

JAIME COLSON

Biographical Summary

1901: Born 13 January in Tubagua, San Felipe de Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic.

1918: He traveled to Barcelona and passed the portico of a drawing preparatory course and prepared himself intellectually by reading Greek classics, Marx and Engels.

1920: He settled in Madrid, studying in the San Fernando Fine Arts School in San Fernando, with Joaquín Sorolla as one of his teachers, graduating in 1923.

1923: He returned to Barcelona, entering the Royal Artistic Circle (Real Círculo Artístico) via the sponsorship of Santiago Rusiñol. He showed in the Madrid Autumn Salon (Salón de Otoño).

1924: First Parisian period.

Called by Rafael Díaz Niese.

He remained in contact with the artistic vanguardists of the age.

He created "Sena Landscape (Paisaje del Sena)".

He met Japanese artist Toyo Kurimoto, and they become partners.

He lived in a tiny garret for 7 years in Barrio Latino, later set up his shop in Montrouge.

1925: First self-portrait 25 years.

1926: "Japonesa" a key piece prefacing his cubist period

He showed at the "Salón des Independents".

Death of Juan Gris, which led him to execute "Nature of death, a Homage to Juan Gris (Naturaleza muerta, homenaje a Juan Gris)".

"The 40-year-old woman (La mujer de 40 años)" marks his search for his own style, which already foreshadowed his cubist paintings.

He showed at the collective exhibit "Quelques Peintres de L'Amérique Latine" in Brussels .

1927: He sent a plan to the Ministry of Education in the Dominican Republic, to establish a National Fine Arts School in Santo Domingo.

1927-1929: He showed at the Paris "Salón des Independents".

1930: Member of the geometric abstraction group Cercle et Carré and showed at Galería 23.

He discovers the works of Giorgio de Chirico, Magritte and Dalí.

He participated in the exhibit "Exposition du Groupe Latino Américain de Paris" organized by Torres García.

He spent hours analyzing the works of Piero della Francesca during his constant visits to the Louvre.

1934-1937: Stay in Mexico.

Success with critics and the public – with his neo-humanistic exhibit of 70 pieces.

Professor of scenography in the art school for workers.

He illustrated with a surrealist eye the book "Eco" of his friend, the famous poet, Elías Nandino.

1935: He participated in the inauguration of an art gallery with German Cueto, Orozco, Rivera, Siqueiros, Tamayo and G. Fernández Ledesma.

1936: He showed his Parisian cubist works from 1924 to 1928 in the San Idelfonso exhibition hall and is granted recognition as a 35-year-old maestro at the Hipocampo, showing with older Mexican maestros. Mario Carreño will be his student and takes in his influence.

1937: Classist influenced drawings and he painted "Electro", one of his emblematic canvases with Carlos Mérida and Manuel Bravo, he shows in the Hipocampo Gallery - Top Honor of the Exhibition "Estampas" of America.

1938: Short stay in Cuba, he arrived in Havana with Mario Carreño, he showed at "La Sociedad Lyceum" with great success.

Returning after a 20-year absence, he showed for the first time in Santo Domingo (Ciudad Trujillo) at the Ateneo Dominicano, 5 September, returning to Paris, "Merengue" artwork.

1939: In Paris, he showed at the prestigious "Berheim-Jeuné" Gallery with Carreño and Max Jiménez. Picasso attended the exposition. In September, war broke out. He moved to Barcelona with his partner. He survived doing commissioned portraits. He proposed a new project for the creation of the National School of Fine Arts in Santo Domingo.

1942: He participated in the National Fine Arts Exhibit in Barcelona.

1944: Exhibit in the Pictoria Gallery, with portraits, pantry scenes using different techniques. Praise by critics.

He went to Mallorca to accept the Ignacio Rotger commission for several murals in their Cala Murta chapel in Cabo Formentor.

1945: Marriage to Toyo Kurimoto.

He met the group "Dau al set" at the Bell of San Gervasio Bar-Gallery, composed of Tapies, Cuixart, Tharrats and Brossa.-

He won First Prize at the Internal Exhibit in Bilbao.

1948: He executed religious murals at Cala Murta (Mallorca). Returned to Barcelona

1949: Artworks "Baquini" and "La Ciguapa del Camú" mark a surrealistic ambience with Dominican representation. He suffers from homesickness for his homeland.

He returns to post-war Paris, where he showed in the collective exposition "L'Art Pictural" in Montparnasse with the participation of Picasso.

After travelling by sea to New York, he returned to Santo Domingo along with his student Carreño.

1950: Upon arriving in Santo Domingo, he was named General Director of Fine Arts, he visited the Yoryi Academy in Santiago and participated in the V Biannual Plastic Arts Exhibit.

1951: Retrospective Exhibit 1923 to 1951

He inaugurated post-graduate classes with his students: Pipe Faxas, J. Ramírez Conde, Norberto Santana, Vicente Pimentel, Dionicio Blanco, Amable Sterling and Rincón Mora. Illustration of a book by the poet Tomás Hernández Franco.

1952: He resigned his position as Director of Fine Arts and took refuge in Tamboril, in the house of his old friend, the poet Tomás Hernández Franco –

His sister Marina gifted him a studio en Tubagua, his native city, where he produced many artworks.

Due to the depression brought about by the death of the poet, he was admitted to the José María Cabral y Báez Hospital in Santiago. Upon recovery, he went back to Santo Domingo and established his studio in the Colonial Zone, to re-initiate a new stage. He sets out to “Renew Myself or Die.”

1953: With his "Anti-Air Refuge" work, he participated in the Hispanic American biannual in Havana in 1954.

1954: He showed the series "Catharsis" in the National Fine Arts Gallery - 25 gouaches.

Creation of the group "The Four " with Gousachs, Clara Ledesma, Gilberto Hernández Ortega, First Prize for Painting in the VI National Biannual of the Dominican Republic with the artwork “Fragments of a Mural.”

1955: International Exhibit organized by the Ateneo in Caracas with the international artists: Leger, Hartung, Lam, Soulages, Rounault, Magritte, D. Rivera, Vasarely, Siqueiros and Guayasamin.

1956: First Drawing Prize in the VII National Biannual.

1957: From Caracas, he went to Haiti where he showed at the Remponeau Gallery in Port-au-Prince. He created several drawings during his stay.

1958: Ink portraits, for a “Haitian series”.

1960: First Prize granted by the Administrative Board of the National District in the X Plastic Arts Biannual with the oil painting "Dead Nature " unleashes a dispute with the Dominican cultural milieu, declaring they do not believe in abstract art

1963: An exhibit of "4 Artists and the School of Paris " with Silvano Lora, Luichy Martínez Richiez, Fernando Peña Defilló.

1964: Creation of the murals of the Nuestra Señora de Regla Church in Baní.

1965: Auffant Gallery, 34 drawings, a big success with the critics.

1969: Again, Fine Arts General Director.

1972: Collective sampling, at the Alliance Francés with 8 artists who had shown in France.

1973: Anthological Exhibit of his work in the Rosa María Art Salo, his last individual show while alive.

1975: He passed away on 20 November, in Santo Domingo, at age 74.