

WADDINGTON CUSTOT

PIERRE SOULAGES

BIOGRAPHY

1919	Born 24 December, Rodez, France
1938-9	Moved to Paris to train as a drawing teacher and briefly attended the Ecole nationale superieure des beaux-arts, Paris
1940	Drafted into the military
1941	Demobilised from the war
1941-2	Enrolled at the Ecole des beaux-arts in Montpellier and meets Colette Llaurens, his future wife
1942	Met Sonia Delaunay during Occupation and became interested in abstract art Married Colette Llaurens
1946	Settled in Courbevoie, near Paris and finally devoted his time fully to painting
1947	Hired a space to hang his work at the <i>Salon des surindependents</i> , it is the first time his paintings are exhibited publicly for the first time, and attract a great amount of interest
1948	Relocated to Montparnasse and received the visit of James Johnson Sweeney in his studio, future Director of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York
1949	First solo exhibition, Galerie Lydia Conti, Paris Musee de Grenoble made acquisition of his work Designed the costumes and sets for Roger Vailland's ballet <i>Heloise et Abelard</i> . Work included in the group show <i>Painted in 1949</i> , at Betty Parsons Gallery
1951	Work presented in The Philips Collection, Washington, DC
1952-4	Work acquired by the Museum of Modern Art, and the Guggenheim Museum, New York
1954	First American one-man show, Kootz Gallery, New York
1955	Exhibition at Gimpel Fils Gallery, London
1954-8	Exhibited with Samuel Kootz, signed a contract
1957	First trip to the US, where he meets artists including Mark Rothko, Willem de Kooning and Robert Motherwell
1958	Built a house and a studio, to his own design, in Sete, France
1960	First retrospective exhibition, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
1964	Won the Carnegie Prize, from the Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh

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- 1966 Retrospective at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Received the design for a glass mosaic window at the Suermondt-Ludwig-Museum, Aachen
- 1967 Retrospective at the Musee national d'art modern, Paris
- 1968 Retrospective at the Musee d'art contemporain de Montreal
Retrospective at Musee du Quebec
Received a ceramic mural for the Oliver Tyrone Corporation skyscraper in Pittsburgh
- 1975 Created the first of three bronze reliefs, based on his earlier etchings
- 1976 Received the Rembrandt Award, Amsterdam
- 1979 Is named Foreign Honorary Member for Art, by the American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York
Exhibition of the first single-pigment (later called 'outrenoir' or 'beyond black) paintings at the Musee national d'art moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris
- 1986 Won the Grand Prix National for Painting, Paris
- 1987 French state gives a major commission for the design of 104 windows for the Romanesque abbey at Conques, France
- 1993 Retrospective exhibition at the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul
- 1994 Retrospective exhibition at the China Fine Arts Palace, Beijing
Retrospective exhibition at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum
- 2001 Exhibition at the Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg
Exhibition at the Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow
- 2009 Major retrospective exhibition at the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris
- 2014 Musee Soulages opens in Rodez, France
- 2015 Received the Legion of Honour
- 2019 Retrospective exhibition, *Pierre Soulages au Louvre*, in Paris, celebrated the artist's 100th birthday
- 2022 Died 26 October 2022

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SOLO EXHIBITIONS

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