

Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen presents the poet, painter, journalist and philosopher Etel Adnan

The Lenbachhaus in Munich and the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen in Düsseldorf are jointly organizing the first comprehensive monographic exhibition of the work of Etel Adnan in Germany.

Born in Beirut, Etel Adnan (1925–2021) is an important representative of modernism. Her artistic and literary work is characterized by a great and lived exchange between the Arab and Western worlds.

The work of the poet, journalist, painter, and philosopher, who spent her life between Lebanon, France, and California, combines very different art forms, media, languages, and cultures. After the Algerian War of Independence (1954–1962), Adnan refused to continue working in French and showed solidarity with Algeria: “I didn’t need to write in French anymore, I was going to paint in Arabic.” Her political clarity, as well as the close connection between writing and painting, became an essential feature of her oeuvre.

Etel Adnan. Poetry of Colors

K20, April, 1 — July 16, 2023

Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf

Press Conference: Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 11 am at K20

An exhibition of the Lenbachhaus Munich, and the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf, curated by Sébastien Delot, Direktor LaM, Lille métropole musée d’art moderne d’art contemporain et d’art brut.

The exhibition is sponsored by the Rudolf August Oetker Foundation.

Media Partner of the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen:

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.

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