York, 25 May – 26 August 1997; Hayward Gallery, London, 9 October 1997 – 4 January 1998 (catalogue)
“Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall på Arken: Udvalgte værker fra samlingen/Selections from the Collection,” Arken Museum for Moderne Kunst, Sweden, 29 November 1997 – 8 February 1998 (catalogue)
- 1998 “The Edward R. Broida Collection: A Selection of Works,” Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, 12 March – 21 June (catalogue)
“Early Forms,” Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris, closed 14 March
“Être nature,” Fondation Cartier pour l’art contemporain, Paris, 17 June – 20 September
“Ensemble Moderne: The Still Life in Contemporary Painting and Sculpture,” Galerie Thaddeaus Ropac, Paris, 12 September – 25 October
- 1999 “Powder,” Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado, 25 February – 11 April
“In Passing,” Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, 14 – 28 March
“Minimalia,” Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, 25 June – 13 August
“Loaf,” Baumgartner Galleries Inc, 6 November – 8 December
“78th Exhibition of Artist Members,” The Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago, 22 November – 23 December
- 1999-00 “The collection of the ‘Fondation Cartier pour l’art contemporain’,” Palazzo delle papesse, centro Arte Contemporanea, 1999 – 2000
- 2000 “Cosmologies” Sperone Westwater, New York, 4 May – 10 June
“Around 1984, A look at Art in the Eighties,” P.S.1, New York, 21 May – 30 September
“Fiona Rae, Wolfgang Laib,” Buchmann Galerie, May – 10 June

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- “Shadow of Reason, Exploring the Spiritual in European Identity in the 20th Century”, Galleria d’Arte Moderna, Bologna, 14 May – 29 October
- “Enclosed and Enchanted,” MoMA Oxford, 16 July – 8 October
- “Anselmo, Merz, Penone, Kounellis, Laib,” Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf, 14 October – 25 November
- “A Century of Innocence – The Story of the White Monochrome,” The Rooseum Center for Contemporary Art, Malmö, 16 September – 17 December
- 2001 “Locating Drawing,” Lawing Gallery, Houston, 20 January – 24 February
- “El Instante Eterno,” Espai d’Art Contemporani de Castelló, Castelló, Spain, 1 February – 25 March
- “Before Reflection Begins,” David Winton Bell Gallery, Brown University, Providence, RI, 10 November – 30 December
- 2001-02 “The Inward Eye, Transcendence in Contemporary Art,” Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, 8 December 2001 – 17 February 2002 (catalogue)
- 2003-04 “Social Strategies: Redefining Social Realism,” curated by Klaus Ottman and Pamela Auchincloss, University Art Gallery, University of California, Santa Barbara, 18 March – 8 May 2003 ; Illinois State University, September – October 2003; Richard E. Peeler Art Center, DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, 15 November 2003 – 15 February 2004; Schick Art Gallery, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, 9 March – 11 April 2004; Newcomb Art Gallery, Tulane University, New Orleans, 21 August – 19 October 2004 (catalogue)
- 2004 “Singular Forms (Sometimes Repeated): Art from 1951 to the Present,” Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, 5 March – 19 May
- “home, sweet home,” Galleria Cardi, Milan, 8 April – 22 May
- “Off the Wall: Works for the JP Morgan Chase Collection,” The Bruce Museum, Greenwich, Connecticut, 14 May – 5 September
- “Passageway- Overgoing,” Guangdong Museum of Art, German Consulate General, Guangzhou, China, April
- “Seeing other people,” Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, 18 June – 13 August
- “Exploring Ando’s Space: Art and the Spiritual,” The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, St. Louis, Missouri, 7 August 2004 – 15 January 2005 (catalogue)
- 2004-05 “Wow: The Work of the Work,” Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, 5 November 2004 – 6 February 2005 (catalogue)
- 2006 “Against the Grain: Contemporary Art from the Edward R. Broida Collection,” Museum of Modern Art, New York, 3 May – 10 July
- “Mario Merz – Wolfgang Laib,” Accademia Tedesca Rome, 21 September – 27 October
- 2006-07 “Still Points of the Turning World,” SITE Santa Fe Sixth International Biennial, New Mexico, 9 July 2006 – 7 January 2007
- “Le Mouvement des Images,” Center Pompidou, 9 April 2006 – 29 January 2007 (catalogue)
- 2012 “Collezione Giancarlo e Danna Olgiati,” Lugano Arte e Cultura, Lugano, Switzerland, 23 June – 5 August
- “Watch Your Step,” The Flag Art Foundation, New York, 7 June – 24 August
- Biennale Gwanju, South Korea
- 2013-14 “On Paper,” Centro de Artes Visuales Fundación Helga de Alvear, Cáceres, Spain, 8 June 2013 – 12 January 2014
- 2014 “Koenigsklasse II,” Herrenchiessee Palace, Herrenchiessee, 12 July – 28 September
- “One step ahead moving backwards,” curated by Elisa R. Linn and Lennart Wolff, km temporaer, Berlin, 1 November – 22 November
- 2014-15 “Sesostris III, pharaon de légende,” Palais des Beaux Arts de Lille, 9 October 2014 – 25 January 2015

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- 2015 “Giovanni Anselmo – Wolfgang Laib – Ettore Spalletti,” Galleria Lia Rumma, Milan, 3 May – 18 July
- 2015-16 “Giorgio Morandi,” Center for Italian Modern Art (CIMA), New York, 9 October 2015 – 25 June 2016
- 2016 “WITH A TOUCH OF PINK - WITH A BIT OF VIOLET - WITH A HINT OF GREEN - DOROTHEE FISCHER - IN MEMORIAM,” Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf, 3 June – 23 July
- “Rhona Hoffman: 40 Years, Part 1,” Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, 16 September – 22 October
- “Ether,” Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris, 15 October – 19 November 2016
- 2017 “COLORI: L’emozione dei COLORI nell’arte,” Castello di Rivoli Museo d’Arte Contemporanea, Turin, 14 March – 23 July 2017 (catalogue)
- 2017-18 “Out of Sight! Art of the Senses,” Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, 4 November 2017 – 28 January 2018
- 2018 “Black Light: Secret traditions in art since the 1950s,” CCCB Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Barcelona, 16 May – 21 October
- 2018-19 “Königsklasse IV. Gegenwartskunst in Schloss Herrenchiemsee. Laib | Warhol | Flavin | Rainer | Basquiat,” organized by Pinakothek der Moderne in cooperation with Bayerische Staatsgemäldesammlungen, Schloss Herrenchiemsee, Herrenchiemsee, Germany, 19 May 2018 – 3 October 2019
- “Dream. L’Arte Incontra I Sogni,” Chiostro del Bramante, Rome, 29 September 2018 – 5 May 2019 (catalogue)
- 2019 “Artists Need to Create on the Same Scale that Society Has the Capacity to Destroy: Mare Nostrum,” curated by Phong Bui and Francesca Pietropaolo, Chiesa delle Penitenti Fondamenta Cannaregio, 58th International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, 11 May – 24 November
- “Yorkshire Sculpture International,” The Hepworth Wakefield, Wakefield, UK, 22 June – 29 September
- 2020-21 “30 Years in Paris,” Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris, 6 December 2020 – 17 July 2021
- 2021 “Inventing Nature: Plants in the arts,” Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, Karlsruhe, Germany, 10 May – 31 October 2021
- “La Couleur Crue / Raw Color,” Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rennes, 12 June – 29 August
- 2021-22 “In Search of the Miraculous,” curated by Jonathan Rider, FLAG Art Foundation, New York, 16 October 2021 – 15 January 2022
- “Ad-Diriyah Biennale: Feeling the Stones,” curated by Philip Tinari, JAX district, Diriyah, Saudi Arabia, 7 December 2021 – 7 March 2022
- 2022 “Listen to the Sound of the Earth Turning,” Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, 29 June – 6 November (catalogue)
- 2022-23 “De La Nature,” Musée de Grenoble, Grenoble, France, 22 October 2022 – 19 March 2023
- 2023 “1.5 Degrees: Interdependencies of Life, the Cosmos, and Technology,” Kunsthalle Mannheim, Mannheim, 7 April – 8 October
- “1983 | 2023,” Thaddaeus Ropac, Salzburg, 28 July – 30 September
- 2023-24 “L’uomo senza qualità: Gian Enzo Sperone collezionista,” Museo di arte moderna e contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto (Mart), Rovereto, Italy, 26 October 2023 – 3 March 2024
- “Bianco,” curated by Rischa Paterlini, Collezione Laura e Luigi Giordano, Spa | Spazio Per Arte, Palazzo Bellini, Oleggio, Italy, 24 November 2023 – 14 September 2024
- 2024 “Through Other Eyes,” Franz Marc Museum, Kochel am See, Germany, 24 March – 30 June (catalogue)

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Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago
Capc, Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux, Bordeaux
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris
Cleveland Museum of Art
Collections de l'Etat Français, France
Dallas Museum of Art
De Pont Foundation, Tilburg, The Netherlands
Diözesanmuseum, Cologne
Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
Kunsthhaus, Zürich
Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn
Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, St. Gallen
Kunstmuseum Stuttgart, Stuttgart
LAC Lugano Arte e Cultura, Lugano
Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art, Seoul
M HKA, Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp
Musée d'art contemporain, Nîmes, France
Musée départemental de Rochechouart, Rochechouart
Musée de Grenoble, Grenoble
The Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki
The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles
The Museum of Modern Art, New York
The Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul
Neue Pinakothek, Munich
The Phillips Collection, Washington D.C.
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Sprengel Museum, Hannover
Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, Karlsruhe
Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Toyota, Japan
Villa Panza, Varese, Italy