

# ALVAR



Alvar Suñol Muñoz-Ramos was born on January 29, 1935, in Montgat, a Catalan fishing village on the Mediterranean coast near Barcelona. He started painting oils at age twelve and at age seventeen was accepted at the Escuela Superior de Bellas Artes de San Jorge, the prestigious fine art school in Barcelona. Before graduating from the Belles Artes, he gave his first solo exhibition at Galleries Layetana in Barcelona in 1957. Alvar also won the Bolsa de Viaje Alhambra de Granada, a summer scholarship study trip to Granada. At age 18, Alvar entered a painting in a competition for the Young Painters Prize sponsored by the City of Barcelona. His painting won the grand prize and it is now in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art, Barcelona, Spain.

Due to his early artistic successes, Alvar received many invitations for shows in other Spanish cities. During his military service, he submitted one of his canvases for the Institut Francais annual painting competition in Barcelona. The Institut Francais awarded him the grand prize and a scholarship to study in Paris. Alvar arrived in Paris to paint in 1959. He met Juan Fuentes, a fellow Spaniard and director of the prestigious Parisian Galerie Drouant. Fuentes encouraged Alvar in his painting and brought Alvar's first group of Paris oil paintings to the gallery. Fuentes' gallery sold the paintings in one week.

In 1960 Alvar returned to Barcelona to marry his childhood sweetheart, Rosella Berenguer. They returned to Paris and lived there for ten years.

Alvar's paintings were exhibited in the United States for the first time at the Monede Gallery, New York in 1962. Alvar produced his first original lithographs for a one-man show at Galerie Drouant in 1963.

Since a decisive solo exhibition in Paris in 1963, Alvar has exhibited regularly throughout Europe, the United States, Canada and Japan. For a comprehensive list of Alvar's museum and private exhibitions, please see the additional information provided.

Alvar's hometown of Tiana hosts one of his permanent public installations.

In September 2001, a commissioned mixed media mural by Alvar was unveiled. The mural reflects on the four seasons and is affixed to The Four Seasons Building, named in reference to Alvar's mural. In 2003, city offi-

ciala in Montgat, Spain, commissioned Alvar to create another permanent public installation: an 18-foot sculpture titled "Mediterranea" dedicated to the city's personality and seaside character, which now stands in the newly opened Plaza de Mallorquines.

Perhaps one of the most prestigious honors Alvar has received was in 2006 when Restaura, a Spanish real estate company that is dedicated to building restoration projects for cities, asked Alvar to create a sculpture to honor the famous Spanish cellist and composer Pablo Casals (1876 – 1973). In early 2008, the sculpture was placed on a street in the Boulogne Billancourt area of Paris that after a major renovation has also been renamed for Pablo Casals.

In addition to the sculpture, Restaura also commissioned Alvar to create a large painting and lithograph suite honoring Pablo Casals. The lithograph is displayed in their headquarters as an honor to their fellow Spaniards Casals and Alvar.

In 1993 a book devoted to the artist's paintings was published in Spain and the United States. In 2001, *Alvar: Thirty Years of Lithography*, a book chronicling the lithographic creations of Alvar was published. In 2005, *Alvar in Color and Poetry*, a book by Dr. Betty Jean Craige, Marjorie Agosin, and Alvar was published.

In 2006 a DVD titled "Alvar: His Vision and His Art" was written and produced by Dr. Betty Jean Craige and Alan Stecker. The DVD was awarded first place at the Indie Gathering film festival for independent filmmakers; the 42-minute documentary was honored in the short documentary category. In June 2007, it aired on public television in Georgia; further states are scheduled.

From 2007 through 2009, Alvar and his art were honored at multiple museum exhibitions in America and Spain.

No matter which medium the multifaceted contemporary artist employs, he speaks from his soul about what is important to him: peace, family, love, beauty, nature, art, music and humanity. His works are peopled with strong figures, feminine or androgynous, who embody an earthiness and solidity, yet have an ethereal quality. Women are prominent in his pieces, and they represent life, family and generations. The symbolism in Alvar's art entices the viewer into an artistic treasure hunt to find and identify the iconography he uses to share his messages and his thoughts about life — thoughts that people around the globe relate to and share.



# MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

Albany Museum of Art (Albany, Georgia, USA)  
Appleton Museum of Art (Ocala, Florida, USA)  
Art Center of La Jolla ( La Jolla, California, USA)  
Centro Cultural Ibercaja (Guadalajara, Spain)  
Finch College (New York, USA)  
Fukuoka Museum (Fukuoka, Japan)  
Georgia Museum of Art (Athens, Georgia, USA)  
Glassboro State College (USA)  
Huellas en el Tiempo (Logroño, Spain)  
Instituto Cervantes (Bordeaux & Toulouse, France)  
Jamestown College (USA)  
Kumamoto Museum (Kumamoto, Japan)  
Musée Hyacinthe Rigaud (Perpignan, France)  
Museo de Badalona (Badalona, Spain)  
Museo del Grabado (Zaragoza, Spain)  
Museo del Grabado Contemporáneo (Marbella, Spain)  
Museum of Biblical Art (Dallas, Texas, USA)  
Utah Museum of Fine Art (Salt Lake City, Utah, USA)  
Wichita Art Museum (Wichita, Kansas, USA)

# GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

1957 Galerías Laietana - Barcelona, Spain  
1958 Galería Caja Ahorros Asturias - Oviedo, Spain  
1958 Galería Altamira - Gijón, Spain  
1959 Galería de Arte - Valencia, Spain  
1959 Galería Jardín - Barcelona, Spain  
1959 Galería Dintel - Santander, Spain  
1962 Monede Gallery - New York, USA  
1963 Galerie Drouant - Paris, France  
1966 Galerie Drouant - Paris, France  
1967 Carter Galleries - Austin, USA  
1968 Bryant Galleries - Jackson, USA  
1969 Don Quijote Gallery - London, England  
1969 Bryant Galleries - New Orleans, USA  
1972 Galerie Drouant - Paris, France  
1973 Galerie Drouant - Paris, France  
1974 Galería Trece - Barcelona, Spain  
1975 Galerías Monnet et Petriè - Paris, France  
1975 1ª Mostra "Art i Medicina" - Barcelona, Spain  
1975 Art 6 75 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1976 Upstairs Gallery - Los Angeles, Spain  
1976 Boras Konstgalleri - Sweden  
1976 Art 7 76 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1977 Galerie Galax - Sweden  
1977 Galeria d'Art Ariel - Palma de Mallorca, Spain  
1977 Art 8 77 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1978 Upstairs Gallery - Los Angeles, USA  
1978 Bowles/Hopkins Gallery - San Francisco, USA  
1978 Palais Congrès et Culture - Perpignan, France  
1978 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1978 Art 9 78 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1979 Galerie Dourant - Paris, France  
1979 Galerie Moud Art - Oslo, Norway  
1979 Art Gallery Studio 53 - New York, USA  
1979 Homenaje a Lola Anglada - Barcelona, Spain  
1979 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1979 Art 10 79 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1980 Gallery Toronto - Toronto, Canada  
1980 Art Expo - Nueva York, USA  
1980 Art 11 80 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1981 Upstairs Gallery - Los Angeles, USA  
1981 Galerie Dourant - Paris, France  
1981 Bowles/Hopkins Gallery - San Francisco, USA  
1981 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1981 Art 12 81 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1982 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1982 Art 13 82 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1983 Sterling Gallery - Laguna Beach, USA  
1983 Austin Gallery - San Francisco, USA  
1983 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1983 Art 14 83 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1984 Arkansas Opera Theatre - Little Rock, USA  
1984 Sterling Gallery - Laguna Beach, USA  
1984 Austin Gallery - San Francisco, USA  
1984 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1984 Art 15 84 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1985 Atlas Gallery - Chicago, USA  
1985 Austin Gallery - San Francisco, USA  
1985 Austin Gallery - Laguna Beach, USA  
1985 Austin Gallery - San José, USA  
1985 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1985 Art 16 85 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1986 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1986 Art 17 86 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1987 Atlas Gallery - Chicago, USA  
1987 Nuance Gallery - Tampa, USA  
1987 Art Gallery Studio 53 - New York, USA  
1987 Alejandro Gallo - Guadalajara, Mexico  
1987 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1987 Art 18 87 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1988 Austin Gallery - Detroit, USA  
1988 Austin Gallery - Laguna Beach, USA  
1988 Austin Gallery - San Francisco, USA

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- 1988 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1988 Art 19 88 - Basilea, Switzerland  
1989 Austin Gallery - Los Angeles, USA  
1989 Gallery One - Denver, USA  
1989 Atlas Gallery - Chicago, USA  
1989 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1990 Exposición de Litografías - Tokyo, Japan  
1990 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1991 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1992 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1993 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1993 Gallery One - Denver, USA  
1993 Atlas Gallery - Chicago, USA  
1993 Kenneth Behm Gallery - Bellevue, USA  
1993 Nuance Gallery - Tampa, USA  
1993 Art Gallery Studio 53 - New York, USA  
1994 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1995 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1995 Art Expo - Barcelona, Spain  
1995 Granero Galerie d'Art, Brussels, Belgium  
1996 Art Expo - New York, USA  
1996 Gallery One - Denver, USA  
1996 Atlas Gallery - Chicago, USA  
1996 Kenneth Behm Gallery - Bellevue, USA  
1996 Bryant Galleries - New Orleans, USA  
1996 Nuance Gallery - Tampa, USA  
1996 Bryant Galleries - Jackson, USA  
1996 Galeria Miguel Espel - Madrid, Spain  
1997 Gateway Gallery - Vail, USA  
1997 Galerie Züger, Aspen, USA  
1997 Gallery One - Denver, USA  
1997 Regency Gallery - Atlanta, USA  
1997 Art Expo - Barcelona, Spain  
1997 Castillo de Benedormiens - Castell d'Aro, Spain  
1998 Art Expo - Barcelona, Spain  
1998 Gallery 444 - San Francisco, USA  
Kenneth Behm Gallery - Bellevue, USA  
1999 Gateway Gallery - Vail, USA  
1999 Galerie Züger - Aspen, USA  
1999 Sala Moneo Ayto. Logroño - Logroño, Spain  
1999 Centro Cult. Ibercaja - Guadalajara, Spain  
2000 Sant Miquel del Fay - Barcelona, Spain  
2000 Nuance Gallery - Tampa, USA  
2000 Master's Gallery - Denver, USA  
2000 Chabot Gallery - San José, USA  
2001 Shaw Gallery - Naples, USA  
2001 Nuance Gallery - Tampa, USA  
2001 Regency Gallery - Atlanta, USA  
2001 Gallery Centauro- Santa Fe, USA  
2001 Atlas Galleries - Chicago, USA  
2001 Atlas Galleries - Old San Juan, Puerto Rico  
2002 Master's Gallery - Denver, USA  
2002 SR Brennen Galleries - Scottsdale, USA  
2002 SR Brennen Galleries - Palm Desert, USA  
2002 Zuger Gallery - Vail, USA  
2002 Sala ART difusión - Barcelona, Spain  
2003 Master's Gallery - Vail, USA  
2003 Zuger Gallery - Aspen, USA  
2003 Shaw Gallery - Naples, USA  
2003 Saper Galleries - East Lansing, USA  
2003 Regency Gallery - Atlanta, USA  
2003 Deportivo Iradier - Barcelona, Spain  
2004 Master's Gallery - Denver, USA  
2004 Zuger Gallery - Santa Fe, USA  
2004 Galería Sokoa - Madrid, Spain  
2005 Nuance Gallery - Tampa, USA  
2005 SR Brennen Galleries - Scottsdale, USA  
2005 SR Brennen Galleries - Palm Desert, USA  
2006 DE Fine Art - Atlanta, USA  
2007 Master's Gallery - Vail, USA  
2007 C. Anthony Gallery - Beaver Creek, USA  
2008 SR Brennen Galleries - Scottsdale, USA  
DE Fine Art - Atlanta, USA  
2009 Masters Gallery - Denver, USA  
Galerie Zuger - Santa Fe, USA  
2010 Master's Gallery - Denver, USA  
Galerie Zuger - Dallas, USA

