

Albert Mertz

The Complete Estate

"Why does the man always paint red and blue?" That's what many here at the exhibition will ask. I'm not much for explaining my work. I want the viewer to form their thoughts about what they see, that a dialogue between image and viewer occurs."

- Albert Mertz, 1983

With the exhibition Albert Mertz – the Complete Estate, the gallery wants to mark that we now represent the complete Mertz Estate.

Albert Mertz (1920-1990) was a highly versatile and respected artist who dabbled in several art genres - from figurative painting to conceptual art. Mertz debuted as a 13-year-old in 1933 and was admitted to the Royal Danish Academy of Arts in 1936. In 1979-1990, he served as a professor of painting at the same place. Mertz was and is recognized for his critical work, his experimental films, and his long career as a visual artist. He co-founded Linien II in 1947, exhibited at Grønningen and Den Frie, and posthumously represented Denmark at the 21st Sao Paulo Biennale, Brazil, in 1991. Albert Mertz is represented at all major Danish art museums, Moderna Museet in Stockholm and National Gallery in Oslo, and significant collections such as the Daimler Art Collection in Germany. He received the Eckersberg Medal (1964) and the Thorvaldsen Medal (1988). The common denominator for Albert Mertz's artistic work is the confrontation with the traditional concept of art and his unconventional and versatile working methods, giving him a special place in Danish art history.

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