

## Alvar Sunol

Alvar Sunol Munoz-Ramos was born on January 29, 1935, in Montfat, a Catalan fishing village on the Mediterranean coast. He attended the Escuela Superior de Bella Artes de Alhambra de Granada, a summer scholarship study trip to Granada. He returned home and entered a painting in a competition for the Young Painters Prize sponsored by the City of Barcelona. He won the Grand Prize. The painting is now in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art, Barcelona, Spain.

In 1957, at the age of 22, Alvar gave his first One Man Show at the Galleries Layetana, Barcelona. Because of the success of this exhibit, Alvar received many invitations for shows in other Spanish cities. During his military service he entered one of his canvases for the annual painting competition at the Institut Francais, Barcelona. He won the Grand Prize, a spring time trip to Paris.

Alvar arrived in Paris to paint in 1959. He met Juan Fuentes, a fellow Spaniard and director of the prestigious Parisian Galerie Drouant. Fuentes encourages Alvar in his painting and brought Alvar's first group of Paris oil paintings to the gallery. Fuentes' gallery sold the paintings in one week.

Alvar returned to Barcelona in 1960 to marry his childhood sweetheart, Rosella Berenguer. They returned to Paris and lived there for ten years. Alvar's paintings were exhibited in the United States for the first time at the Monede Gallery, New York in 1962. Alvar produced his first original lithographs for a one man show at Galerie Drouant in 1963.

Since that time Alvar has exhibited regularly throughout Europe, the United States and Canada. Alvar's graphic art received public praise at an exhibition given by the Musee Hyacinthe Rigand in Perpignan, France in 1978.

The Utah Museum of Fine Art, Salt Lake City, Utah and The Wichita Art Museum, Wichita, Kansas, held major exhibitions of his lithographs, paintings and sculptures in 1982 and 1983. Kansas, held major exhibitions of his lithographs, paintings and sculptures in 1982 and 1983.

The Galerie Takashumaya, Tokyo, was his first exposure in Japan in a group showing with Picasso and Chigall. The Kumanoto Museum and Fukuola Museum purchased his lithographs for permanent display.

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