

## Biography of Markus Raetz

- 1941 Markus Raetz is born on 6 June in Bern (not in Büren an der Aare, as is often written), the youngest of three children. Both parents are teachers.
- 1957–1961 He attends the colleges of education of Hofwil and Bern. During school vacations he works in the studio of Peter Travaglini, an artist from the Ticino region living in Büren. First artistic works (paintings, sculptures and prints).
- 1960–1961 Influences from tachist experiences and action painting: he experiments with abstract painting. Six months internship at a school for children with behavioral problems.
- 1961–1963 He teaches at Brügg (Bienne). In 1963 he receives the Swiss Federal Scholarship for Fine Arts and installs himself as a painter in Bern, Neuengasse 24.
- 1964 He receives the Louise Aeschlimann und Margareta Corti and Kiefer-Hablitzel Scholarship.
- 1965 Swiss Federal Scholarship for Fine Arts.
- 1966 He receives the Louise Aeschlimann and Margareta Corti scholarship.
- 1967 Beginning of a long series of annual stays at Ramatuelle (Var, France). First photographs with Balthasar Burkhard and first colour screenprints. Geometric-decorative experiments. He receives the prize of the Jeune gravure suisse of the City of Geneva.
- 1968–1969 Conceptual experiments.
- 1969–1973 He lives in Amsterdam, Koggestraat 11.
- 1970 Raetz marries Monika Müller. He attends the Rietveld-Akademie in Amsterdam and receives the Dutch scholarship from the Swiss Confederation. He perfects his etching technique and draws a great deal.
- 1971 Longer stays in Spain (Carboneras) and Morocco (Essaouira). He receives the prize of the Jeune gravure suisse of the City of Geneva.
- 1972 His daughter Aimée is born.
- 1973–1976 Raetz lives in Carona (Ticino). He focuses his work activity on "Die Bücher", a kind of journal, as well as stone objects and sculptures.
- 1975–1976 Longer stays in Italy, Tunisia and Egypt.
- 1976 He establishes himself in Bern.
- 1977 First collaboration with the Zurich printmaker Peter Kneubühler (1944 –1999). His Neuengasse studio is destroyed by fire.
- 1978 Studio in Sandrainstrasse 3. Award by the Foundation for Graphic Art in Switzerland.
- 1979 Guest at the Stedelijk Museum. He works in the Prinseneiland Studio, Amsterdam.
- 1981–1982 Guest of the Berliner Künstlerprogramm (Berlin artists program, DAAD)

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- 1988 His works are selected for the Swiss Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. He wins a prize at the Triennale für Originalgraphik (Triennale of Original Graphic Prints), Grenchen.
- 1990 New studio in Bern.
- 1991 He creates prints in Peter Kneubühler's studio and at Crown Point Press (San Francisco). BCG Prize (Banque hypothécaire du Canton de Genève).
- 1992 Knight of the Ordre des arts et des lettres of the French Republic.
- 2001 Nachdem 1999 der Tod von Peter Kneubühler eine Pause in seinem After the death of Peter Kneubühler in 1999 had caused a break in his artistic work on graphic prints, he now starts working with Michèle Dillier at the studio of the Association jurassienne d'animation culturelle (AJAC) in Moutier. Another stay in San Francisco and further collaboration with Crown Point Press.
- 2004 He receives the Gerhard-Altenbourg-Prize, awarded by the Lindenau-Museum in Altenburg (Thuringia, Germany).
- 2007 Member of the Academy of the Arts, Berlin. He receives the Medal of the Bürgergemeinde Bern and the Prix Meret Oppenheim