

CHARLES RIVA COLLECTION

Frank Stella

April 19th 2017
February 17th 2018

Exhibition

Wed — Fri, 11 am — 6 pm

Sat, 2 pm — 6 pm

Rue de la Concorde, 21

1050 Brussels

+32 2 503 04 98

info@charlesrivacollection.com

www.charlesrivacollection.com

CHARLES RIVA COLLECTION

EXHIBITION FILE

Press release

Reproductions of exhibited artworks

List of Works

Acknowledgments

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Charles Riva Collection

Press release, « Cowboy »

Press review

PRESS RELEASE

FRANK STELLA

Charles Riva Collection, Rue de la Concorde 21, 1050 Brussels

From 19 April 2017 to 17 February 2018

For the first time, the Charles Riva collection presents an exhibition dedicated to the American artist Frank Stella. After several retrospectives devoted to him, the art of Frank Stella is coming to the collection with his monumental works. The artist's process is revealed through his "Polish Village" series.

The exhibition brings together works from his famous "Polish Village" series which evoke, through pointed titles, the artist's interest in topics linked to the Holocaust and the Jewish people, using an abstract vocabulary.

The sculptural qualities and colours of Frank Stella's pieces are brought to light in a minimalist hanging which makes space for his large-scale pieces.

The influence of the geometry of drawing, and interwoven decorative details from the façades of synagogues emerge as a backdrop to the artist's work. The pieces from this series evoke the loss of the Jewish way of life in Europe. Beyond these seemingly vivid, joyful works, a darker story can be made out. The sense of discomfort arising from the contrast between ostentatious materials and the stories behind the pieces only lends an additional appeal to the work of Frank Stella.

The pieces from the "Polish Village" series make as many references to painting as they do to sculpture, through the execution of these powerful visual compositions, full of materials. Frank Stella mixes a number of techniques – silkscreen printing, gouache, acrylic and blocks of colour to create abstract forms. The surface becomes a playground for the artist who employs great ingenuity in highlighting hollows, full and empty spaces, and laying bare his intentions on a canvas which he creates himself.

The work of Frank Stella is steeped in his own artistic background, but also makes reference to his contact with the New York avant-garde. His works contain traces of the pop, abstract, and expressionist movements.

The exhibition presents an invitation to discover the work of this giant of American art and to look past the frame to discover a story.

« Imaginary Places » by Frank Cantor

Frank Cantor, director specialized in documentaries on art and creative process is the author of numbers portraits of artists.

"Imaginary Places" proposes to follow the work of Frank Stella in his studio to close the matter. The documentary is offered at the end of the exhibition path to discover the universe of the artist and his singular approach towards constructions, forms, and colors.

The documentary has been lent for the occasion by the National Gallery of Australia and with the assistance of Frank Cantor.



Frank Stella
Lunna Wola II, 1973
Mixed media collage
246 x 217,8 x 12,7 cm

© Charles Riva Collection and Frank Stella / Hugard and Vanoverschelde



Frank Stella

Rozdol I, 1973

Mixed media low relief collage (felt, colored canvas, paint on Kachina Board)
289,6 x 238,8 x 12,7 cm

© Charles Riva Collection and Frank Stella / Hugard and Vanoverschelde



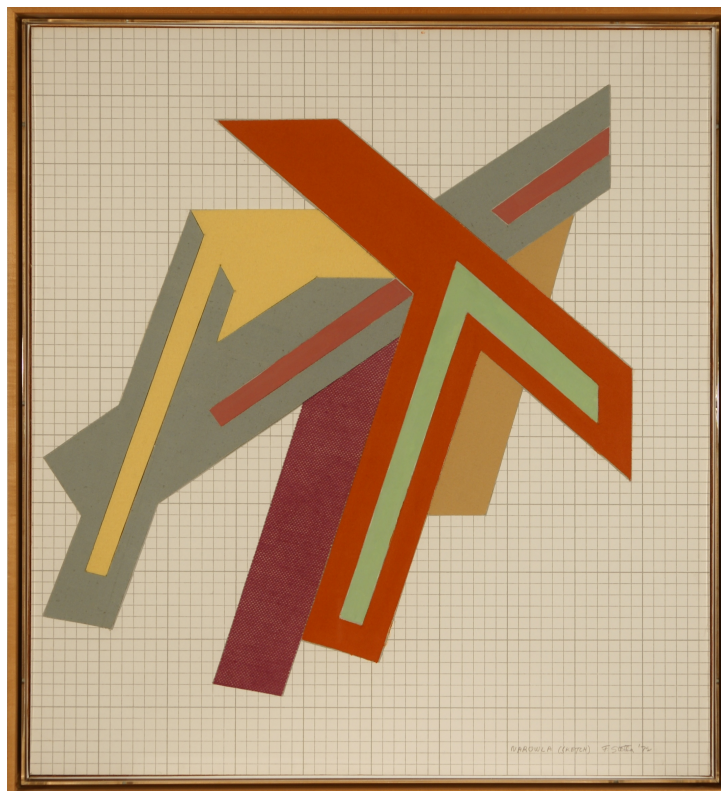
Frank Stella

Felsztyn IV, 1971

Felt and acrylic on canvas mounted on cardboard on wood

269,2 x 241,3 cm

© Charles Riva Collection and Frank Stella / Hugard and Vanoverschelde



Frank Stella

Narowla, 1972

Acrylic, felt and fabric collage on board mounted on paper

88,5 x 81 cm

Courtesy: Collection STEPHANE SIMOENS

© Stephane Simoens contemporary fine art, Knokke



Stella Frank

Lettre sur les sourds et muets II

Synthetic polymer paint on canvas

358 x 358 cm

141 x 141 in.

Private collection

Courtesy of Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York and Aspen and Levy Gorvy Gallery,
New York and London

Christopher Burke Studio. © 2017 Frank Stella / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

LIST OF WORKS

Frank Stella

Lunna Wola II, 1973

Mixed media collage

246 x 217,8 x 12,7 cm

Charles Riva Collection

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Synthetic polymer paint on canvas

358 x 358 cm

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Courtesy of Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York and Aspen and Levy Gorvy Gallery, New York and London.

Frank Stella : Imaginary Places

Produced by Cantomedia 1997

Courtesy of The National Gallery of Australia, Kenneth Tyler Collection

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Charles Riva Collection would like to thank the team of the collection, Georgia Luzi, Sophie Couret Donders, the registrars and Fine Art Transport.

The collection thanks the lenders:

Marianne Boesky Gallery : Marianne Boesky, Ricky Manne, Victoria Faller, Grace Chen
Collection Stephane Simoens

Frank Stella
19 April 2017 - 17 February 2018

Opening hours:
Wednesday to Friday, 11am to 6pm
Saturday, 2pm to 6pm

Contact:
Sophie Couret Donders
Head of collection and curator
sophie@charlesrivacollection.com
+32 (0) 2 503 04 98

PRESS LAUNCH
Tuesday 18 April 2018
11am to 1pm

PUBLIC VIEWING
Tuesday 18 April 2017
6pm to 9pm

APPENDIX

THE COLLECTION

The Charles Riva collection is a private collection of contemporary American art with artists such as Paul McCarthy, Jonathan Meese, Mike Kelley, Josh Smith, Cheyney Thompson, Robert Mapplethorpe and Jim Lambie, whose works were presented during the inauguration of the exhibition spaces in April 2009. The collection presents other internationally renowned artists such as Steven Shearer, Sterling Ruby, Christopher Wool, Frank Stella and Ugo Rondinone. The appetite for American art is attributable to the experience of the collector whose starting point was New York. The collection is intended as a bridge between the United States and Europe to promote artistic exchange and exploration in a privileged setting.

Situated in the heart of Brussels in a townhouse dating back to the 19th century, the collection presents to the public, in monographic or thematic exhibitions, a selection of big names from the contemporary art world. The four rooms of the collection offer more than 100 m² of artists' exhibitions and works rarely represented in Europe, in a private and unique setting. The collection offers tours of these spaces to provide a better understanding of the works presented, but also to discover the private initiative of the collector by sharing major contemporary works with as many people as possible. The private and confidential character of the collection plays a role in this artistic discovery, offering a different experience and approach to art. The visit is therefore unique given the exclusive nature of the environment. This privileged status extends to other integrated spaces in the collection, the collector's apartment and a new space dedicated to contemporary sculpture.

In his upstairs apartment in the townhouse, the collector presents a selection of works that complement the exhibition presented in the spaces of the collection or offers a new selection of a particular artist. This space is only accessible by appointment.

The collection recently inaugurated a new space, entirely renovated for the occasion and dedicated to contemporary sculpture, called the Riva Project. This space is situated in the heart of Châtelain and provides an immersion into contemporary sculpture over a 100 m² area of theme-based exhibitions. The highly contemporary space aims to broaden and deepen the intent of exhibition projects in the Charles Riva Collection.

EXHIBITIONS

The collection presented a number of exhibitions, which were mainly monographs such as: **Jim Lambie** "Selected Works 1999-2006" (29 April to 12 September 2009) for the inauguration of the collection, **Paul McCarthy** "Selected Works" (28 April to 2 October 2011) and **Sterling Ruby** "Selected Works" (18 April to 19 October 2013), more recently **Robert Mapplethorpe** (10 September to 28 February 2015) and **Steven Shearer** "Selected Works" (23 April 2015 to 29 February 2016); but also theme-based exhibitions like California (2 November to 30 March 2013) presenting artists such as **Sam Durant, Mike Kelly, Raymond Pettibon, Ed Ruscha, Jim Shaw** or Made in New York (24 April to 19 July 2014) bringing together artists like **Price Seth, Josh Smith, Cheyney Thompson, Black Rayne, John Miller and Christopher Wool**.

The collection includes a large number of artists such as **Tom Wesselmann, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Thomas Houseago, Ugo Rondinone, Mike Kelley and Francesco Vezzoli**, whose works are presented in the spaces of the collection or in the collector's apartment.

The new space - Riva Project - presented a first selection of sculptures from the collection and includes: **Louise Bourgeois, Sterling Ruby, Urs Fischer, Danh Vo and Sherrie Levine**.

It currently offers "**Human Figure**", an exhibition around the representation of human figure in a dialogue between contemporary art and Oceanic art. Artists such as **David Altmejd, George Condo, Thomas Houseago, Mark Manders and Paul McCarthy** find themselves in the presence of statues from **Solomon Islands**. The press release is attached to the presentation.

A description of the exhibitions as well as installation views and reproductions of the works are available on the website: www.charlesrivacollection.com

The two spaces of the collection are open to the public and by appointment.

Charles Riva Collection –

rue de la Concorde 21, 1050 Brussels

Wednesday to Friday 11 am to 6 pm | Saturday 2 pm to 6 pm

Riva Project –

rue de Tenbosch 124, 1050 Brussels

Thursday and Friday 11 am to 6 pm | Saturday 2 pm to 6 pm

CHARLES RIVA COLLECTION



© Charles Riva Collection / Hugard and Vanoverschelde



© Charles Riva Collection / Hugard and Vanoverschelde

RIVA PROJECT



© Charles Riva Collection / Hugard and Vanoverschelde



© Charles Riva Collection / Hugard and Vanoverschelde

PRESS RELEASE COWBOY

Riva Project - Rue de Tenbosch 124, 1050 Brussels

Edward S.Curtis, Cécile Defforey, Toiletpaper (Maurizio Cattelan & Pierpaolo Ferrari), Malcolm Morley, Richard Prince, Hannes Schmid, Andres Serrano

20 April 2017 to 8 July 2017

Riva Project presents an exhibition which brings together a selection of works inspired by the iconic figure of the Cowboy in contemporary art. The exhibition is rooted in a dialogue between works and artists, which explores references to the genre of the western movie.

Art historian Pierre-Yves Desaive has been working alongside the collection to curate the exhibition.

The exhibition presents a critical engagement with the figure of the cowboy, taking the work of Cécile Defforey as a starting point. The cowboy is a recurring element in her work. Appearing in free-form compositions which suggests a reinterpretation of the figure and bears witness to the persistence of the myth of the "Wild West" in contemporary art.

The show stages a dialogue between contemporary works around this figure, which evokes countless legends as well as the wide open spaces of the American West. The cowboy presents an imaginative appeal drawing on ideas of freedom, power, mobility and a desire for justice. The character emerges very early in literature as a defender of widows and orphans.

This dimension finds a dynamic expression in paintings and photographs which stage the qualities of the cowboy, but also gives space to the surroundings through which he travels: untouched landscapes.

The works of Edward S.Curtis which reveal various facets of native American tribes or the spectacular photographs of Andres Serrano find points of resonance with the contemporary cowboy of Hannes Schmid. The protagonists meet in a setting playfully evoked in a collaboration between Maurizio Cattelan and Toiletpaper group: a green cactus and two eggs. Malcolm Morley reveals the world of the Western and the tensions driving the "cowboys and Indians" narrative in his piece. The work stands in sharp contrast to Cécile Defforey's serene figure of the cowboy.

The western retains a topical relevance and has found new life in the world of contemporary art, as the exhibition reveals in a selection bearing witness to a myth which runs deep in contemporary culture.

12. Frank Stella at Charles Riva Collection

From 18 April to 17 February 2018



[Charles Riva Collection](#), an exhibition spaces run by contemporary art collector Charles Riva, dedicates a [solo exhibition to iconic American artist Frank Stella](#), a majorly influential figure when it comes to minimalism and abstract expressionism. Characteristic for his art is his famous statement "What you see is what you see", which could be considered the motto of minimalist art in general. The show features pieces from Stella's "Polish Village" series as well as an insightful documentary about his artistic universe and working process.



FRANK STELLA AT CHARLES RIVA COLLECTION

■ // April 19 - February 17, 2018
open Wednesday to Friday, 11 am to 6 pm;
Saturday, 2 pm to 6 pm
@ Rue de la Concorde 21, 1050 Ixelles
free entrance

The sculptural qualities and colours of Frank Stella's pieces are brought to light in a minimalist way which creates space for his large-scale pieces. The exhibition brings together works from the American artist's "Polish Village" series and use an abstract vocabulary to evoke the artist's reflection on the Holocaust.

The influence of the drawings are interwoven with decorative design details of synagogues. The pieces from this series evoke the loss of the Jewish way of life in Europe. Beyond these seemingly vivid and

joyful works, a darker narrative can be unveiled. The sense of discomfort arising from the tension originating in the contrast between abstract aesthetics and the stories behind the pieces.

The works from the "Polish Village" series make as many references to painting as they do to sculpture, through the execution of visual compositions. Frank Stella mixes a number of techniques - silkscreen printing, gouache, acrylic and blocks of colour to create abstract forms.

The work of the artist is steeped in his personal history of the contact with the New York avant-garde scene. His works contain traces of the pop, abstract, and expressionist movements. The exhibition presents an invitation to look with care and attention at the familiar frames to discover the poeticised critical stories behind them.

Exhibition at Charles Riva Collection brings together works from Frank Stella's famous "Polish Village" series



Installation view exhibition Frank Stella. Charles Riva Collection. © Huoard and Vanoverschelde.

BRUSSELS.- For the first time, the [Charles Riva collection](#) presents an exhibition dedicated to the American artist Frank Stella. After several retrospectives devoted to him, the art of Frank Stella comes to the collection with his monumental works. The artist's process is revealed through his "Polish Village" series.

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www.artdaily.com

<http://artdaily.com/news/95455/Exhibition-at-Charles-Riva-Collection-brings-together-works-from-Frank-Stella-s-famous--Polish-Village--series-#.WQBpHOMKhz8>



FRANK STELLA'S MONUMENTAL "POLISH VILLAGE" SERIES PRESENTED BY THE CHARLES RIVA COLLECTION

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Now on view until February 2018 in Brussels is a retrospective of **Frank Stella's** lesser-known works. Presented by the **Charles Riva Collection**, the exhibition is dedicated to his "Polish Village" series, which deals with themes around the Holocaust and the Jewish community.

The exhibition begins with large-scale work in a minimalistic setting, showcasing Stella's particular sculptural vocabulary and use of color. The usual geometric-infused works are interwoven with facades of synagogues; representational of the loss of the Jewish way of life in Europe. The experimentation in this series—which uses an array of techniques like screen printing, gouache, acrylic, and blocks of color—contrasts the darker references found within.

This exhibition brings forth a body of monumental work that is representational of Stella's historic artistic practice, but presents a story of the artist's that may have been overlooked by many.

ELIZA JORDAN | April 24, 2017

<http://www.whitewall.art/art/frank-stellas-monumental-polish-village-series-presented-by-the-charles-riva-collection>