

Georges Bloch 1901-1984

Born July 24, 1901, in Zurich; died May 15, 1984, Zurich; home district Radelfingen.

Father: Adolf, cloth merchant.

Mother: Reine, né Levy.

Married Jenny Margot in 1930.

After studying business Bloch worked in his father's company, eventually taking it over. On business trips to England and France he met art collectors and gallery owners.

He purchased numerous prints by Picasso after becoming acquainted with the artist. Over time he collected and compiled an inventory of Picasso's print oeuvre, publishing a four-volume catalogue on the same between 1968 and 1979.

In 1971 he set up the Foundation for Fine Art Printmaking in Switzerland with the goal of promoting young artists.

From 1972 he donated hundreds of prints to the Gottfried Keller Stiftung and the ETH Zurich's print collection.

With the profits he made from the sale of his remaining collection he created the Georges and Jenny Bloch Foundation. Bloch also founded several organizations for assisting refugees. In 1981 he was awarded a Dr. h. c. at Zurich University.

(Pierre Chessex / Andrea Weibel in: Historisches Lexikon der Schweiz)

Additional literature

F. Vismara, «Georges B. collezionista», in *Die Kunst zu sammeln*, 1998, 211-218, (with a bibliography.)