

Antoni Tàpies *Creus*

17 March – 7 May 2022

Opening on Thursday 17 March

From 11am to 7pm

Salon

13 rue de Téhéran

75008 Paris



Vernis, creu i peu, 1984

Paint, varnish and pencil on paper

80 x 121 cm

The act of intersecting two lines is considered to be one of humanity's first written signs. The cross is a constant presence in the work of Antoni Tàpies (1923-2012). The artist was fascinated by invariables that permeate human history, art in its diverse places, the echoes that can be felt between a prehistoric cave marking, a Christian symbol, graffiti on a wall, even the letter T (the initial of Tàpies and Teresa, his wife), this Phoenician *tau* that was adopted by the Greeks and then the Latin languages. In Tàpies' work, where fragments of bodies and familiar objects abound, sometimes the cross is associated with a leg, a mouth, a head, becomes the structure of a wooden panel; it is the mark that obscures or underlines, joins or opposes, juxtaposes or additions.

This exhibition, through a selection of works spanning six decades (from 1960 to 2011), including papers, collages, paintings and sculpture, examines Tàpies' use of the cross, *creus* in Catalan.

Antoni Tàpies was born in 1923 in Barcelona and died in 2012. An exhibition, *Melancholia*, dedicated to his works from the early 90s, will open on 16 March at the Tàpies Foundation in Barcelona. A major museum retrospective is being prepared in Madrid to mark, in 2023-2024, the centenary of the artist's birth.

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Philippe Fouchard-Filippi

Tel: +33 1 53 28 87 53 / +33 6 60 21 11 94 / phff@fouchardfilippi.com

www.fouchardfilippi.com

presse@galerie-lelong.com



@galerielelongparis



@galerielelongparis