

Alfredo Jaar (Chile, b.1956)

Alfredo Jaar (b. 1956, Santiago, Chile) is an artist, architect and filmmaker who lives and works in New York. He is renowned for his incisive political work which highlights global injustice and engages critically with how the media shapes public perception of political crises. Jaar has explored significant political issues and humanitarian emergencies throughout his career, including the Rwandan genocide, the displacement of refugees across borders, and military dictatorships in Latin America. He attributes fundamental importance to the role of culture in these instances, creating art that is direct and explicitly critical, and has realised more than seventy public interventions across the globe.

Jaar's work has been shown extensively around the world; he participated in the Biennales of Venice (1986, 2007, 2009, 2013), Sao Paulo (1987, 1989, 2010, 2021) as well as Documenta in Kassel (1987, 2002). Important individual exhibitions include the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (1992); Whitechapel, London (1992); Moderna Museet, Stockholm (1994); The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (1995) and The Museum of Contemporary Art, Rome (2005). Major recent surveys of his work have taken place at Musée des Beaux Arts, Lausanne (2007); Hangar Bicocca, Milan (2008); Alte Nationalgalerie, Berlinische Galerie and Neue Gesellschaft für bildende Kunst, Berlin (2012); Rencontres d'Arles (2013); KIASMA, Helsinki (2014); Yorkshire Sculpture Park, UK (2017) and SESC Pompeia, Sao Paulo (2021).

Over sixty monographic publications have been published about his work. He became a Guggenheim Fellow in 1985 and a MacArthur Fellow in 2000. He received the Hiroshima Art Prize in 2018 and the Hasselblad Award in 2020.

His work can be found in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art and Guggenheim Museum, New York; Art Institute of Chicago and Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; MOCA and LACMA, Los Angeles; MASP, Museu de Arte de São Paulo; TATE, London; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Nationalgalerie, Berlin; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Centro Reina Sofia, Madrid; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; MAXXI and MACRO, Rome; Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlaebeck; Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art and Tokushima Modern Art Museum, Japan; M+, Hong Kong.

This document was updated on April 12, 2023. For reference only and not for purposes of publication. For more information, please contact the gallery

Alfredo Jaar

Born 1956 in Santiago, Chile

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 Alfredo Jaar: One Million German Passports. Rotunda Project 2023, Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, Germany
- 2023 11th Hiroshima Art Prize Award Ceremony and Commemorative Exhibition, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Japan
- 2022 Alfredo Jaar: The Temptation to Exist, Galerie Lelong & Co., New York
- 2021 Alfredo Jaar: You do not take a photograph, you make it, Maison Européenne de la Photographie Exhibition, Gothenburg, Sweden
- 2021 Whispers and Cries, Hasselblad Foundation, Gothenburg, Sweden
- 2021 Alfredo Jaar, SESC Pompeia, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2021 The Structure of Images, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA
- 2021 Red Vienna, Museum fur angewandte Kunst, Vienna, Austria
- 2020 The Rwanda Project, 1994 – 2000, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2019 Alfredo Jaar: Lament of the Images, Das Kunstprojekt Synagoge Stommeln, Pulheim, Germany
- 2019 Alfredo Jaar: The Garden of Good and Evil, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield (Permanent installation)
- 2019 Shadows, Fotomuseum Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2019 Koen Wessin: Chili, September 1973, Curated by Alfredo Jaar, Fotomuseum Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2017 The Garden of Good and Evil, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, West Bretton, UK
- 2017 Alfredo Jaar: A Logo for America, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, USA
- 2016 The Sound of Silence, Wits Art Museum, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2015 Nous l'avons tant aimée, la revolution, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Marseille, France
- 2014 Tonight No Poetry Will Serve, Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma, Helsinki, Finland
- 2014 A Logo for America, Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA

- 2014 A Logo for America, Times Square, New York, USA
- 2014 Shadows, SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, USA
- 2014 Alfredo Jaar: Abbi amo amato tanto la rivoluzione, Fondazione Merz, Torino, Italy
- 2011 Alfredo Jaar: The Ashes of Pasolini, Musée d'art de Joliette, Joliette, Canada
- 2011 One Hundred Times Nguyen, Berardo Collection Museum, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2011 Alfredo Jaar: Marx Lounge, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2011 Alfredo Jaar: Marx Lounge, El Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo, Seville, Spain
- 2011 The Sound of Silence, École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Paris, Paris, France
- 2010 We Wish To Inform You That We Didn't Know, Contemporary Art Galleries, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut, USA
- 2008 It Is Difficult, Hangar Bicocca, Milan, Italy
- 2008 Politics of the Image, South London Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2007 Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery, Center for the Arts at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, USA
- 2007 La Politique des Images, Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2006 Jaar SCL 2006, Sala de Arte Fundación Telefónica, Santiago, Chile
- 2006 The Sound of Silence, Fabrica, Brighton, United Kingdom, presented in association with the Brighton Photo Biennial, Brighton, United Kingdom
- 2005 Let One Hundred Flowers Bloom, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome, Italy
- 2005 Muxima, Grand Arts Gallery, Kansas City, Missouri, USA
- 2005 The Eyes of Gutete Emerita, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA
- 2004 Todo el Dolor del Mundo, Centro Portugues de Fotografia, Porto, Portugal
- 2003 The Desire of the Cartographer, Kunstverein, Hanover, Germany
- 2001 Clouds/Recent Projects, Badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe, Germany
- 2001 Let There Be Light: The Rwanda Project, Badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe, Germany
- 2001 The Silence: The Rwanda Project 1994-2000, International Museum of the Red Cross, Geneva, Switzerland
- 1999 Lament of the Images, List Visual Arts Center, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

- 1999 Lament of the Images, Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA
- 1998 Let there be Light: The Rwanda Project, Stedelijk Museum Het Domein, Sittard, The Netherlands
- 1997 Johannesburg Biennale, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 1995 Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Illinois, USA
- 1994 Fotografiska Museet and Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
- 1994 Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany
- 1993 Gesellschaft fur Aktuelle Kunst, Bremen, Germany
- 1993 Miami Center for the Fine Arts, Miami, USA
- 1992 Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany
- 1992 The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois, USA
- 1992 The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, New York, USA
- 1992 Torre de la Santa Cruz, Cadiz and Pabellon de Andalucia, Expo 92, Seville, Spain
- 1992 Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, England, UK
- 1990 San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, California, USA
- 1990 San José Museum of Art, California USA
- 1990 Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington, USA
- 1990 Carnegie Mellon Art Gallery, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
- 1989 L'Arche de la Fraternité, La Défense, Paris, France
- 1989 The Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York, USA
- 1989 University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA
- 1988 Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden
- 1987 Spectacolor Lightboard, One Times Square, New York, New York, USA
- 1986 Spring Street Subway Station, New York, New York, USA
- 1979 Galeria CAL, Santiago, Chile

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2022 Terms of Belonging, Gavlak, Los Angeles, California
- 2022 Qué hacer?, Planta alta del Centro de las Artes de San Agustín (CaSa), Oaxaca, Mexico America.
Between Dreams And Realities Selections From The Hirshhorn Museum And Sculpture Garden

- Collection, Musee national des beaux-arts du Québec, Quebec City, Canada
- 2022 This is not America's flag, The Broad, Los Angeles, California
- 2022 CRAZY: Madness in Contemporary Art, Chioistro del Bramante Rome, Italy
- 2022 Power! Light!, Kunstmuseum, Wolfsburg, Germany
- 2022 Quiet As It's Kept, Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
- 2022 LIFE Magazine and the Power of Photography, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- 2022 Padiglione Rosso, CityLife Park, Milan
- 2022 Hacer Noche, Various locations, Oaxaca, Mexico
- 2021 Power! Light!, Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg, Germany
- 2021 CORPUS DOMINI, Pallazo Reale, Milan, Italy
- 2021 Bienal de Artes Mediales, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago, Chile
- 2021 Sao Paulo Bienal, Parque Ibirapuera, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2021 Red Vienna, Museum fur angewandte Kunst, Vienna, Austria
- 2021 Aora: IV, AORA Space (online), aoraspace.com
- 2021 Climate Museum: Life and Death of Our Home, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, South Korea
- 2021 Babies are Knocking, Studio Stefania Miscetti, Rome, Italy
- 2021 This World Is White No Longer, Museum fer Moderne Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria
- 2020 Pier Paolo Pasolini: Subversive Poet, Neuberger Museum of Art, New York
- 2019 1989 – Culture and Politics, Nationalmuseum, Stockholm
- 2019 The Seven Lamps of the Art Museum, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima
- 2019 Sharjah Biennial 14, Sharjah Art Founation, Sharjah
- 2018 Everything is Connected: Art and Conspiracy, The Met Breuer New York, USA
- 2018 Memories of Underdevelopment, Museo Jumex, Mexico
- 2018 Nasher Prize Dialogues: Dallas / Sculpture + History, Panel discussion moderated by Anne Pasternak, Sixth Floor Museum, Dallas, USA
- 2018 Faithless Pictures, Nasjonalmuseet, Oslo, Norway
- 2017 From Me to Us: The City Without Borders, Quirinale Palace, Rome, Italy

- 2017 Age of Terror, Imperial War Museum, London, UK
- 2017 The Image of War, Bonniers Kunsthalle, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2017 Memories of Underdevelopment, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, USA
- 2017 UTOPIA Y CRISIS, Museo de la Solidaridad Salvador Allende, Santiago, Chile
- 2017 Parliament of Bodies: How does it feel to be a problem?, Documenta 14, Kassel, Germany
- 2016 Breaking News, J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, California, USA
- 2016 Witness: Photography and the Human Condition, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA
- 2014 ON THE HORIZON: Alfredo Jaar: Tonight No Poetry Will Serve (Retrospective), KIASMA, Helsinki, Finland
- 2011 Legacy: The Emily Fisher Landau Collection, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA
- 2011 ARS 11, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Finland
- 2011 Plot for a Biennial, Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
- 2010 Touched, 6th Liverpool Biennial, Liverpool, UK
- 2010 100 Acres, The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, USA
- 2010 Space, MAXXI Museo Nazionale Delle Arte Del XXI Secolo, Rome, Italy
- 2010 Critical Fetishes. Residues of General Economy, Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo, Madrid, Spain
- 2010 The Flower of May, Gwangju Museum of Art, Gwangju, South Korea
- 2010 Rewind: 1970s to 1990s Works from the MCA Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, USA
- 2009 Sightings: Searching for the Truth, Guangzhou Photo Biennial, Guangzhou, China
- 2009 North Looks South: Building the Latin American Art Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA
- 2009 New Acquisitions 2007-2008, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark
- 2008 Cancelled, Erased & Removed, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, New York, USA
- 2008 Africa On: Beecroft, Jaar, Kentridge, Lia Rumma, Milan, Italy
- 2007 New Perspectives in Latin American Art, 1930-2006: Prints, Photographs, and Media Works, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 2007 To be continued... Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2007 AfterShock, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, in conjunction with Contemporary Art Norwich 2007, Norwich, UK

- 2007 Check List Luanda Pop, African Pavilion, 52nd International Art Exhibition, Venice Biennale, Italy
- 2007 Constructing A Poetic Universe: The Diane and Bruce Halle Collection of Latin American Art, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, Texas
- 2007 System Error: War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning, Palazzo delle Papesse, Siena, Italy
- 2006 Conjonctions, Musee d'Art Moderne et Contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2006 FotoFest2006: Artists Responding to Violence, DiverseWorks Artspace, Houston, Texas, USA
- 2007 Into Me / Out of Me, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome, Italy
- 2005 At the Mercy of Others: The Politics of Care, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA
- 2005 Emergencies, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, León Spain
- 2005 Marking Time / Moving Images, Miami Art Museum, Miami, Florida, USA
- 2005 The Fluidity of Time: Selections from the MCA Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA
- 2005 The Hours: Visual Arts of Contemporary Latin America, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin,
- 2003 Experience, Rotterdam Photo Biennale, Nederlands Foto Instituut, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2003 Pictures from Within: American Photographs, 1958-2002, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA
- 2002 Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona, Spain
- 2001 O Espiritu da Nossa Epoca, Museo de Arte Moderna, Sao Paolo, Brazil
- 2001 The Gift, Palazzo delle Papesse, Siena, Italy
- 2001 Versiones del Sur: Más allá del Documento, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain
- 2000 International Museum of the Red Cross, Geneva, Switzerland
- 1999 Inferno & Paradiso, BildMuseet, Umeå University, Umeå, Sweden (Curated by Jaar)
- 1998 Photography as Concept, 4th International Foto-Triennale, Esslingen, Germany
- 1998 The Edge of Awareness, World Health Organisation, Geneva, Switzerland
- 1998 Waterproof, Centro Cultural de Belem, Expo 98, Lisbon, Portugal
- 1997 Asi esta la Cosa: Instalacion y Arte Objeto en America Latina, Centro Cultural Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico
- 1996 Los Limites de la Fotografia Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago, Chile

- 1996 Thinking Print, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 1995 ARS 95, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland
- 1995 The Spirit of Hiroshima and After, Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima, Japan
- 1994 Images Pour La Lutte Contre Le Sida, Musee National D'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
- 1994 Lessons in Life, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA
- 1994 Pohjoinen Valokuva 1994 ("Contemporary Living Violence"), International Photographic Triennial, Oulu, Finland
- 1994 Public Interventions, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
- 1992 Arte Amazonas_, Museu de Arte Moderna, Museu de Arte, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 1992 Arte Amazonas, Staatliche Kunsthalle, Berlin, Germany
- 1992 L'Art Renouvelle La Ville, Musee National des Monuments Francais, Paris, France
- 1992 Latin American Artists of the Twentieth Century, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 1992 Regard Multiple, Galeries Contemporaines, Musee National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
- 1992 Skulpturen – Fragmente, Wiener Secession, Vienna, Austria
- 1992 Trans-Voices, Whitney Museum of American Art and diverse Subway stations, New York, New York; Centre Georges Pompidou and diverse Metro stations, Paris, France
- 1990 New Work: A New Generation, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California, USA
- 1990 On the Edge: Between Sculpture and Photography, Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, Cleveland, Ohio, USA
- 1990 Re-Writing History, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, England
- 1990 Savoir-vivre, Savoir-faire, Savoir-Être, Centre International d'Art Contemporain de Montréal, Montreal, Canada
- 1990 Sydney Biennale, Sydney, Australia
- 1990 The Decade Show: Frameworks of Identity in the 1980s, The New Museum of Contemporary Art in collaboration with the Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art and the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA
- 1989 First International Foto-Triennale, Esslingen am Neckar, Germany
- 1989 Magiciens de la Terre, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France and la Grande Halle, La Villette, Paris, France

- 1989 The Photography of Invention: American Pictures of the 1980s, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois, USA
- 1989 The Photography of Invention: American Pictures of the 1980s, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, USA
- 1987 19e Bienal Internacional de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1986 Aperto, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
- 1985 4 Chilean Artists in the CAYC of Buenos Aires, CAYC, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1985 18e Bienal Internacional de Sao Paulo, Sao Paolo, Brazil
- 1985 Disinformation: The Manufacture of Consent, The Alternative Museum, New York, USA
- 1984 Art & Ideology, The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, New York
- 1983 In/Out: Four Projects by Chilean Artists, Washington Project for Arts, Washington D.C., USA
- 1982 12e Paris Biennale, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris, France
- 1981 Grafica Chilena Contemporanea, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago, Chile
- 1979 Primera Bienal de Arte Universitario, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago, Chile
- 1979 Quinta Exhibicion, Colocadora Nacional de Valores, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago, Chile

Selected Awards & Honours

- 2020 Hasselblad Award, Hasselblad Foundation, Goteborg
- 2020 11th Hiroshima Art Prize, Hiroshima
- 2019 Josef Svoboda Prize, Accademia di Belli ARTi, Macerata, Italy
- 2018 11th Hiroshima Prize
- 2013 National Art Prize
- 2006 Premio Extremadura a la Creación, Espagne.
- 2000 MacArthur Foundation, MacArthur Fellowship
- 1987 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award
- 1985 New York State Council of the Arts Grant
- 1985 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship

Selected Public Collections

- 21C Museum Foundation, Louisville, Kentucky
- Les Abattoirs de Toulouse, Toulouse, France
- The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- Chase Manhattan, New York, New York
- DaimlerChrysler Contemporary, Berlin, Germany
- Daros Foundation, Zurich, Switzerland
- Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts

Fonds National d'Art Contemporain, Paris, France
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima
Tokushima Modern Art Museum, Japan
J.P. Morgan Chase Art Collection, New York, New York
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humblebaek, Denmark
Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden
Miami Art Museum, Miami, Florida
M+, Hong Kong
MONA – Museum of Old and New Art, Hobart, Tasmania
Musée d'Art Contemporain, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne, Switzerland
Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Museo de Artes Visuales, Santiago, Chile
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, León, Spain
El Museo del Barrio, New York, New York
Museo Extremeño e Iberoamericano de Arte Contemporáneo, Badajoz, Spain
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain
Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
Museum het Domein, Sittard, the Netherlands
Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Museum of Contemporary Arts Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, California
The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Illinois
Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
Museum voor Hedendaagse Kunst Antwerpen, Antwerp, Belgium
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
New York Public Library, New York, New York
Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida
Queensland Art Gallery, Queensland Cultural Center, South Brisbane, Australia
Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts
Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington
Tate Britain, London, England
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York
Williams College Museum of Art, Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut
Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Yorkshire, United Kingdom