

DADI WIRZ

KRASSIMIRA DRENSKA

PRESS RELEASE - CONNECTING LINES

05/12/24 TO 15/02/25

GALERIE MEYER

17 RUE DES BEAUX-ARTS, 75006 PARIS

OCEANIC & ARCTIC
TRIBAL ART

PRESS RELEASE
GALERIE MEYER, PARIS
EXHIBITION: CONNECTING LINES
DECEMBER 5, 2024 - FEBRUARY 15, 2025
OPENING RECEPTION: DECEMBER 5, 2024, FROM
6:00 PM.

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Beaux-Arts

Galerie Meyer is pleased to present *Connecting Lines*, a captivating exhibition that explores the concepts of the line through works from Oceania and the Far North, in dialogue with contemporary creation. This exhibition highlights the works of artists Dadi Wirz and Krassimira Drenska, who question the symbolism and materiality of the line in their respective practices.

Connecting Lines invites visitors to discover how the line, whether drawn, engraved, or woven, serves as a fundamental element in both ancient Oceanic and Arctic arts as well as in contemporary art. The artists, reinterpreting this concept to evoke narratives of identity, culture, nature, and boundaries, create powerful visual dialogues steeped in myths and traditions.

Crossing temporal, geographical, and cultural boundaries, *Connecting Lines* builds a true bridge between the rich heritages of ancient cultures and contemporary reflections on art and society in the West.

Come discover *Connecting Lines* at Galerie Meyer, a space where art and traditions meet, and where the line transcends boundaries to become a symbol of continuity, connection, and unity... a space where cultures through time engage in dialogue.

For photo requests or additional information, please contact:

Ms. Vairea ANANIA : Press Officer

vairea.galeriemeyer@gmail.com

DADI WIRZ

Dadi Wirz (born in 1931, Switzerland) is a multidisciplinary artist renowned for his contributions to painting, sculpture, printmaking, and conceptual art. The son of Swiss anthropologist Paul Wirz, he experienced an adventurous childhood, traveling with his parents to Africa, the Far East, and Latin America. These experiences infused his artistic practice with a unique sensitivity to world cultures.

From 1947 to 1950, Dadi Wirz initially trained in photography and attended the Basel School of Fine Arts. He further honed his skills in Paris at the Académie André Lhote and at Atelier 17, a renowned venue for innovations in printmaking led by artist S.W. Hayter. In 1952, a new adventure called him to Papua New Guinea, where he accompanied his father to study the tribal art of the Sepik River. He also explored daily life as a plantation assistant, immersing himself in fascinating cultures steeped in mythology and symbolism that deeply influenced his work.

Upon returning to Europe, Dadi Wirz dedicated his life to teaching printmaking and creating art, while pursuing an artistic quest fueled by a cosmopolitan and avant-garde vision. His works, present in numerous public collections, including the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, address themes of boundaries and reflect the depth of the cultural influences that have shaped him, creating bridges between worlds and techniques.

KRASSIMIRA DRENSKA

Krassimira Drenska is a Bulgarian-born artist whose career reflects a profound passion for printmaking, painting, and artist books. Born in Sofia, she pursued an exceptional course of study at the Academy of Fine Arts, where she specialized in printmaking and book design, a field that captivated her with its potential for visual storytelling. She first gained recognition as an art editor for a major Bulgarian publishing house, developing a keen aesthetic vision and attention to detail that would guide her artistic work.

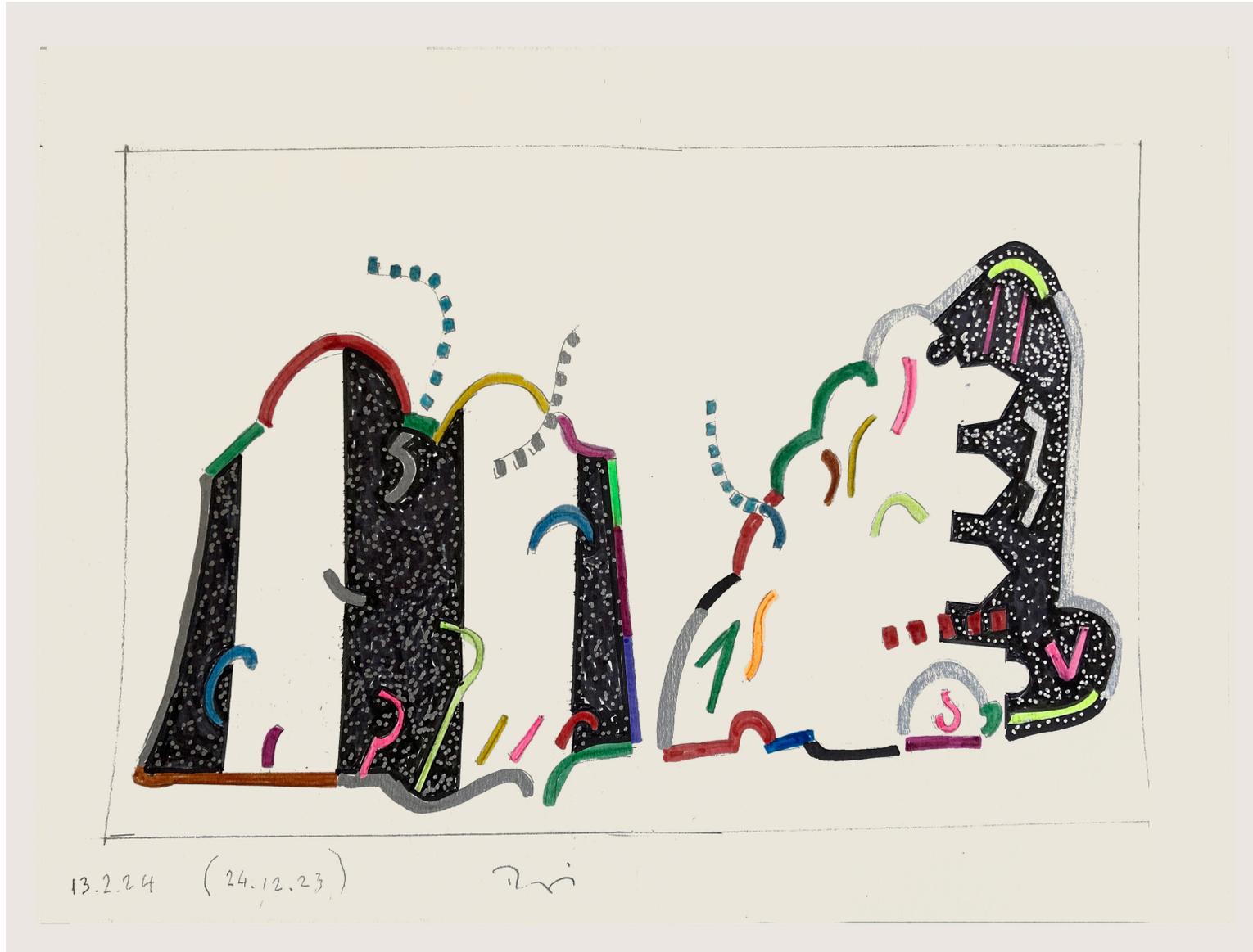
With a scholarship from the French government, she joined S.W. Hayter's Atelier 17 in Paris, where she explored innovative printmaking techniques, before continuing her studies at the Basel School of Art and Design. This immersion in contemporary European art circles fueled an approach where printmaking techniques intersect with conceptual exploration of nature and the living world.

Since moving to Switzerland in 1980, Drenska has shared her printmaking expertise as a faculty member at the Basel School of Art. In 2000, she launched the Artist Book Project in Basel, creating a collaborative space for artists. Her founding of the Forum Künstlerbuch Basel in 2004 further strengthened her commitment to promoting the art of the book across Europe. This network and her exhibitions on artist books have made her a leading figure in this resurgent art form. Her works, held in numerous public collections, embody a poetic visual language inspired by nature's patterns, where each color and line seems to vibrate with its own vitality. Krassimira Drenska stands out for her unique and influential approach, blending art and poetry to create works that resonate with depth and sensitivity.

KRASSIMIRA DRENSKA FROM THE SERIES "SUSPENDED MOMENTS I", WATERCOLOR



DADI WIRZ FROM THE SERIES "DESSINS 2024", COLOR FELT PEN





**WUNDA FIGHTING SHIELD
MURCHISON AND GASCOYNE RIVERS
REGION, WESTERN AUSTRALIA. WOOD WITH
ORIGINAL PIGMENTS. CARVED WITH NON-
METALLIC TOOLS AND WITH ITS ORIGINAL
PATINA OF AGE AND USE. 77 X 13 X 4 CM.
19TH / 20TH CENTURY.**