

ArtPEOPLE

Lisa Phillips, curator of contemporary art at the Whitney Museum of American Art, has left the institution after 23 years to become director of the New Museum of Contemporary Art in SoHo, New York City.

Constance Wolf, associate director of public programs at the Whitney for 7½ years, has resigned to become director of the Jewish Museum in San Francisco. The 14-year-old museum, with no collection, but an education and education program, is planning a major expansion into a renovated power plant to be designed by Daniel Liebeskind, famed architect of the Jewish Museum in Berlin extension and architect of the modern addition for the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

César, a sculptor inspired by crushed cars and scrap iron, died in Paris at the age of 77 in early December. He was loved and detested by France until last year when he had his first retrospective in a French museum at the Jeu de Paume.

Allen Wardwell, director of the Asia Society Galleries in New York from 1974-84 and a prominent authority on primitive art of many kinds, died at the age of 64 in Manhattan. He was also the director of the Isamu Noguchi Garden Museum in New York from 1986 till 1990.

Albert Frey, an architect forwarding the international Style of architecture who later brought themes to buildings in harmony with the American desert, died on 14 November in Palm Springs, CA at the age of 95. Famed for his Aluminaire house done in 1931 in New York, he moved to Palm Spring and created the Raymond Loewy house with John Potter Clark, his own homes, Frey 1 and Frey 2, and many others.

Henrietta Moraes, who modeled for the painters Francis Bacon and Lucien Freud during a life of Bohemian extreme that included a brief career as a cat burglar, died in London in January at the age of 67 in London.

Joseph Esherick, an architect who won acclaim for his buildings in San Francisco, especially the famed Cannery as a shopping complex, died in San Francisco at the age of 83. He was awarded the gold medal of the American Institute of Architects in 1989.

Aldo Van Eyck, one of the most important architectural thinkers of the postwar avant-garde in Europe, died at the age of 80 in the Netherlands. He designed the 1949 exhibition of the Cobra featuring works by Dutch, Belgian and Danish artists at Amsterdam's Stedelijk Museum in 1949. He founded the school of structural realism in the

Netherlands, centered around the School of Architecture at Delft.

Joan Brossa, a visual poet associated with many of the pillars of the Surrealist movement such as Joan Miró and Antoni Tàpies, with whom he founded a Surrealist magazine in 1948, died in January at the age of 79 in his beloved Barcelona. Mr. Brossa's poems were written in Catalan. One of his visual poems was a rifle barrel topped with a church candle snuffer and titled "Conscientious Objector." Most of his works are in Spanish museums.

Paul Schmidt, librettist, translator, poet, teacher, and actor who collaborated with many major avant-garde theater artists, such as Robert Wilson, Peter Sellars, Tom Waits, JoAnne Akalaitis and even Robert Mapplethorpe. Schmidt was 65 and died of AIDS.

Andreas Feininger, the pioneering photographer known both for his pictures for Life magazine and for his more personal images, died at the age of 92 in Manhattan. The son of Lyonel Feininger, the painter, Andreas was born in Paris, grew up in Germany and attended the Bauhaus in the 1920s where his father taught and where he discovered photography as an art form. After a short stay in Sweden, he immigrated to New York in 1939, where he found work as a freelance photographer, and then was invited to join Life magazine's staff in 1943.

Paul Mellon, philanthropist, died on 1 February at the age of 91. He has bequeathed \$75 million in cash and more than 100 of his favorite artworks to the National Gallery of Art, the largest gift in the Washington museum's history. Included are 2 by Van Gogh, 13 by Seurat, 3 by Manet and 10 by Pierre Bonnard, plus works by Monet, Homer, Cezanne, Renoir and others. Mellon, whose father industrialist Andrew Mellon, founded the National Gallery in 1941, had already given the museum more than 900 artworks.

College Art Association's awards were given out at their annual conference in Los Angeles. Among those cited were **Mira Schor**, artist, teacher and writer who edited the New York-based journal *M/E/A/N/I/N/G*, published from 1986 to 1996, received the Frank Jewett Mather Award for Art Criticism. **Nam June Paik**, a New York-based artist known for massive installations of television sets, won the Award for a Distinguished Body of Work, Los Angeles-based conceptualist **John Baldessari** received the Distinguished Artist Award for Lifetime Achievement, and Art historian **Samella Lewis**, also based in Los Angeles, was given a special award by the association's Committee on Women in

the Arts. **Clifton Olds**, cited as a spell-binding lecturer on an extraordinary range of subjects at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, ME, was presented with the association's Award for Distinguished Teaching of Art History.

Spencer Samuels, a leading art dealer for more than 50 years, died in January at the age of 85 in Santa Monica, California. Over the years, Samuels organized acquisitions for museums like the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Louvre and the Tate Gallery. He also arranged sales to collectors like J. Paul Getty and Norton Simon.

Catherine de Zegher, a curator, writer and editor who was the co-founder of the Kanaal Art Foundation in Kortrijk, Belgium and its director for 11 years, succeeds **Ann Philbin** as the director of the Drawing Center in SoHo. Philbin is the new director of the UCLA Hammer Museum of Art and Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

Nicholas Krushenick, 70, a noted painter of the 1960s and 70s whose poster-like works were referred to as abstract pop, died of liver cancer in Manhattan in February. His work was much like Warhol or Lichtenstein, but he stayed away from images of commercial art. His work was widely collected by museums through the U.S. and in Europe.

Frederick Sommer, 93, whose distinctive images of Surrealist collages, horizonless landscapes, blurry nudes and cameraless abstractions influenced generations of photographers, died on 23 January at his home in Prescott, Arizona. He said once that "Life is the most durable fiction that matter has yet to come up with, and art is the structure of matter as life's most durable fiction."

Erich Hartmann, 76, a photographer who documented 22 Nazi concentration camps and a number of Holocaust memorials throughout Europe, died in February in Manhattan. Hartmann recorded the camps from Auschwitz to Treblinka, taking 5 years to complete the task, which was published in book form in 1995 and titled "In the Camps."

Norman Bluhm, an Abstract Expressionist painter who was a prominent member of what became known as the "second generation" of that group of artists, died at the age of 78 in Vermont.

Gerald Dickler, a New York lawyer who represented artists, writers and broadcasters, including some of those blacklisted in the McCarthy era, died in February at the age of 86. At the time of his death, Dickler was chairman of the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, which he helped to establish in 1985 under the will of Lee Krasner, widow of Jackson Pollock and an Abstract Expressionist painter herself. The

foundation gives individual grants to "talented visual artists in need of funds" in the US and abroad.

John Scott Campbell, an eclectic and innovative educator, engineer, composer, inventor, writer, died in Pasadena at the age of 86. Besides being an engineering teacher, he organized an engineering orchestra at Pasadena City College that self-destructed after a single concert, and wrote a play featuring engineering students lunging at each other with slide rules. He taught for 10 years at Caltech, composing and directing campus performances of an opera titled "Spooks in the Basement" for two double basses and orchestra. He began as a youth in Seattle, writing and illustrating his fictional comedia "Korperwurst Stories" about an imagined university with a colorful faculty that included the Baron Von Wienerschnitzel (a self-parody) and professors Splopsizzle and Boopfuta. There are many more accomplishments of this engineer-inventor, great teacher, performance artist, composer and all-around Renaissance man.

Michael St. Clair, 86, director of the Babcock Galleries in Manhattan for 40 years and an influential dealer in American art, died on Fire Island, NY in February. He revived, through exhibitions and publications at his gallery, the reputations of several neglected American painters, including Alfred Maurer and E. Ambrose Webster, and the Impressionist Childe Hassam, but most importantly Marsden Hartley.

Michael Higgins, a pioneer designer of glass, died at the age of 90 in February. He is known for technologically daring glass objects with bold textures, saturated colors and patterns inspired by the 1950s and 1960s and the art of Miro, Calder and the Surrealists. He worked with his wife, Frances, in creating both mass-produced and studio-made glass works, prized by collectors.

Lee Falk, the comic strip author who created *Mandrake the Magician* and *The Phantom*, died in March at the age of 87. He was a pivotal figure in the history of comics, the one launched 64 and the other 62 years ago, the oldest comic strips written continuously by the original author. He was also a man of the theater and a Lifetime Director of The Players.

Harry Callahan, the cool master photographer who married the elegant precision of American modernists with the restless experimental spirit of European modernists, died in March at the age of 86.

Maud Morgan, eclectic artist, who exhibited alongside Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko, who mentored Frank

Stella by buying one of his first paintings when he was 18, died at the age of 96, a woman who was called Boston's modernist doyenne and left eight decades of wide-ranging works, from still lifes to abstractions and self-portraits in watercolor oils and the medium she favored in the 90s, collage. She was a New York Cabot who met Gandhi in India, knocked around Europe with James Joyce and Hemingway, among other things.

Bob Cato, a graphic designer famed for his memorable record-album covers of the 1960s including work of R. Crumb, Andy Warhol and Robert Rauschenberg, including his own, died at the age of 75 in March.

Sydney Lewis, a leading collector of contemporary art, Art Nouveau and Art Deco, and a major benefactor of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond, died in March at the age of 79. He was on the boards of the Whitney Museum, the Hirshhorn Museum, on the trustees' committee for architecture and design at MOMA, among other activities.

Patrick Heron, prominent in Great Britain since the 1940s as an abstract painter and a vigorous critic and advocate in the international art world, died at the age of 79 in March. He emphasized the investigation of color as the "only activity still open to a painter that was not in some way a retreat into the past." He was part of the St. Ives group of artists and received the Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1977 for his work.

Jeremy Strick, curator of 20th-century painting and sculpture at the Art Institute of Chicago, has been named the new director of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles effective 1 July, replacing Richard Koshalek, who is retiring.

Allan D'Arcangelo, 68, a painter known for pared-down images of highways and road signs that neatly split the difference between Pop Art and Minimalism, died in Manhattan of leukemia in December.

Erik Nitsche, an art director, graphic designer, photographer, illustrator and book packager known for his posters, advertisements, logos and book designs, died in November at the age of 90. Born in Switzerland, he worked in Switzerland, Germany and the United States, and he is known for his development of information design systems in books and corporate annual reports produced for the General Dynamics Company from 1955 to 1960. Type design, book designs, cover designs, he did it all. In 1980 he turned to

painting, but after a year, he went to Munich and designed exhibition catalogs, posters and stamps.

Frank Gehry has been awarded the American Institute of Architects' highest honor, the 1999 Gold Medal.

Honorio Murphy Donnelly, the daughter of Gerald and Sara Murphy, who dominated the modernist whirl in 1920s Europe, died in December at the age of 81. She lived in the midst of Picasso, Fitzgerald, Dos Passos, MacLeish, Robert Benchley, Dorothy Parker, Cole Porter, Monty Woolley, Stravinsky, Léger, and Hemingway.

Hughie Lee-Smith, a painter best known for his emblematic figurative scenes, died at the age of 83. He worked for the WPA, completed a mural while in the service of the Navy, taught at the Art Students League in Manhattan, was elected an associate member of the National Academy of Design in New York, the second black member to be named, after Henry Ossawa Tanner, becoming a full member in 1967. A retrospective (his first career one) occurred in 1988.

Lucienne Bloch, 90, artist and photographer who worked with Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo, died in Gualala, California in March. Daughter of composer Ernest Bloch, she was born in Switzerland and studied sculpture and painting in Paris. She worked with glass sculpture, woodcuts, terra cotta and portraits in ink, gesso and oil, and illustrated books. In the 1930s, she became a renowned photographer doing freelance for Life magazine. But she also learned the vanishing art of fresco from Rivera, married his chief plasterer, Stephen Pope Dimitroff, and befriended Kahlo. Her photos remain the only record of Rivera's controversial Rockefeller Center murals. To get the photos, Bloch hid a Leica camera in her blouse and duped a night guard into granting her access.

Lucien Aigner, a pioneer in candid news photography in the 1930s whose best-known photographs include a crumpled Albert Einstein in front of a blackboard or Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia at the train station in Geneva in 1935, or the pianist Paderewski, taken in New York in 1941 in profile sitting on a low chair reading a newspaper, died at the age of 97 in Waltham, Massachusetts. He was one of the first to exploit the ability of the small, 35mm camera.