



SICARDI GALLERY

Antonio Asis

Antonio Asis began studying art at the Escuela Nacional de Bellas Artes when he was 14. Subsequently, at the Escuela de Bellas Artes Prilidiano Pueyrredón, he studied composition with Héctor Cartier, who encouraged the young artist to explore the many diverse applications of the principles of design and composition. The class was influential for Asis, as were the after-class conversations with his classmates, which continued at the Bar Splendid, a local café at the intersection of Ayacucho and la Avenida Las Heras in Buenos Aires. Throughout the 1940s, Asis explored abstraction and non-representational art; with the publication of *Arturo* magazine in 1944, and the creation of the Asociación Arte Concreto-Invención, Buenos Aires was an important site for the development of post-war abstraction.

In the spring of 1956, Asis moved to Paris, like many of his colleagues and friends, where he quickly became part of an international circuit of kinetic artists; among others, he befriended Yaacob Agam, Nicolas Schöffer, Jesús-Rafael Soto, Jean Tinguely, and Victor Vasarely. Surrounded by this dynamic *milieu*, he began a series of work in which he considered how the phenomena of light could be mediated through photography. Shortly afterward, he began to study vibrations between colors and the many possibilities within monochromatic compositions. Like many of his *rioplatense* colleagues, Asis was deeply influenced by the ideas of Max Bill and Georges Vantongerloo, important artists and theorists of European abstraction. In 1971, Asis co-founded an artist group, Position, which included Carlos Agüero, Armando Durante, Hugo Demarco, and Horacio García Rossi, all Argentine artists living in Paris, and all interested in movement and the vibrations of light. Antonio Asis lives in Paris, France.

Antonio Asis' works are represented in several major collections including Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation (CIFO), Miami, FL, USA; Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France; Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Latinoamericano (MACLA), La Plata, Argentina; Museo de Arte Moderno Jesús Soto, Ciudad Bolívar, Venezuela; Museo de la Solidaridad Salvador Allende (MSSA), Santiago, Chile; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain; Museo Nacional de Nicaragua, Managua, Nicaragua; Museo Nacional Tres de Febrero (MUNTREF), Buenos Aires, Argentina and The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Houston, TX, USA.