

IO ans



А W A R E

Editorial



Camille Morineau © Photo Valerie Archeno

For our $10^{\rm th}$ birthday, I would like to propose an alternative to what the AWARE acronym stands for.

A for <u>Archives</u>. Those I didn't have when at the end of 2007 when I started to work on *elles@centrepompidou* which opened in 2009: the 300 women artists and their I000 works in the collection of the MNAM-Centre Pompidou were poorly documented. It was difficult to show the work of those about whom so little had been written. Since then, the visibility of women artists is no longer in doubt, and the vicious circle of lack of information has become a virtuous circle thanks to the number of exhibitions and publications.

A also for <u>Anniversary</u>, and the thrill of blowing out so many candles - how could I have dreamed that a project born in 2014 could last IO years, and that the utopia of a tool that is useful and transforms, could become reality? More than I000 biographies, more than I00,000 connections a month? AWARE is still unique in its geographic and chronological ambition.

We'll be blowing out these candles together, as a team. A small, committed Parisian team, and a large international

team, which is just as committed, both delighted with this achievement. A diversity of voices, a collective and nonhierarchical project, where the "many" produce the best.

W for <u>Women</u>, women whose liberated, liberating, radical and political speech is profoundly transforming the 21st century. And the fluidity of gender and non-binary relationships are opening doors to other continents. A double V for victory? <u>Wonder</u>, in any case. We are living through an anthropological revolution in which AWARE is one of the living, breathing characters. A revolution of speech, of visibility. For an artist, not to be seen is harrowing. To bring them to the fore is to do them justice.

A for women <u>Artists</u> who have been present everywhere, who have composed, directed, written, and driven by this conviction AWARE has developed progressively, more and more, internationally and chronologically. AWARE opened first to the 19th century, and now to the 18th, why not go right back to the beginning? Today it is limited to the visual arts, but architecture, cinema, and the applied arts - can we dream?

R for <u>Rêve</u>, dream. Because we continue to dream. AWARE is first and foremost a research centre and a tool for sharing this research in real-time. Because too much time has been lost thinking that women artists didn't exist, that there were so few of them. Today, their critical mass invites us to write a different story, with different words, different movements, different avant-gardes.

E for <u>Étonnement</u>, astonishment, for <u>enormous</u>. The challenge is to appeal to all audiences, including non-specialists, and to remain free of charge. Sharing and transmitting: a major and difficult objective. E for <u>Exhibition</u>: on the AWARE website, we show their works, with numerous reproductions. The balance between text and image, the presence of sound and animation, are essential.

<u>A</u> is for the absurd ambition of writing the impossible, the creations of half of humanity. <u>B</u> is for biography and bilingual, our two tools, but they are not the only ones. <u>C</u> is for complexity, which is only possible through C as a collective. <u>D</u> is for despair at a situation in which the status of women is regressing as much as it is advancing. <u>E</u> for Éspoir, hope, as in striving for a fairer world. Finally, jumping to the conclusion, <u>M</u> is for Merci, for thank you to all those who have made and continue to make this adventure possible.

> Camille Morineau Executive Director of AWARE

Presentation of AWARE

AWARE: Archives of Women Artists, Research & Exhibitions is a non-profit organisation, co-founded by art historian Camille Morineau in 2014, which works to make nineteenth and twentieth-century women¹ artists visible by producing and posting free, fully bilingual (French/ English) content about their work on its website. In 10 years, the AWARE website has become a unique online resource, aimed at professionals in the art world as well as the general public. This resource currently features over 1100 richly illustrated biographical texts and has over 100,000 visits per month.

AWARE represents a diversity of voices, with texts written by over 500 researchers, curators, feminist art historians, art critics and activists from all over the world. In order to widely disseminate research on women artists, AWARE also organises symposiums, round tables and seminars in partnership with institutions, universities, museums and other independent structures internationally, and edits its own publications. AWARE is located in the Villa Vassilieff in the 15th arrondissement of Paris, where the artist Marie Vassilieff had her studio in the 1910s. In this highly symbolic space, reimagined by designer matali crasset, AWARE has set up a research and documentation centre entirely dedicated to women artists and feminist art. The association also hosts residencies, events, meetings and workshops for schools.

Since moving to the Villa Vassilieff, AWARE has developed a specific programme based on a dual identity: local, by becoming a forum for debate in Paris, and international, through its research programmes and a vast network of authors around the world. With this dual identity, a team made up of women, an associative space and a website offering free, high-quality content, AWARE has become a benchmark recognised by professionals and institutions and a place open to everyone that encourages research, exchange, and discussion.

¹Woman is understood as a person who, regardless of their gender assigned at birth, identifies as such



© Margot Montigny

AWARE in a few dates

<u>2014</u>

Creation of the AWARE by its co-founders (for a list of names, see the AWARE website)

<u>2015</u>

Launch of the first version of the AWARE website

<u>2016</u>

Organisation of the first prize dedicated to women artists in France (then called the Marie Claire prize), which has become an annual prize given by the association

<u>2017</u> Launch of the current version of the AWARE website

<u>2019</u>

Publication of the first volume in the collection of interviews with AWARE prizewinners, dedicated to Nil Yalter

<u>2020</u>

Creation of the international academic network TEAM: Teaching, E-Learning, Agency, Mentoring

<u>2021</u>

Opening to the I9th century on the website, thanks to a partnership with the Musée d'Orsay

Inauguration of the new headquarters at the Villa Vassilieff (research and documentation centre, association offices)

Janvier 2023

Creation of AWARE-USA

Mars 2023

I,000th entry on the AWARE website and announcement of three-year financial support from the French Ministry of Culture

Key dates for 2024

January 2024

Opening of the website to biographies of I8th-century artists in partnership with the Baltimore Museum of Art, Art Gallery of Ontario, Rijksmuseum, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

February 2024

Inauguration of the *Be AWARE* exhibition, following the donation of the *Be AWARE* unit by the association to the Frac Grand Large (Dunkirk).

March 2024

Launch of the AWARE website in Japanese.

7 March 2024

AWARE Prize awards ceremony at the Ministry of Culture (8^{th} edition).

8-9 March 2024

Symposium Tracing a decade. Women artists of the 1960s in Africa, in Kampala (Uganda), in partnership with the Njabala Foundation (texts to be published on the website from 2023).

13th March 2024

Lecture by Camille Morineau at the National Arts Club, New York.

April 2024

Launch of a cycle of events at the Villa Vassilieff focusing on lesbian visibilities.

June 2024

AWARE's I0th anniversary event at the Centre Pompidou. Incorporation of 1974 as the year of birth for artists' biographies.

July 2024

Launch of the *Women of the West* project with a conference on women artists of the American West by Camille Morineau in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, supported by AWARE-USA.

October 2024

Solo exhibition by the winner of the Nouveau Regard 2022 prize, Myriam Mihindou, at the Palais de Tokyo, Paris, co-produced by AWARE.

November 2024

Event bringing together independent structures as part of the new NEST network (Network of Empowerment, Solidarity, and Transregionality) at the Palais de Tokyo.

December 2024

Event in Southeast Asia as part of the programme "The Flow of History. Southeast Asian Women Artists", in collaboration with Asia Art Archive.



© Fanny Michaëlis

AWARE content

The website

The AWARE website has become a unique online resource, focusing on 3 major areas:

Increasing diversification of content and an opening up to the general public: video interviews with AWARE prize nominees, animated films, and also podcasts since 2020 with the series "Great Women of Art" and "Women house".

<u>A chronological expansion of the index</u> of artists, with the aim of gradually broadening it:

- Nineteenth-century artists from 202I;
- Artists born in 1974 from 2024;

- Eighteenth-century artists, opening in 2024.

Geographical breadth: AWARE seeks to ensure the right balance between the local and international scenes by working with committees of experts and partner organisations throughout the world. Since 2020, AWARE has been developing specific research programmes to publish resources on previously under-represented geographical areas and themes:

- Research programme on artists from the African continent: launched in 2020 and renewed in 2023 under the title "Tracing a decade: women artists of the 1960s in Africa", in collaboration with the Njabala Foundation.

- "The Flow of History. Southeast Asian Women Artists": a research programme on Southeast Asian artists launched in 2023, in collaboration with the Asia Art Archive.

- "The Origin of Others. Rewriting Art History in the Americas, 19th Century - Today": a research programme on Black and Indigenous artists in the Americas (since 2022), in collaboration with the Clark Art Institute, WOPHA (Women Photographers International Archive) and the Pérez Art Museum Miami.

- "Women Artists in Japan: 19th - 21st Century": a research programme on Japanese artists launched in 2022.

- AWARE x Canada: a programme of publications on Canadian artists launched in 2022.

The documentation and research centre

The AWARE documentation and research centre at the Villa Vassilieff now has over 3,500 references relating to women artists, feminist art and gender studies.

Many visitors from all over the world come to consult these resources. The centre also brings together different audiences for presentations to students, teachers and reading groups, and hosts events, meetings and workshops for schools.

Finally, AWARE has set up residencies for curators and art historians to stimulate and support research into women and non-binary artists as part of various programmes.



On the Edge of Visibility Symposium, Miami, 19-20 october 2023. Pérez Art Museum Miami Photos of Gaby Ojeda. Courtesy of AWARE / WOPHA

Details of each program on the AWARE website: https://awarewomenartists.com/en/reseaux/

International networks

ТЕАМ

TEAM: Teaching, E-Learning, Agency, Mentoring is an international academic network set up in 2020 with the aim of collecting and publishing resources produced by academics on women artists and training a new generation of researchers in issues of equality in art history. TEAM is also a network for solidarity and transnational reflection on the issues shared by these art historians.

To date, the TEAM network has I7 members and 80 students (masters, doctorate) whose research covers 5 continents.

AMIS

AMIS: AWARE Museum Initiative and Support brings together museums from around the world to collect and share research on women artists produced through exhibitions and acquisitions. Building on the experience of *elles@centrepompidou*, AWARE has established partnerships with a number of museums, including the Centre Pompidou, the National Portrait Gallery in London, the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Rijksmuseum, the Musée d'Orsay and the Hammer Museum.

For its 10th anniversary, the association aims to expand this network of museums in order to make their research work accessible to an international audience through the AWARE website. The aim is also to encourage the exchange around obstacles, practices, and strategies for the inclusion of women artists in museum narratives.

NEST

To mark its 10th anniversary, AWARE is launching *NEST: Network for Empowerment, Solidarity, and Transregionality.* This transnational network of independent non-profit organisations aims to renew art historical research methods, promote interdisciplinarity and broaden its narratives. It aims to include women and non-binary artists and to support contemporary researchers, activists and artists by creating a space for exchange, collaboration and mutual support. The members of the network will meet in Paris at the Palais de Tokyo in November 2024 at the initiative of AWARE.

The NEST network is supported by the Terra Foundation for American Art.



Villa Vassilieff © Philippe Piron, matali crasset, ADAGP



Villa Vassilieff © Philippe Piron, matali crasset, ADAGP

The AWARE Prizes

Since their inception in 2016, the AWARE Prizes have focused renewed attention on the careers of women artists¹ and worked towards greater recognition of their work. In 2024, for the 8th edition, two prizes will be awarded: the Nouveau Regard prize, awarded to an artist in the middle of her career, and the Outstanding Merit prize, awarded to an artist with more than 40 years' career behind her.

To reward the work of women artists on the French scene, to respond to the lack of visibility in France and abroad, and to highlight their works and the longevity of their careers, beyond stereotypes: these are the objectives of the AWARE prizes. Through these prizes, AWARE is committed to supporting the laureates over the long term, through the creation of publications, exhibitions and offering production assistance.

The AWARE prizes for women artists were created in 2016 to tackle the inequality in contemporary art awards and prizes. While the situation has improved in recent years, particularly for emerging artists who now benefit from more support, promotion and visibility, women artists are still largely underrepresented among prizewinners. Conscious of the changing needs of women artists, AWARE reimagined one of its prizes in 2022. The emerging artists' prize evolved to reward mid-career artists, who are currently less supported by existing prizes and the art world in general. More than just a symbolic recognition of their career paths, the Nouveau Regard prize is an unprecedented opportunity to open new horizons for the development of the artists' careers and to promote their work internationally.

Thanks to the support of CHANEL, the winner of the Nouveau Regard prize benefits from a residency organised in partnership with the Villa Albertine, a French cultural institution in the United States that hosts 60 residencies throughout the United States each year, and the A.I.R. Gallery in New York. The A.I.R. Gallery, a historic feminist venue that dedicated an exhibition to French women artists curated by Aline Dallier in 1976, will accompany the laureate throughout her stay in the United States by organising visits and meetings with curators, art critics, curators, gallery owners and journalists. Once the artist returns to France, AWARE will contact French art centres to co-produce a personal exhibition of the artist's work in France. As part of its partnership with AWARE, the Cnap (Centre national des arts plastiques) will offer the winner of the Nouveau Regard prize the acquisition of works that will enter its collection.

The winner of the Outstanding Merit prize 2023 will receive a €10,000 grant, thanks to the continued support of the French Ministry of Culture. In partnership with Manuella Éditions, AWARE will publish a book-length interview with the artist, documenting her contribution to the history of art of the twentieth century and allowing her to reflect on her career in her own words.

Once again in 2024, four commissioners active professionals from the world of culture: art historians, critics, curators - have each shortlisted two artists, nominated respectively for the Nouveau Regard prize (mid-career artists) and the Outstanding Merit prize (women artists with careers of 40 years or more). The commissioners - Simona Dvorák, Antoine Idier, Noelia Portela et Olivier Zeitoun - will present and defend the artists' work before a jury composed of seven major figures from the world of art and culture. The prize winners will be announced on March 7, 2024 during a ceremony at the Ministry of Culture.

¹ Woman is understood as a person who, regardless of their gender assigned at birth, identifies as such



Sponsored Projects

"Re-illuminating the Age of Enlightenment: Women Artists of the I8th Century"

AWARE's tenth anniversary marks a new stage in the association's journey back through the centuries, revisiting the history of eighteenth-century art. *Re-illuminating the Age of Enlightenment* is a research programme carried out in collaboration with the Rijksmuseum, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, the Baltimore Museum of Art and the Art Gallery of Ontario, which aims to highlight the cultural and social contributions of women artists throughout the I8th century. This programme reveals their trajectories and works in a wide variety of artistic disciplines, as well as their organisation in networks that transcended borders.

This programme is supported by the Tavolozza Foundation, Anne-Françoise Gavanon and Frederick Mulder LTD.

"+I Programme"

AWARE is extending the chronological limits of its index and publishing new biographies of international artists born in 1973 and 1974. The *+1 Programme* marks a gradual opening up of the AWARE site to the contemporary period by allowing the inclusion of a new year of birth for artists every year.

For the first and second years of the *+I Programme*, AWARE is collaborating with Camille Richert, art historian, curator and AWARE 2022 Awards reporter, who has compiled a list of international artists and authors to whom AWARE has entrusted the writing of the texts.

This programme is supported by Maison Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin, founded in 1772

"Tracing a Decade: Women Artists of the 1960s in Africa"

Carried out in collaboration with the Njabala Foundation, the research programme *Tracing a Decade: Women Artists of the 1960s in Africa* highlights the work of women artists in the 1960s, a decade of profound transformation on the African continent when most countries achieved independence. The project traces the careers and works of women artists whose contributions to early post-colonial narratives have not yet been recognised.

A research committee will accompany the programme, which includes the organisation of an international colloquium in Kampala in March 2024 and the publication of texts on the AWARE website. This programme is supported by the Institut français and is a continuation of the Africa2020 Season. As such, it benefits from the support of the Patrons Committee. It is also supported by the Fondation Gandur pour l'Art.

"The Origin of Others. Rewriting Art History in the Americas, 19th Century – Today"

The Origin of Others. Rewriting Art History in the Americas, 19th Century - Today, organised in collaboration with the Clark Art Institute, the Pérez Art Museum Miami and the Women Photographers International Archive (WOPHA), is a multi-year research project on women artists of African descent and indigenous women artists in three major geographical areas: Latin America, the Caribbean and the United States. The project's title refers to author Toni Morrison's collection of lectures, published in 2017. Seeking to fill the gap created by sexism, racism and geographical discrimination, the project opens up the discussion of how writing the history of Black and indigenous women can challenge existing academic boundaries.

The programme includes the publication of texts and videos, research residencies and the organisation of events. The programme is supported by CHANEL.

"The Flow of History. Southeast Asian Women Artists"

Conducted in partnership with Asia Art Archive (AAA), this programme highlights the work of Southeast Asian women artists from the I8th century to the present day. Inspired by the Indonesian poet Toeti Heraty (1933-2021) - who, in "The Portrait of a Woman 1938", underlined the importance of the work of memory - the programme raises intersectional historical questions by examining gender issues in the careers and practices of women artists from Southeast Asia.

A committee of experts is supporting the programme, which aims to publish research articles and biographies, identify archives and organise events.

The programme is supported by CHANEL.

"Women artists in Japan: 19th - 21st century"

Women Artists in Japan: $I9^{th} - 2I^{st}$ Century is a four-year research programme designed to highlight the artistic production and contributions of women artists in Japan to world cultural history. A committee of experts, made up of specialists in contemporary art, photography, *nihonga* (Japanese painting), *yôga* (Western-style painting) and women artists accompanies the project to represent the diversity of the Japanese art scene through the prism of gender.

This programme is supported by Cartier.

"Women in New Media"

This multi-year project aims to create online resources and organise an event on women artists in new media, with an international approach and a particular focus on Japan. The focus will be on artists who practised and engaged with video art, algorithms, digital worlds and technology in the broadest sense from the 1960s to the 1990s, in order to highlight the presence of women in these fields, reconstruct genealogies and link them to today's cyberfeminist reflections.

This programme is supported by the Per Ardua ad Astra Endowment Fund.

"Tracing a lineage: Francis Bacon and women artists"

A major figure in twentieth-century art, Francis Bacon is one of the "great male artists" whose immense success seems to obscure the careers of many female artists of his time. It is important to remember that the painter is also a queer figure whose unconventional path, on the fringes of conservative British society, resonates with the work of many women and queer artists today. This research programme proposes to study the work of contemporary women artists whose work is in dialogue with Francis Bacon's work or seems to have strong resonances with it.

This programme is supported by Majid Boustany and the Francis Bacon MB Art Foundation.

"Little stories of great women artists"

Little stories of great women artists is an original project of entertaining and educational animated videos, aimed at children aged 7 and over as well as older children.

The aim of each episode? In around 3 minutes, to introduce the life and work of a woman artist from the I9th or 20th century. Conceived by scriptwriter Sophie Caron, each episode highlights the originality of the artist's approach, her importance within an artistic movement, some of the most important biographical episodes, as well as the difficulties the artist may have encountered in practising her art.

This project is supported by ENGIE.

"Role Models" Programme

The importance of learning and education through role models has been theorised by feminist thinkers as diverse as Simone de Beauvoir and bell hooks. The *Role Models* programme highlights the careers of women artists through the publication of biographies and outreach activities designed to help young people, particularly secondary school students, to project themselves and challenge preconceived ideas. This programme is being run in collaboration with Barcelona's Museum of Contemporary Art (MACBA), which is working to bring out new narratives and imaginaries through its exhibitions and educational activities.

The programme is supported by the ENGIE Foundation.

"Related: Netherlands - Caribbean (19th century to present)"

"Related: Netherlands - Caribbean (nineteenth century to the present day) aims to raise the profile in global art history of women artists who were born, live or have lived in the former colonial territories of the Netherlands in the Caribbean.

The programme is entitled "Related" in reference to artist Sara Blokland's work *Related: A photographic performance* (2007), in which she photographs her mixed-race Dutch-Surinamese family.

This programme is supported by the Dutch Embassy in Paris.

"AWARE Japan"

To mark its I0th anniversary, AWARE is launching a new section in Japanese on its website to make information about Japanese women artists more accessible to new audiences.

This project is supported by the Per Ardua ad Astra Endowment Fund.

"AWARE research residencies at the Villa Vassilieff"

In 2021, the association AWARE: Archives of Women Artists, Research and Exhibitions moved into the Villa Vassilieff, the former studio of the artist Marie Vassilieff, canteen for and home to the twentieth-century avant-garde. This new symbolic location for the association includes a separate studio, enabling it to set up a programme of research and writing residencies for curators and art historians.

Women and non-binary photographers and video artists This residency programme is aimed at researching female and non-binary photographers and video artists.

This residency programme is supported by the Neuflize OBC Corporate Foundation.

Marie-Solanges Apollon Programme

This programme aims to promote research into transcultural artistic practices, drawing on Paul Gilroy's Black Atlantic and Global South concepts.

This residency programme is supported by the artist Manuel Mathieu.

"Women of the West"

The project celebrates the contributions of women artists in the American West, particularly in the Rocky Mountains region during the late 19^{th} and early 20^{th} century. It will highlight the artistic contributions of women artists of the pioneering generation as well as those of indigenous women artists native to the land during this turbulent time marked by exploration, expansion, and cultural changes.

This project is supported by AWARE-USA.



© Margot Montigny

AWARE in numbers

 \underline{I} website dedicated to women artists of the I8th, 19th and 20th centuries, with

<u>I</u> documentation centre unique in Paris, with over 3,500 books

<u>I</u> Be AWARE exhibition designed in collaboration with matali crasset

> <u>2</u> podcast series: Women House and Great Women of Art

 $\underline{3}$ international networks

<u>IO</u> publications of interviews and conference proceedings

15 AWARE Prize-winning artists

<u>20</u> episodes of the animated series Little Stories of Great Women Artists

> <u>31</u> themed tours aimed at all audiences, especially secondary school students and/or art lovers

<u>IOO</u> events - international conferences, study days and round tables - organised by AWARE in France and abroad since 2014 in partnership with international museums and universities

<u>195</u> articles published in the *Magazine* section of the AWARE website

500 contributors to AWARE worldwide

<u>I,150</u> artist biographies

2,000 artists listed for publication over the next few years

<u>100,000</u> connections to the site on average each month

The Team

Management and chairmanship

Camille Morineau: co-founder and director

Camille Morineau is co-founder and director of AWARE. A graduate of the École normale supérieure and the Institut national du patrimoine, she worked for twenty years in public cultural institutions in France, including ten years at the Musée national d'Art moderne - Centre Georges-Pompidou as curator of contemporary collections. She has curated numerous exhibitions, including *elles@ centrepompidou*, which featured works by women artists from the MNAM's collections. From 2016 to October 2019, she was director of exhibitions and collections at the Monnaie de Paris. In 2022, she was co-curator, with Lucia Pesapane, of the exhibition Pionnières at the Musée du Luxembourg in Paris.

Nathalie Rigal: co-founder and president

After IO years' experience in various law firms, Nathalie Rigal co-founded Sygna Partners with Caroline Edwardes-Ker in 2004, a law firm dedicated to companies and their managers. She runs the firm's Restructuring & Companies in Difficulty practice, which now employs around twenty lawyers and legal advisers. Aware of its social responsibility, Sygna Partners has been working since its inception to develop and promote responsible initiatives in support of people, the economy and the environment. In particular, Sygna Partners defends Yezidi women in their fight against the Islamic State and represents the Ukrainian state against the Russian Federation before the International Court of Justice in The Hague. Most recently, the firm joined the Task Force set up by the Ukrainian government to identify and prosecute war crimes committed by the Russian Federation. It also sits on the Small Island States Commission on Climate Change.

Permanent Team

<u>Matylda Taszycka</u>: head of research programmes <u>Nina Volz</u>: head of international development <u>Manuela Danescu</u>: head of administration

Projecs managers

<u>Carolina Hernández Muñoz</u>: international networks project manager <u>Tamara Choukair</u>: library and archive manager <u>Eléonore Besse</u>: project manager to the director <u>Mélanie Zougheib</u>: admnistrative assistant

Editorial Team

<u>Mathilde de Croix</u>: editorial content and exhibition consultant <u>Consuelo Crulci-Perrois</u>: iconographer <u>Nina Meisel</u>: editorial coordinator <u>Karla Segura Pantoja</u>: editorial coordinator <u>Louise Thurin</u>: project manager <u>Mizuho Yamazaki</u>: project manager



© Marie Doche

Press contact Agence Dezarts Manon Vaillant : +33 (0)6 47 66 86 07 Noalig Tanguy : +33 (0)6 70 56 63 24 agence@dezarts.fr

> Practical information AWARE Villa Vassilieff 2I avenue du Maine 75015 Paris France awarewomenartists.com +33 (0)I 55 26 90 29

Social media Twitter, Facebook et Instagram @AwareWomenArt

