GALERIE
LA FOREST DIVONNE
PARIS+BRUSSELS



Christian Renonciat

Born in Paris in 1947 – Lives and works in Paris

Born in 1947, Christian Renonciat studied at the Sorbonne and earned a degree in philosophy. In 1969, he joined an art workshop in Antibes, where he practiced woodworking crafts for six years. In 1975, he opened his own studio in Valbonne, where his first sculptures were born. Back in Paris, Christian Renonciat exhibited for the first time in 1978, at the Alain Blondel gallery.

Renonciat seeks to achieve a sensuality of perception in order to awaken the knowledge held in touch. His works speak to our ears and to our hands. The artist's intervention on materials - paper, plastic, or wool - to achieve exact modeling and precise folds is spectacular. Renonciat sets spectacle aside, leaving us entirely to the pleasure of the line, the softness of the curve, the tremor of the fold.

Since 1984, Christian Renonciat has pursued a second, parallel path : monumental creation, in which he blends imagination and technique across a wide range of materials (cast steel, bronze, aluminum, gardens), often with the tone of a dreamlike archaeology.

Today, he rediscovers the material essence of things in large wall compositions of carved wood, resembling tapestries of cloth, plastic, wool, paper, or cardboard.
His work is regularly exhibited in France, Switzerland, Belgium, the USA, Japan, China, South Korea, and elsewhere. Some of his installations can be found in Tokyo, Sapporo, Atlanta, San Francisco, Monte Carlo, London, Seoul, Aytré, La Rochelle, Paris, Issy, Reims, Saumur, and other cities.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 *La Caresse d'être - dans la veine du bois*, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Brussels, Belgium

2025 *Du bout des doigts - 50 ans de sculpture*, Galerie Guillaume, Paris, France

2022 *Le Grain des choses*, Galerie La Forest Divonne Brussels, Brussels, Belgium

2021 *Ondés*, Galerie Guillaume, Paris, France
2019 *Friselis,* Galerie Guillaume, Paris, France

2015 Webhart Gallery, Seoul, South Korea

2017 *Caresses*, Gremillion & C°, Houston, Texas, USA

2016 *Œuvres au noir*, Galerie Waltman, Paris, France
Œuvres au noir, Galerie Ortega, Miami, USA

2014 *The Way of Wood*, Gremillion & C° fine arts, Houston Texas, USA
Les diagonales du carton, Galerie Piretti, Knokke-le-Zout, Belgium

2013 Solo : Guest of Honor, Arts Elysées, Paris, France
Froissés composés, Galerie Duchoze, Rouen, France
Au fil du bois, MATMUT Art Center, Varengeville Castle, Rouen, France

2011 *Froissés composés*, Galerie Mazel, Brussels, Belgium
Composed Creases, Galerie Gremillion & Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA

2009 *Creased*, Galerie Gremillion & fine arts, Houston, Texas, USA

2006 *Pieces écrites*, Galerie Alain Blondel, Paris
Shina Galerie, Kyoto, Japan
Galerie EXARTE, Geneva, Switzerland

2007 *The way of wood*, Galerie Gremillion & fine arts, Houston, Texas, USA
Fleur de peau, Galerie Island6, Shanghai, China

2006 *Fleur de peau*, Galerie Hong Merchant, Shangaï, China

2005 *Fleur de peau*, Galerie Alain Blondel, Paris, France

2002 Hooks-Epstein Galerie, Houston, Texas, USA
Galerie Piretti, Knokke-le-Zout, Belgium

2001 *Le toucher des choses*, Galerie Alain Blondel, Paris, France

2000 Epstein Gallery, Houston, Texas, USA

1999 Bâtiment des Forces Motrices, retrospective exhibition, Geneva, Switzerland
Phénix, cheval de proue, monument project for the Port of Saint-Georges, Beirut, Lebanon

1997 *La voie du bois*, retrospective, Séoul ; Macao ; Hong-Kong ; Tokyo
Juxtapositions, Museum of Modern Art of Dubrovnik, Croatia

1996 *Vernis sages*, Galerie Alain Blondel, Paris, France

1991 *La Matière des choses*, retrospective, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Reims, France

1989 *Troublement*, FIAC, Grand Palais & Galerie Blondel II, Paris, France

1987 Exhibitions with Hermès in Munich, Genève, Tokyo, Hong- Kong

1982 *Cartons-Trace*, Galerie Alain Blondel, Paris, France
Pli selon pli, Galerie Alain Blondel, Paris, France

1980 *Emballages*, Galerie Alain Blondel, Paris, France

1978 *Sur le fil,* Galerie du Luxembourg, Paris, France

GROUP EXHIBITION

2026 Brafa Art Fair, Galerie La Forest Divonne Brussels, Brussels, Belgium

2025 Brafa Art Fair, Galerie La Forest Divonne Brussels, Brussels, Belgium
Art On Paper à la galerie, Galerie La Forest Divonne Brussels, Brussels, Belgium

2024 Art Antwerp, Galerie La Forest Divonne Brussels, Anvers, Belgium

2023 Brafa Art Fair, Galerie La Forest Divonne Brussels, Brussels, Belgium

2020 *La matière des choses* - Christian Renonciat / Bernadette Chéné / Rachel Labastie, Galerie La Forest Divonne Brussels, Brussels, Belgium

2019 Domaine de Chaumont-sur-Loire, France

2016 Art Paris, Galerie Olivier Waltman, Grand Palais, Paris, France

2015 Gwangju Fair, South Korea
Art Paris, Galerie Olivier Waltman, Grand Palais, Paris, France

2014 Art Elysées, Galerie Olivier Waltman, Paris, France

1981 International Art Fair, Chicago, USA

1980 FIAC, Grand Palais, Galerie Alain Blondel, Paris, France

1976 Antibes, then Hôtel de Ville de Mougins, France
M.J.C. Gorbella, Nice, France

PUBLIC AQUISITIONS

Two monumental sculptures for Hermès, Kuwait City, Kuwait, 2020

Deux chevaux à l'abreuvoir, installation in Parc de la Cavalerie, Pontoise, France, 2020

Le Merle moqueur, installation, (steel tube and cannonball), Fort district, Issy-les-Moulineaux, France, 2015

Grande Tapisserie-Couverture, (ayous wood, 3x4m), headquarters of Crédit Foncier de France, Paris, France, 2009

La Vague, (molded stone concrete, 10x3x3m), La Rochelle, France, 2001/2002

Cèdre, podium and carved wall for the Conference of Islamic Countries, (oak, 3x12m), Tripoli, Lebanon, 1995

Archeval, (welded steel tubes, 12m high), A85 motorway, Saumur, France, 1997

A Gustave..., carved fresco panel, (linden wood, 2x6m), for La Poste, 1st floor of the Eiffel Tower Paris, France, 1996

La Marseillaise, large carved panel (poplar, 6x8m), Issy-les-Moulineaux City Hall Hôtel de Ville d'Issy-les-Moulineaux, France, 1994

Les Trois gardiens, three cast-steel columns, reception hall of Issy-les-Moulineaux City Hall, France, 1994

Colonnade, (or *Troublement*), row of pillars, France 2 (television) headquarters, 1994

Creation of the spring garden and waterfall garden, for the Hermès headquarters, Pantin, France, 1990

Oasis, monumental sculpture, (linden wood, 12x4x2m), for the Monte-Carlo Sporting d'Été, SBM, Monaco, 1990

Creation of a centerpiece for the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, (sycamore and lacquered polyester, 17x5m), Paris, France, 1990

La Pierre d'heures, sundial, (cast steel, 6x6x5m, 20,000 kg), Reims, France, 1990

Vinci et Copernic, sculptures and drawings, EBRD headquarters, London, England, 1990

Au fil du trait, (aluminium 6x12x6m), Daï Ichi Shinbashi building, Tokyo, Japan, 1989

Le Cheval d'Aytré, (cast steel, 25,000 kg), public square, Aytré, near La Rochelle, France, 1989

Pégase, renaissant, (bronze, 3x2m), Sapporo, Japan (with ARPE), 1988

Grand mur déchiré, (poplar, 3x8m), and *Violoncelle*, Ark Mori Building, Suntory Co., Tokyo, Japan, 1986

Mais où est donc Icare ? (articulated wings; stainless steel and leather, 3.20m), for the High Museum of Atlanta, United States, 1986

Eloge du cheval, (bronze, 2,50 x 2,20 m), 1% public art monument for the Saumur Riding School, France, 1984

Avion-rédaction, (folded, lacquered stainless steel sheet; 2 x 2m), 1% public art scheme, school on Rue de Tourtille, Paris 20th arrondissement, France, 1984

A quarter spent researching at the Manufacture de Sèvres (Ministry of Culture), 1983

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2025 *50 ans de sculpture,* by Galerie Guillaume

2013 *Au fil du bois*, monography by Didier Carpentier

2011 *Pieces écrites*, Les Arches d'Issy

2006 *Le Parti-pris de la matière des choses*, exhibition catalog *Fleur de peau* de Hong Kong

2005 *La Grande Vague*, movie by Yves-Antoine Judde

2002 *Archeval*, film 26mn by Gilles Lallement

199a *La Voie du bois*, a book for the travelling exhibition *The Way of Wood* in Asia

1991 *La Pierre d'Heures*, City of Reims
Renonciat, monograph published by Ramsay, collection Visions

1989 *Le Cheval d'Aytré*, by Yves-Antoine Judde

1986 *L'Art et la matière*, Video moovie 26mn, by Claude Hudelot, la Rochelle

1980 *Le Bois et la main*, short film Gaumont, by Jérôme Laperoz