

BIOGRAPHIES

Frederick Kiesler

- 1890 Born on September 22 in Chernivtsi (Ukraine, then part of Austria-Hungary).
- 1908–09 Studies architecture at the College of Building, part of the Imperial and Royal Polytechnic Institute, in Vienna.
- 1910–13 Studies painting and engraving at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna.
- 1914 Is drafted for military service following the outbreak of World War I.
- 1924 Serves as artistic director of the *International Exhibition of New Theater Technology* in conjunction with the *Music and Theater Festival of the City of Vienna*. Develops the *L- + T-System* and the *Raumbühne* (space stage).
- 1925 Designs the theater section of the Austrian contribution to the *Exposition internationale des arts décoratifs et industriels modernes* in Paris. Further develops the *L- + T-System* to create the *City in Space*.
- 1926 Moves to New York.
- 1929 Opening of the *Film Guild Cinema* with a changeable projection screen (*Screen-o-scope*), New York.
- 1935–36 Designs an apartment for the Mergentimes in New York, complete with furniture including the *Nesting Table*.
- 1937 Founds the Laboratory for Design Correlation at Columbia University, New York.
- 1942 Designs Peggy Guggenheim's gallery-museum *Art of This Century*, New York.
- 1947 Designs the *Salle de superstition* for the *Exposition internationale du surréalisme*, Paris. Creates his first autonomous, sculptural works of art, including *Totem for All Religions*.
- 1949 Publishes "Manifeste du Corréalisme."
- 1950 Presents the first model of an *Endless House* at the Kootz Gallery, New York.
- 1952 Presents the *Galaxy for Nelson Rockefeller* and the painted, nineteen-part *Galaxy* in the exhibition *15 Americans* at the Museum of Modern Art, New York.
- 1957 Founds the architectural firm Kiesler and Bartos Architects (dissolved in 1962).
- 1958 Receives the commission to construct the *Endless House* as a full-scale model in the garden of the Museum of Modern Art, New York (unbuilt).
- 1960 Presents the large model for an *Endless House* in the exhibition *Visionary Architecture* at the Museum of Modern Art, New York.
- 1961 Begins work on the group of *Landscape Sculptures*, including *The Marriage of Heaven and Earth* 1961–62/1964 and *The Saviour Has Risen*, 1964.
- 1962 Begins design of a *Grotto for Meditation* for the New Harmony Community, Indiana (unbuilt).
- 1963 Walter Pichler visits Kiesler.
- 1965 Opening of the *Shrine of the Book* in Jerusalem.
Frederick Kiesler dies on December 27 in New York.

Walter Pichler

- 1936 Born on October 1 in Deutschnofen / Nova Ponente, Italy.
- 1952–55 Attends the Bundesgewerbeschule in Innsbruck for training in decorative and lettering painting.
- 1955–59 Studies graphic design at what is now the University of Applied Arts Vienna.
- 1960 Creates his first sculptural works, including *Alte Figur* (1960–63).
- 1962 Meets Hans Hollein at the Galerie St. Stephan in Vienna. Both share an interest in antifunctionalist architectural concepts.
- 1963 The exhibition *Hans Hollein—Walter Pichler: Architektur; Work in Progress* is held at the Galerie St. Stephan. The Museum of Modern Art in New York acquires some of the drawings presented.
Stays from May to November in New York, where he meets Frederick Kiesler.
- 1965 Begins to collaborate as an editor and designer for the architectural journal *Bau: Schrift für Architektur und Städtebau*.
- 1966 Works as a member of the editorial board of the magazine *Bau* (until mid-1967).
The *Galaxy 1* armchair is commissioned by the company R. Svoboda & Co. Creates the first prototypes, including *Großer Raum (Prototyp 3)*.
- 1968 Participates in *documenta 4*, Kassel.
Presentation of the *Galaxy 1* at the first UN space conference *UNISPACE I*, Vienna.
- 1970 Creates the *Sitzgruben* in Breitenbrunn, Burgenland, and *Tragbarer Schrein*.
- 1971 First comprehensive solo exhibition at the Museum des 20. Jahrhunderts in Vienna. Partitioning of the ground floor with textile walls.
- 1972 Purchases a farm in St. Martin an der Raab, southern Burgenland. In the following decades, carries out numerous conversions and extensions for his own sculptures.
- 1977 Participates in *documenta 6*, Kassel.
- 1982 Austrian Pavilion at the *40th Venice Biennale*.
- 1990 The permanent work *Tor zum Garten* is created for MAK—Museum of Applied Arts, Vienna.
- 1993 Construction of the *Halle in Syros*, Greece.
- 1994 Start of the construction projects *Haus neben der Schmiede* (completed in 2002) and *Plattform über dem Bach* (completed posthumously in 2014) in Eggental / Val d'Ega, Alto Adige, Italy.
- 1996 Construction begins on the *Passage*, Aldrans near Innsbruck (completed in 2011).
- 1998 Exhibition *Pichler: Prototypen 1966–69*, Generali Foundation, Vienna.
- 2001 Exhibition *Walter Pichler: Drawings, Sculptures, Architecture*, Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York.
- 2011 Exhibition *Walter Pichler: Skulpturen Modelle Zeichnungen*, MAK—Museum of Applied Arts, Vienna.
- 2012 Walter Pichler dies in Vienna on July 16.

Sonia Leimer

Born 1977 in Merano, Italy. Lives and works in Vienna.

EDUCATION

- 1996–2000 Studied architecture at the TU Wien, Vienna
 2001–04 Studied architecture at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna

TEACHING

- 2012–16 Academy of Fine Arts Vienna
 2017–18 "Installation and Architecture," Department of Architecture and Art, ETH Zurich
 2019 Project collaboration with Alessandra Cianchetta, The Cooper Union—The Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture, New York

AWARDS (SELECTION)

- 2011 Art Cologne Award for New Positions, Cologne
 Paul-Flora-Preis, Bolzano, Italy
 2017 Quivid First Prize, Art in Public Space, Munich
 2018 Fourth edition of the Italian Council, Directorate-General for Contemporary Art and Architecture and Urban Peripheries, Rome

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2024 *Sonia Leimer*, The Cosmic House, Jencks Foundation, London
Space Dust, Heldenplatz, Vienna
 2023 *Platzhalter*, MuseumsQuartier Wien, Vienna
 2022 *Eroberung des Nutzlosen*, Neuer Kunstverein Wien, Vienna
 2021 *Via San Gennaro*, MAN_Museo d'Arte Provincia di Nuoro, Italy
 2020 *Space Junk*, Museion, Bolzano, Italy
 2017 *Autoterritorium*, Galerie im Taxispalais, Innsbruck
 2014 *Wow!*, Los Angeles Museum of Art, Los Angeles
 2012 *Along those lines*, Museion, Bolzano, Italy
 2011 *uns so weiter*, Kunstverein basis, Frankfurt on the Main
 2010 *Neither in Motion nor at Rest*, BAWAG Contemporary, Vienna
No Site to Fall in, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2024 *Genossin Sonne*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna
 2023 *Landscapes of Desire*, 4th Industrial Art Biennial, Labin, Raša, Pula, and Rijeka, Croatia
 2022 LIAF 2022, Lofoten International Art Festival, Svolvær, Norway
Faking the Real: The Art of Enticement, Kunsthaus Graz, Austria
 2021 *How will we live together?*, Venice Architecture Biennale, Venice
PLANET LOVE: Climate Care in the Digital Age, Vienna Biennale for Change 2021, MAK—Museum of Applied Arts, Vienna
 2020 *Artissima Unplugged*, GAM—Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin