



**FONDATION-  
GIACOMETTI  
-INSTITUT**

**Institut Giacometti**  
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## **GIACOMETTI / BECKETT** **Fail again. Fail better.**

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# **PRESS COMMUNICATION**



**Giacometti / Beckett**  
**Rater encore. Rater mieux.**  
Giacometti/Beckett  
Fail again. Fail better.

Among the literary friendships of Alberto Giacometti (1901-1966), the one which bound him to Samuel Beckett (1906-1989) is not the most well-known, but it was one of the most enduring. It goes back to 1937, and developed into the post-war period. The two artists enjoyed meeting for endless nights spent in the bars of Montparnasse, before wandering through the night streets of Paris. Important similarities bring their respective practises closer, a connection that was expressed in an exceptional collaboration: Giacometti providing the scenery for a staging of *Waiting for Godot* in 1961.

For the first time, the Giacometti Institute presents the bonds that brought the artist and the writer closer. The exhibition will broach on their lasting friendship, their collaboration and the affinity between their works which crossed paths with Existentialism.

**Curator:** Hugo Daniel

Alongside remarkable sculptures by Giacometti like *The Cage* (1950), *Three Men Walking* (1947), *Head on a rod* (1947) and drawings mostly never seen, will be displayed several texts, theatre works, dramatisations and films by Beckett as well as a reconstitution by the artist Gerard Byrne of the tree created by Giacometti for Godot.

Bringing together Giacometti's sculptures and drawings and Beckett's sound and cinematographic texts and plays will create an opportunity to approach the major themes that connect them: the importance of the creative process experienced between repetition and deception (the famous 'fail better' from *Worstward Ho*, their interest in the body at the same time medium and restriction, the importance of scenography, the dislocation of the body and the words, solitude and a sense of the absurd.

The fully illustrated catalogue that accompanies the exhibition is co-edited by the Giacometti Foundation, Paris, and FAGE Editions, and is a French-English bilingual edition. With contributions and texts by Christian Alandete, Hugo Daniel, Derval Tubridy, Marin Karmitz and Maguy Marin.

## PRATICAL INFORMATION

**Institut Giacometti**  
5, rue Victor Schoelcher  
75014 Paris

Open Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Closed each week on Mondays

Ticket on reservation (or on location)  
[www.fondation-giacometti.fr/fr/billetterie](http://www.fondation-giacometti.fr/fr/billetterie)

Full price: €8.50, reduced price: €3

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