

A Archives
W A of Women Artists
R Research
E & Exhibitions



R E

Let's consider this for a minute: how many women artists are there, hiding behind the Great Masters of Art History? How many were forgotten in favour of their male counterparts? The few women artists we know of today have only just recently come to the public's attention: Sonia Delaunay waited half a century to be brought out of the shadow of her husband Robert... Louise Bourgeois was 96 years old when the musée national d'Art moderne - Centre Pompidou held its first French retrospective of her work... Niki de Saint Phalle enjoyed a certain degree of fame during her lifetime, but mainly for her *Nanas*, despite the fact that her whole body of work was far more complex... Only in 2005 was Annette Messager the first woman to be chosen to represent France at the Venice Biennale, also winning the Golden Lion prize that same year...

Hundreds, thousands of women artists have sunken into oblivion simply because their work was neither shown, acknowledged, celebrated in major exhibitions, nor officially rewarded.

These are the reasons why I created AWARE: Archives of Women Artists, Research and Exhibitions in 2014, - so that we could rewrite art history from a more gender-equal perspective.

It is high time we place women artists at the same level as their male counterparts by bringing their work into the spotlight.

Camille Morineau

Camille Morineau,
co-founder and chairwoman of AWARE

Current, Paris-based, director of exhibitions and collections at the Monnaie de Paris, she has worked for twenty years in public cultural institutions in France, ten of which were at the Centre Pompidou as a curator of the contemporary collections. She has been the curator of numerous exhibitions including *Yves Klein* (2006), *Gerhard Richter* (2012), *Roy Lichtenstein* (2013), and the hanging *elles@centrepompidou* (2009-2011) dedicated solely to female artists from the collections of the musée national d'art moderne. She was also the curator of the comprehensive survey of Niki de Saint Phalle at the Grand Palais in Paris and the Guggenheim Bilbao.



Photo: MCC - Didier Plowy

A few dates on the visibility of women artists in the 20th century

1900
First studio for women opens at the École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts in France.

1911
Sculptress Lucienne Heuvelmans is the first woman to be awarded the Grand Prix de Rome in art.

1953
Exhibition *Women in Art* at the Houston Contemporary Art Museum (Texas).

1968
British Bridget Riley is the first woman to receive the Grand Prize at the Venice Biennale.

1971
Art historian Linda Nochlin writes the founding article "Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?" in *ARTnews*.

1971
Exhibition *Where We At. Black Women Artists. 1971* at Acts of Art Galleries in New York.

1972
Exhibition *Womanhouse* organised by Judy Chicago and Miriam Schapiro, co-founders of the Feminist Art Program in CalArts, Los Angeles.

1982
First retrospective exhibition of Louise Bourgeois at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Her first retrospective in France occurs only in 2008 at the Centre Pompidou.

1987
Opening of the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, DC.

Less than 20% of solo exhibitions between 2007 and 2014 were devoted to women artists at MoMA and LACMA, and 30% at the Whitney Museum. European institutions show similar numbers, with less than 20% at the Centre Pompidou and barely more at Tate Modern London, according to the 2015 statistics published by Maura Reilly in *ARTnews*.

Only twenty women in 2016 ranked among the artists with the highest worldwide visibility, according to Artindex rankings.

Works by women artists have seldom been shown, acquired and discussed throughout the 20th century despite them being an animating force, particularly in the avant-gardes. It is precisely this lack of information that makes the valorisation of their work more difficult today. This observation, shared by many art historians and curators, is what led Camille Morineau, on the initiative of the 100% women's art exhibition *elles@centrepompidou* held at the Centre Pompidou in 2009-2010, to create AWARE.

Restoring the presence of 20th-century women artists in the history of art

Archives of Women Artists, Research and Exhibitions is a non-profit organisation founded in 2014. Faced with the under-representation of women in the art world, AWARE's aim is to balance out the presence of these women artists, these "forgotten figures of art history", in order to improve their visibility through the sharing of free access resources. The organisation promotes an educational and professional approach through partnerships with universities and museums. Artists, collectors, institutions, historians, students and the general public can use the archives to find the information they need about women artists of the 20th century.

Backed by 4 programmes

Who are They?

The AWARE website (awarewomenartists.com) is a documentary platform in its own right, complete with illustrated biographical presentations of artists, academic articles on ongoing research, exhibition reviews, and a section listing current exhibitions featuring women artists, updated daily.

The creation of AWARE (Lab), a resource centre based in Paris, in partnership with universities and the documentation centres of major modern and contemporary art museums, allows for the constitution of a documentary collection of digital publications and resources aimed at consolidating information on women artists.

Let's Talk about Them

In partnership with universities and museums, AWARE organises round tables, symposiums and study days in France and abroad, including in countries where the condition of women is precarious.

Where are They?

AWARE organises museum visits to discover women artists and their art.

All about Them

AWARE's goal is to encourage the sharing of information on the works of women artists by way of printed publications intended for both the general and specialised public, particularly via the publication of a MOOK, a yearly magazine compiling articles from the web-magazine and previously unpublished articles, and the proceedings of the symposiums organised by AWARE every year



Photo: Émile Ouroumov

AWARE is a non-profit organisation founded by 7 women from diverse backgrounds but all driven by the same enthusiasm:

Margot Méricée Dufourcq
LAWYER

Daphné Moreau
LAWYER

Camille Morineau
CURATOR

Elisabeth Pallas
VIOLINIST

Nathalie Rigal
LAWYER

Alexandra Vernier-Bogaert
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Julie Wolkenstein
WRITER

175

175 biographical presentations
of women artists published on the website,
complete with exhibition reviews
and a section listing the latest news
concerning women artists

4,000

An average of
4,000 monthly visitors

5

5 round tables and symposiums
organised in 2016-2017
and 3 symposiums and study days
programmed for 2017-2018

1

A contemporary art award
dedicated to women,
with the exceptional support of
the French Ministry of Culture

1

A committed specialist
at the head of the project:
Camille Morineau

7

7 female founding members
from diverse backgrounds

3

3 permanent employees
and a team of volunteers
from major European cultural
institutions and museums.

16

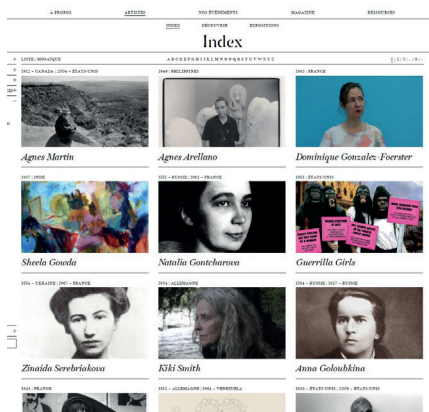
16 Friends
of AWARE

A website and a documentation centre dedicated to 20th-century women artists

In order to give more visibility to 20th-century women artists and rewrite a more gender-equal art history, AWARE works towards the promotion of resources and information on women artists around the world, both in French and English. The AWARE website (awarewomenartists.com) is a free-access work tool which features the organisation's latest news and gathers information and collective initiatives on the subject.



The site is specifically designed as a digital resource centre featuring written, iconographic, and audiovisual contents. At the heart of the project, it provides access to an index of illustrated biographical presentations of women artists in the field of visual arts, from Camille Claudel to more recent creators. The interface offers a keyword research tool (by discipline, country, period, subject) and the possibility to link the artists to the great movements in art history. The organisation's goal is to enrich the database with about 150 biographical presentations per year.



The site also highlights ongoing exhibitions organised by museums in the *Exhibitions* section, updated daily. The *Magazine* section offers interviews, reports, articles written by researchers, and monthly exhibition reviews.

The site's goal is to encourage and give visibility to research on *Elles*. Video recordings, symposium proceedings, and study days organised by AWARE are accessible to all online.

The site also enables the public to follow the organisation's initiatives and news, including the Visites du 8 programmes, symposiums, study days, AWARE Prize, and regular updates on women artists!



AWARE's website is paired with the AWARE Lab documentation centre in Paris. AWARE Lab had compiled 800 references – monographs, exhibition catalogues, essays, and reviews – on women artists, feminist art and theory.

The documentation centre is currently being developed with donations, exchanges, and acquisitions.

AWARE Lab is open to researchers and students from Monday to Friday. To make an appointment, please contact us at info@aware-art.org

The list of publications up for consultation or exchange is available on demand.

Address: AWARE Lab, 110 boulevard Saint-Germain, 75006 Paris



ROUND TABLE

7 MARCH & 11 APRIL, 2014 | PARIS

“Artistes femmes/femmes ingénieurs: une esthétique de la rareté”

AT THE LAB OF THE GOOGLE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

—

PRIZE

NOV. 2014 | PARIS

Presentation of the Marie-Claire Prize for contemporary art, organised by AWARE, to Esther Ferrer (honorary prize) and Léa Barbazanges
AT THE ESPACE FONDATION EDF

—

WEBSITE

8 MARCH, 2015

Launch of the first version of the website, accessible to all in French and English: awarewomenartists.com

—

WEBSITE

22 OCTOBER, 2015 | PARIS

Official launch of the organisation and inauguration of the Friends of AWARE group

AT THE TOKYO ART CLUB, PALAIS DE TOKYO

—

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
19-20 MAY 2016 | LISBON (PORTUGAL)**“Penetrable / Traversable / Habitable: Exploring spatial environments by women artists in the 1960s and 1970s”**

AT THE CENTRO DE ARTE MODERNA - FUNDAÇÃO CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN

In partnership with IHA, FCSH and universidade Nova, Lisbon

—

STUDY DAY

9 SEPTEMBER, 2016 | PARIS

Contributions by Camille Morineau alongside the Guerilla Girls, Femen, La Barbe, Fabienne Dumont, Marc Donnadieu, and Deborah De Robertis.

AT THE MAISON DES AUTEURS

Organised by Michèle Didier and Marie Docher, on the occasion of the Guerilla Girls and La Barbe exhibition (Galerie Michèle Didier)

—



VISITS

17-18 SEPT., 2016 | ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

“Journées du Matrimoine”**Guided visits about women artists in the public collections around Paris**

AT THE MUSÉE CARNAVALET, THE PETIT-PALAIS, THE MAC/VAL, THE MUSÉE D'ART MODERNE DE LA VILLE DE PARIS, ...

In partnership with the H/F Association Île-de-France

—

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

23-24 SEPT., 2016 | POITIERS (FRANCE)

“Parent-Elles, Partner, Daughter, Sister of...: Women Artists and the Ties of Kinship”

AT THE MUSÉE SAINTE-CROIX

In partnership with CRIHAM (Université de Poitiers) and the Musée Sainte-Croix, Poitiers

—

ROUND TABLE

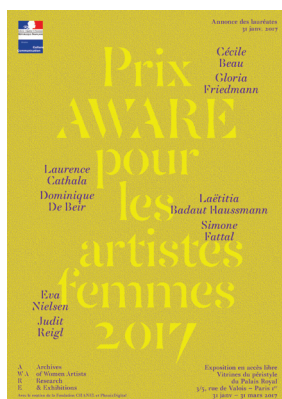
16 OCTOBER, 2016 | PARIS

“Cherchez les femmes: Recognizing women artists today”**Contributions by Camille Morineau alongside Susan Fisher Sterling, Fabrice Hergott, Floriane de Saint-Pierre, Elsa Sahal and Thomas Schlessner**

AT THE MONA BISMARCK AMERICAN CENTER

Organised by Les Amis du NMWA

—



PRIZE

31 JAN.-31 MARCH, 2017 | PARIS

Presentation of the AWARE Prizes for women artists, dedicated to both an emerging and a confirmed artist, by Audrey Azoulay, Minister of Culture and Communication, and exhibition of works by the eight nominated artists in the windows of the Palais Royal peristyle.

—

STUDY DAY

25 FEBRUARY, 2017 | PARIS

“They create, collect, and support: women and the arts since Antiquity”

AT THE CENTRE POMPIDOU

In partnership with the Mnémosyne Association, for the development of the history of women and gender

—

STUDY DAY

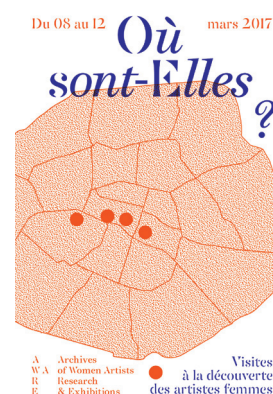
4 MARCH, 2017 | LONDON

“Collecting Art by Women”

AT THE WHITECHAPEL GALLERY

In partnership with the Whitechapel Gallery

—



VISITS

8-12 MARCH, 2017 | PARIS

Où sont-Elles ? (Where are They?)**Free visits to learn more about women artists in public collections.**

AT THE MUSÉE D'ORSAY, AT THE CENTRE POMPIDOU, AT THE MUSÉE DES ARTS DÉCORATIFS,...

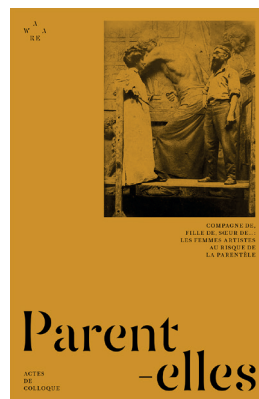
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WEBSITE

15 JUNE, 2017

Launch of an improved version of the website and publication of the printed and digital versions of the proceedings of the symposium “Parent-Elles, Partner, Daughter, Sister of...: Women Artists and the Ties of Kinship”.

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VISITES DU 8

8 SEPTEMBER | PARIS

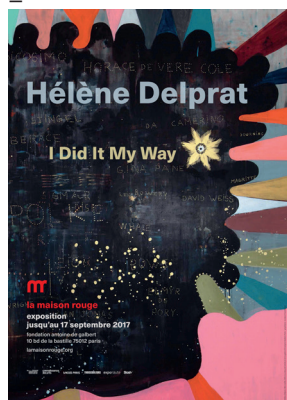
Visit of the exhibition

Hélène Delprat I Did It My Way

with Émilie Bouvard, cultural heritage curator, art historian and author of the exhibition catalogue

AT LA MAISON ROUGE

On the occasion of the “Où sont-Elles?” programme



VISITES DU 8

6 OCTOBER | PARIS

Visit of the exhibition

Diana Quinby et Marie-Pierre Brunel,

with Alain Cardenas-Castro, Science and Contemporary Art mediator and curator of the exhibition

AT THE MUSÉE DE L'HOMME, YVONNE ODDON RESEARCH LIBRARY

On the occasion of the “Où sont-Elles?” programme

VISITES DU 8

8 NOVEMBER | PARIS

Visit of the exhibition

Women House

with Camille Morineau, head of exhibitions and collections at the Monnaie de Paris, chairwoman of AWARE and curator of the exhibition

AT THE MONNAIE DE PARIS

On the occasion of the “Où sont-Elles?” programme

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

8 & 9 DECEMBER | PARIS

“WAS - Women Artists

Shows·Salons·Societies:

group exhibitions of women artists, 1876-1976”

AT THE AUDITORIUM OF THE JEU DE PAUME

In partnership with the Artl@s project (Purdue University and ENS Ulm) and in collaboration with Jeu de Paume

VISITES DU 8

8 DECEMBER | PARIS

Visit of the exhibition *Nalini Malani.**The Rebellion of the dead. Retrospective*

1969-2018 with Sophie Duplaix, head curator of contemporary collections at musée national d'Art moderne and curator of the exhibition

AT THE CENTRE POMPIDOU

On the occasion of the “Où sont-Elles?” programme

PRIZE

JANUARY 2018 | PARIS

Presentation of the AWARE Prizes

for women artists, dedicated to both an emerging and a confirmed artist, by Françoise Nyssen, Minister of Culture, and exhibition of works by the eight nominated artists

VISITS

5-11 MARCH, 2018 | ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

“Paris c'est Elles”

Free visits to explore the world of women artists in the public space

STUDY DAY

12 APRIL 2018 | PARIS

“Is performance an area of visibility of women artists?”

AT THE BEAUX-ARTS DE PARIS

In partnership with the Université Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée and the Beaux-Arts de Paris

PUBLICATIONS

SPRING 2018

Publication of the 1st issue of the

AWARE Mook, a collection of articles from the website and previously unpublished articles

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des femmes
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de la ville de Paris
Musée Carnavalet
Jeu de Paume
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Université de Poitiers (CRIHAM)
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Purdue University
(West Lafayette, IN)
Universidade Nova de Lisboa

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