JONAS MEKAS

BIOGRAPHY
Semeniškiai, Lithuania, 1922 – Brooklyn, NY 2018

EDUCATION
Philosophy, University of Mainz, Germany

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2020
Ahead, ahead we move through the stormy seas with all sails open, APALAZZOGALLERY, Brescia, Italy

2018
Retrospective, Palazzo della Ragione, Bergamo, Italy

2017
Again, again it all comes back to me in brief glimpses, MMCA, Seoul
Documenta 14, Kassel, DE
Blue, Yellow, Red, Purple, Missoni Boutique, New York
Fears and Tremblings of an Angry Dog, Microscope Gallery, New York (performance)
Cinéma Lituanien, Cinématheque Française, Paris (screening)
Jonas Mekas: Film in the Line of Fire, Fundação Serralves, Porto, Portugal
I Sing I Celebrate, MUSEO C.A.V LA NEOMUDEJAR, Madrid
Screening of Diaries, Notes & Sketches a.k.a. Walden, Tate Gallery, London
Documenta 14, Athens and Kassel

2016
Let Me Introduce Myself, Nina Johnson Gallery, Miami
The Velvet Underground - New York Extravaganza, Philarminie de Paris, Paris
Take Me (I'm Yours), The Jewish Museum, New York

2015
All These Images, These Sounds, APALAZZOGALLERY, Brescia, Italy
The Internet Saga, Palazzo Foscari Contarini, collateral event in conjunction with the 56th Venice Biennale
TIME – Jonas Mekas, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin (screening)

2014
Jonas Mekas: One Man Show, Cēsis Arts Festival, Latvia
365 Day Project, ZKM, Karlsruhe

2013
DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague
I Lift My Glass of Wine to You, My Vienna Friends!, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna
Jonas Mekas. A Retrospective, CCBB, Sao Paulo
Paris Photo L.A., Deborah Colton Gallery, Los Angeles
Outlaw: New Works, Microscope Gallery, Brooklyn
agnès b. Marseille
The Sixties Quartet, KIASMA, Helsinki
Let Me Introduce Myself, My Russian Friends! State Hermitage Museum, Saint Petersburg
Jonas Mekas: In Praise of the Ordinary, The Phi Centre, Montreal
Jonas Mekas / The Fluxus Wall, Bozar Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels
Life Goes On... I Keep Singing, Deborah Colton Gallery, Houston
2012
Portraits: Jonas Mekas and Robert Polidori, Edwynn Houk Gallery, New York
Musique Plastique, agnès b. Howard Street boutique, New York
The 365 Day Project, 2B Gallery, Budapest
Reminiszenzen aus Deutschland, Stadtmuseum, Wiesbaden
Prisiminimai iš Vokietijos, Jonas Mekas Visual Arts Center, Vilnius
Images out of Darkness, James Fuentes Gallery, New York
Jonas Mekas, Serpentine Gallery, London / MUAC, Mexico City
The 365 Day Project, Centre Pompidou, Paris

2011
Musique Plastique, agnès b. Galerie du jour, Paris
Ostalgia, The New Museum, New York
agnès b. Howard Street boutique, New York
This Side of Paradise, agnès b. Rue du Jour boutique, Paris

2010
Cassis, James Fuentes Gallery, New York Armory Show
Bienal de São Paolo, São Paolo, Brazil
Illegal Living, 80 Wooster, New York
Eve of Fluxus, The Emily Harvey Foundation, New York
The Brucennial, New York
To New York with Love, James Fuentes Gallery, New York

2009
1968, Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Germany
The Beast, FIAC art fair, The Film Gallery, Paris
Destruction Quartet," James Fuentes Gallery, New York
1989, Kunsthalle Wien
Jonas Mekas, Gallery Toki no Wasuremono, Tokyo
To New York with Love, Bas Fisher Invitational, Miami
Destruction Quartet, Kings County Biennial, Brooklyn

2008
Fondazione Ragghianti, Lucca
Museum Ludwig, Cologne

2007
Recent Work, Maya Stendhal Gallery, New York
Serpentine Gallery, London
The Film Gallery, FIAC art fair, Paris
Jonas Mekas: The Beauty of Friends being Together, MoMA
Jonas Mekas Visual Arts Center, Vilnius
My Night Life (with Auguste Varkalis), The Film Gallery, Paris

2006
Destruction Quartet, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney
Onestar Stop, Galerie Erna Hécey, Brussels
The Expanded Eye, Kusthalle Zürich
Baltic Art Center, Visby
Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C
To New York with Love, Gallery Toki no Wasuremono, Tokyo
He Stands in the Desert Counting the Seconds of his Life, Tamayo Contemporary Art Museum, Mexico City
The Diary Film, Göteborgs Konsthall, Sweden
It All Comes Back Now in Glimpses, Sketch Gallery, London
Brief Glimpses of Beauty, Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Center, UK
Centrum Sztuki Współczesnej Zamek Ujazdowski, Warsaw
2005
Farewell to Soho," Moderna Museet, Stockholm
Fragments of Paradise, Maya Stendhal Gallery, New York
As I Was Moving Ahead, Pavilion of Lithuania at the 51st edition of the Venice Biennale

2003
Jonas Mekas: A Camera for Jonas, Musée d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris
Utopia Station, 50th Venice Biennale
Dedication to Fernand Léger, Museum of Contemporary Art, Vilnius
Sideshow Gallery, Williamsburg, Brooklyn
Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris
Fables de l’Identité, Centre National de la Photographie, Paris

2002
Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris
Documenta XI, Kassel

2000
La Beauté festival, Avignon. Films and installation
Laboratorium, Antwerp
Voilà, Musée d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris
agnès b Galerie du jour, FIAC art fair, Paris

1999
Susan Inglett Gallery, New York
Pupelis Gallery, Obeliai, Lithuania
agnès b. Galerie du Jour, Paris

1998
Le Printemps de Cahors, Musée de Cahors Henri-Martin
Gandy Gallery, Prague

1997
Madrid Art Fair, Madrid
Museum of Contemporary Art, Vilnius

1992
Galerie National du Jeu de Paume, Paris
agnès b. Galerie du Jour, Paris
Still Gallery, Edinburgh
Luarence Miller, New York
Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo
agnès b. Galerie du Jour, Paris

1983
Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo

1973
The Diary Film, Museum of Modern Art, New York

1972

1968
Walden (Diaries, notes, sketches), Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo
GRANTS AND AWARDS

2017
BEN Award (category “Lifetime achievement award, influential artist moving image art”)

2015
Yoko Ono Courage Award

2013
Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, Ministry of Culture, France
Francis J. Greenburger Award
Elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

2012
‘Carry Your Light and Believe’ Award, Ministry of Culture, Lithuania

2011
George Eastman Honorary Scholar Award

2010
Life Achievement Award at the second annual Rob Pruitt's Art Awards

2008
Baltic Cultural Achievement Award
Austrian Decoration of Honor for Science and Art (Österreichische Ehrenzeichen für Wissenschaft und Kunst)

2007
Los Angeles Film Critics Association awards special citation for "contribution to film art"
Special Award from the Roswitha Haftmann Foundation, Zürich

2006
REMINISCENCES OF A JOURNEY TO LITHUANIA added to the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress
Directors Guild of America Award

2000
Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, Ministry of Culture, France

1997
Pier Paolo Pasolini Award, Paris
International Documentary Film Association Award, Los Angeles
Governors Award, Skohegan School of Painting and Sculpture
Doctor of Fine Arts, Honoris Causa, Universitatis Vytauti Magni, Lithuania

1996
Special Tribute, New York Film Critics Circle Award
Doctor of Fine Arts, Honoris Causa, Kansas City Art Institute

1995
Lithuanian National Award

1992
Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, Ministry of Culture, France
Mel Novikoff Award, San Francisco Film Festival

1989
Creative Arts Award, Brandeis University
1977
Guggenheim Fellowship

1966
Gold Medal, Philadelphia College of Art, "for the devotion, passion, and selfless dedication to the rediscovery of the newest art"

1964
Grand Prize (Documentary) awarded to THE BRIG at the Venice Film Festival

1962
Grand Prize awarded to GUNS OF THE TREES at the Porretta Terme Film Festival

FILMOGRAPHY

Guns of the Trees (1962), 75 min.
Film Magazine of the Arts (Summer, 1963), 20 min.
The Brig (1964), 68 min.
Award Presentation to Andy Warhol (1964), 12 min.
Report from Millbrook (1965/1966), 12 min.
Hare Krishna (1966), 4 min.
Notes on the Circus (1966), 12 min.
Cassis (1966), 4 min.
The Italian Notebook (1967), 15 min.
Time and Fortune Vietnam Newsreel (1968), 4 min.
Reminiscences of a Journey to Lithuania (1971-1972), 82 min.
Lost Lost Lost (1976), 2 hrs. 58 min.
In Between: 1964-8 (1978), 52 min.
Notes for Jerome (1978), 45 min.
Paradise Not Yet Lost (aka Oona's Third year) (1979), 96 min.
Self-Portrait (1980), 20 min., video.
Street Songs (1966/1983) 10 min.
He Stands in a Desert Counting the Seconds of His Life (1969/1985), 2 hrs. 30 min.
Scenes from the Life of Andy Warhol (1990), 35 min.
A Walk (1990), 58 min., video.
Mob of Angels: Baptism (1990), 61 min., video.
Mob of Angels at St. Ann (1991), 60 min, video.
Dr. Carl G. Jung or Lapis Philosophorum (1991), 29 min.
Quartet Number One (1991) 8 min.
Zefiro Torna or Scenes from the Life of George Maciunas (1992), 34 min.
The Education of Sebastian or Egypt Regained (1992), 6 hrs. video.
Imperfect 3-Image films (1995), 6 min.
Happy Birthday to John (1996), 24 min.
Cinema is Not 100 Years Old (1996), 4 min., video.
Memories of Frankenstein (1996), 95 min.
Letters to Friends (1997), 1 hr. 28 min., video.
Birth of a Nation (1997), 85 min.
Symphony of Joy (1997), 1 hr. 15 min.
Scenes from Allen’s Last Three Days on Earth as a Spirit (April 1997), 67 min., video.
Letter from Nowhere -- Laiškai iš niekur N.1 (1997), 75 min., video.
Song of Avignon (1998), 5 min.
Laboratorium Anthology (1999), 63 min., video.
This Side of Paradise (1999) 35 min., 16 mm.
Notes on Film-Maker's Cooperative (1999), 40 min., video.
Mozart & Wien and Elvis (2000) 3 min.
Silence, Please (2000), 6 min., video.
Letter to Penny Arcade (2001), 14 min. 33 sec., video.
Ein Märchen (2001) 6 min., video.
Ar Buvo Karas? (2002), 2 hrs. 28 min.
Notes on Utopia (2003-5) 55 min., video.
Father and Daughter (2005), 4 min. 30 sec., video.
Notes on an American Film Director at Work: Martin Scorsese (2005), 1hr 20 min.
Scenes from the Life of Hermann Nitsch (2005), 58 min., film and video.
Lithuania and the Collapse of the USSR (2008), 4 hrs. 49 min., video.
I Leave Chelsea Hotel (2009), 4 min.
Sleepless Nights Stories (2011), 114 min.
My Bars Bar Movie (2011), 86 min.
Correspondences: José Luis Guerin and Jonas Mekas (2011), 99 min.
Re: George Maciunas and Fluxus (2011), 87 min.
Mont Ventoux (2011), 3 min.
Happy Easter Ride (2012), 18 min.
Reminiszenzen aus Deutschland (2012), 25 min.
Out-takes from the Life of a Happy Man (2012), 68 min.

WRITINGS

Knyga Apie Karalius ir Žmones, Tubingen, 1947 [in Lithuanian].
Laiškai iš niekur, Vilnius, 1997 [in Lithuanian].
As I Was Moving Ahead..., Editions Kinoshita, Tokyo, 2002 [in Japanese]. Text and narration from the film.
To Petrarca, Editions Dis Voir, Paris, 2009 [in both French and English editions]
Scrapbook of the Sixties; Writings 1958-2010, Spector Books, 2015
A Dance with Fred Astaire, Spector Books, 2017
Conversations with Filmmakers, Spector Books, 2018
POETRY


Gėlių Kalbėjimas, Chicago, 1961 [in Lithuanian].


Poezija, Vilnius, Vaga, 1971 [in Lithuanian].

Reminiscencijos, New York, Fluxus, 1972 [in Lithuanian].

Dienoraščiai, New York, Žvilgsniai, 1985 [in Lithuanian].

There is No Ithaca (English edition of Semeniškių Idilės and Reminiscencijos), translated by Vyt Bakaitis, Black Thistle Press, New York, 1996.

Dienų Raštai, Vilnius, 1998 [in Lithuanian].

Žmogus Be Vietos (Lithuanian edition of I Had Nowhere to Go), Baltos Lankos, 2000.


Žodžiai ir Raidės, Baltos Lankos, Vilnius, 2007 [in Lithuanian].


DIARIES


Zefiro Torna or Scenes From the Life of George Mačiunas, Arthouse, New York, 1998.

Žmogus Be Vietos (Lithuanian edition of I Had Nowhere to Go), Baltos Lankos, 2000.


Ningún lugar adonde ir (Spanish edition of I Had Nowhere to Go, translated by Leonel Livchits), Caja Negra, Buenos Aires, 2008.

CATALOGS


The Avante-garde from Futurism to Fluxus, Jonas Mekas Visual Arts Center, Vilnius, 2007 [in English and Lithuanian editions].

Jonas Mekas, Fondazione Ragghianti, Lucca, Italy, 2008 [in Italian].

Jonas Mekas, published by Koenig Books, on the occasion of the exhibition "Jonas Mekas" at the Museum Ludwig, Cologne, 2008 [in English and German].


EXTENDED ESSAYS AND INTERVIEWS
