



NITSCH

Solo exhibition by Herman Nitsch
January 20th - February 12th, 2022

Avenue Louise 430 in Brussels

MARUANI MERCIER

MARUANI MERCIER Gallery is pleased to present for the first time, a solo exhibition featuring the works of one of the key figures of Viennese Actionism: **HERMANN NITSCH**.

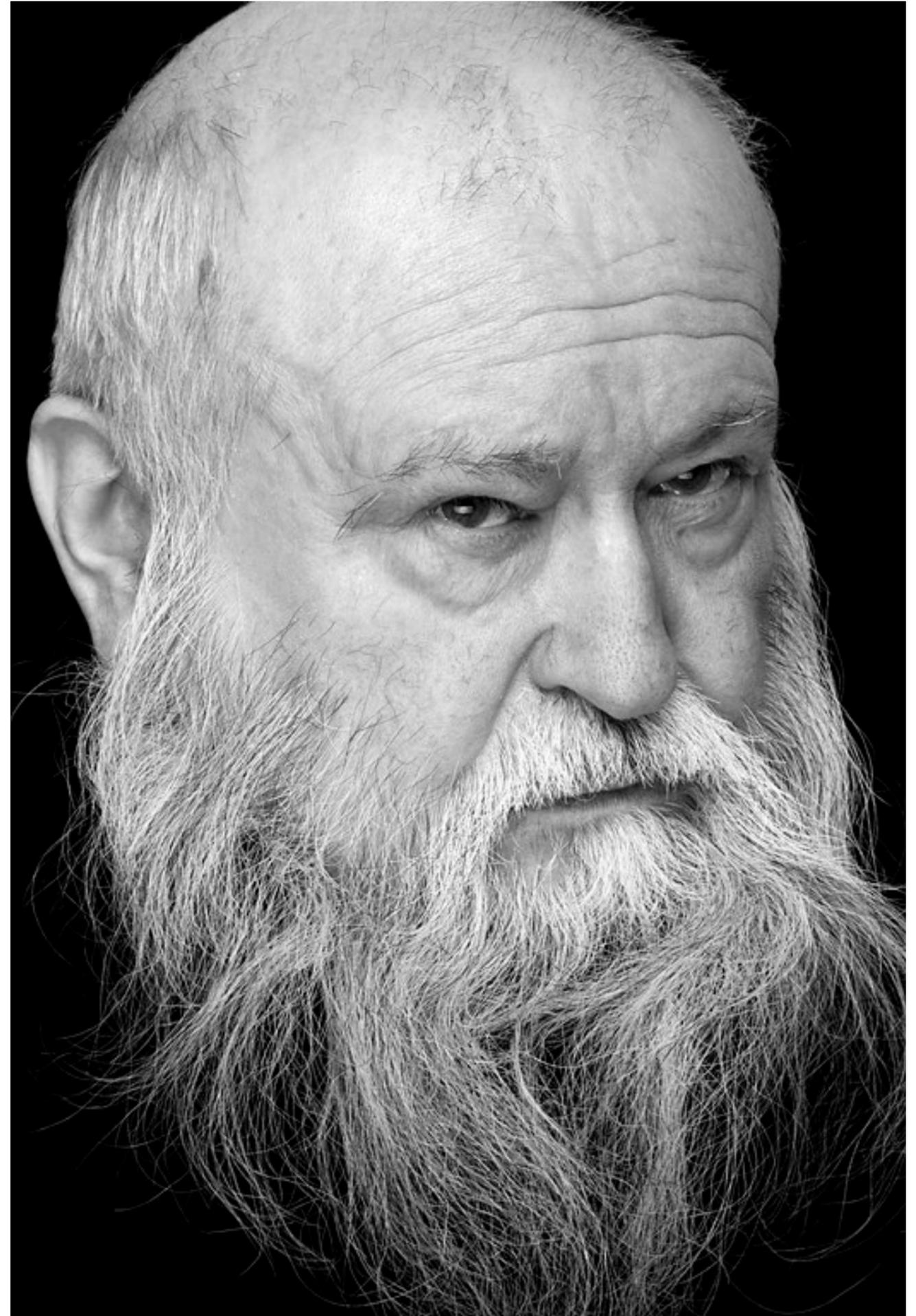
Created in the context of post-fascist Austria, Hermann Nitsch's provocative paintings, which developed through his famous ceremonial performances *Orgien Mysterien Theatre*, sit outside the canon of classical painting. Since the 1960's, Nitsch's artistic vocabulary revolves around the constant play of tension between life and death, embodied by the use of red pigment and animal blood.

His physical artistic process, which involves the use of unconventional tools, brushes and sponges, as well as his hands, feet, and whole-body movements, is suffused with a strong ritual charge. Based on rituals, sacrifices, bloods, beliefs, communions, Nitsch's paintings embody the intensity of his performances from which they originate and result. Questioning the myths of European culture, particularly those linked to the Catholic religion, his performances affirm a strong liturgical character where painting, music and theater are intimately connected, replaying in a symbolic way the mysteries of the origins.

The art of Hermann Nitsch and the Actionist must be understood as an emblematic moment of contemporary art, whose constant exploration for the possibilities of pictorial language and revolutionary dimension frees them from the traditional boundaries of art.

Hermann Nitsch is collected by major public institutions like the **Centre Georges Pompidou** in Paris, the **Guggenheim** New York, the **Museum of Contemporary Art Denver**, the **Metropolitan Museum of Art**, the **MoMA** and the **Tate Modern** in London.

Born in 1938, Hermann Nitsch lives and works in Vienna, Austria.





Hermann Nitsch
K_Nils_21, 2021
acrylic on canvas
100 x 80 cm | 39 37/100 x 31 1/2 in



Hermann Nitsch
19_14, 2014
acrylic on canvas
200 x 300 cm | 78 3/4 x 118 1/8 in



Hermann Nitsch
HF Ina 21, 2021
acrylic on canvas
200 x 150 cm | 78 37/50 x 59 3/50 in

NITSCH

Hermann Nitsch
20 January - 12 February 2022

Avenue Louise 430 in Brussels

To download **HR images** and their copyright, please contact Margaux De Pauw
margaux@maruanimercier.com

For **public information** call +32 2 512 50 10, or visit maruanimercier.com