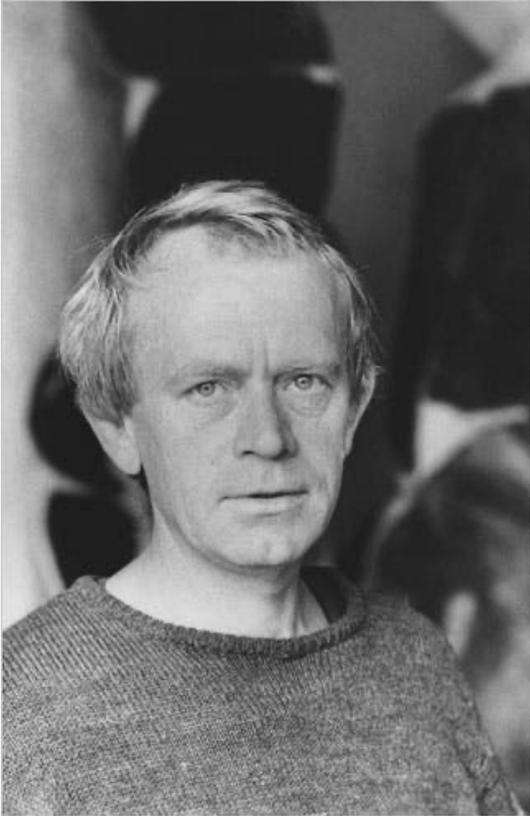


## Artist Resources – Simon Hantai (Hungarian-French, 1922-2008)



Hantai, ca. 1968  
Photograph: Edouard Boubat

[Hantai at Gagosian](#)

[Hantai at Kasmin](#)

[Hantai at the Guggenheim](#)

Hantai passed away in 2009 at the age of 85. Read the reclusive artist's obituary in the [New York Times](#).

In 2013, a major exhibition of Hantai's work was on display at the [Centre Pompidou](#) in Paris. Installed five years after the artist's death, the exhibition was the first to feature the artist's work in more than 35 years. Read a review of the exhibition in [Artforum](#) by Chris Sharp.

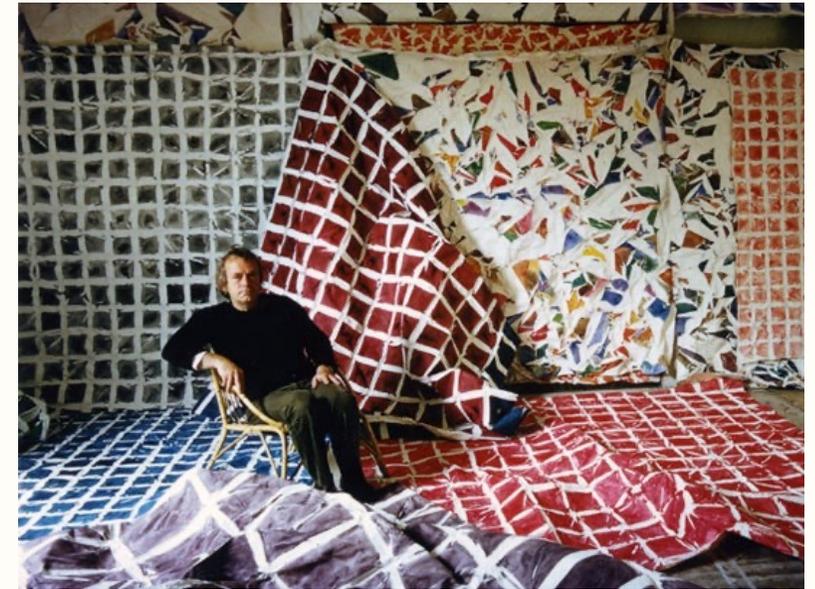
[Hantai](#) was on display at the Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Art in 2014 as the first major retrospective of the artist's work in Hungary.

Fondation Louis Vuitton launched [Simon Hantai: The Centenary Exhibition](#) in 2022. The unprecedented retrospective exhibition featured more than 130 works made between 1957 and 2000, many of which had never been shown, and celebrated the centenary of Hantai's birth. Read more about the artist's life and how he stopped engaging with the art world at the peak of his career in an [article](#) by Katya Kazakina in Artnews. [Juliet Art Magazine](#) published a review of the exhibition by Guillaume Oranger.

In 2019 and 2022, Gagosian Gallery launched twin exhibitions of Hantai's work curated by Anne Baldassari. [Simon Hantai: Les noirs du blanc, les blancs du noir](#) was on display first and featured in [Gagosian Quarterly](#). The second exhibition, [Simon Hantai: Les blancs de la couleur, la couleur du blanc](#), was also featured in an [article](#) by Baldassari three years later.

[Simon Hantai: Unfolding](#) was on view at Timothy Taylor in 2024, featuring works never before shown in the United States. Take a [virtual tour](#) of the exhibition with James Kalm on YouTube and read an article about the show published in the [Brooklyn Rail](#).

In 2024, [Simon Hantai: Azzurro](#) was on display at Gagosian Gallery in Rome. The exhibition focused on the significance of the color blue in the artist's practice.



Hantai in his Paris studio, 1976  
Photograph: Edouard Boubat



Simon Hantaï (Hungarian-French, 1922-2008)

**SANS TITRE**, 1983

Acrylic on canvas

Private Collection; L2024:13.1

French painter Simon Hantaï began his career in the Surrealist circles of the 1950s but turned away from the group when he wanted to combine Surrealist notions of automatism with Abstract Expressionism. In 1960, Hantaï began developing his “pilage” (folding) painting technique. The artist would fold, knot, and crumple canvas, paint bright color blocks, and unfold to reveal complex compositional patterns. **SANS TITRE** (NO TITLE) is a later example of this method that was never exhibited in the artist’s lifetime. Hantaï largely withdrew from the art world in 1982 after representing France at the Venice Biennale.

*On view May 1 – August 4, 2024*