

***DUO. Rebel souls, kindred spirits. Intertwined destinies within art.***  
October 18 - December 18, 2015 in Melano

## Niki de Saint Phalle, Jean Tinguely: Artrust exposes in Melano the contemporary art's rebel couple

After the exhibition dedicated to François Gall last spring, Artrust is going to present a new one in autumn with Niki de Saint Phalle and Jean Tinguely's work on display, two of the most famous exponents of contemporary art. In its exhibition spaces in Melano, from October 18 to December 18, there will be sculptures, drawings and printings, within a setting aimed at emphasizing the one of a kind "artistic couple". The exhibition will be completed by a catalog illustrated by the exhibited works and enriched by an unpublished text by the Swiss architect Mario Botta.



*DUO. Rebel souls, kindred spirits. Intertwined destinies within art* is the title of Artrust's next exhibition that will take place in the exhibition spaces in Melano from October 18 to December 18 2015. The exhibition is dedicated to two brilliant personalities of contemporary art as the French-American artist Niki de Saint Phalle and the Swiss sculptor, her colleague and husband, Jean Tinguely. The first became internationally famous thanks to her iconic Nanas, figures of colorful woman with opulent shapes. The second one (whose 90th anniversary of birth occurs this year) famous for his sculptures made of scrap-iron machines and wastes of the industrial society.

Artrust exhibition will display sculptures, drawings and printings, as well as four handed works, within an original setting designed to make them dialogue, in order to emphasize the couple dimension that characterized their artistic career.

«After many solo exhibitions, this is the first one dedicated to two artists simultaneously – states **Patrizia Cattaneo Moresi, Artrust CEO** – In spite of this, it is configured as a monographic exhibition since Niki de Saint Phalle and Jean Tinguely, although having individual artistic identities clearly separated, represent a rare and maybe unique example of indissoluble couple in the art

world ».

Their collaboration was, in fact, among the most solid, prolific and brilliant of the Twentieth century. Their partnership went far beyond their love story, and both found in each other an unceasing and essential stimulus to their art, experienced as existential necessity.

«Niki de Saint Phalle and Jean Tinguely were two personalities for many aspects poles apart – continues Patrizia Cattaneo Moresi – but yet, as opposites, they ended up to attract each other. Their bond was art, for both an essential element of their existence. In our exhibition we endeavored to relate them, reproducing in the setting their relationship, only apparently in contrast, between Niki's vibrant colors and Jean's coarse gears».

The exhibition is completed by a catalog of the works on display, realized and published by Artrust, enriched by a text written by the Swiss architect Mario Botta, who



collaborated by offering an unpublished testimony of his collaboration with the artistic couple and in particular the close friendship with Niki de Saint Phalle.

Moreover, as in previous exhibitions, Artrust will organize a series of educational and creative workshops for children aged from 3 to 10. Niki de Saint Phalle and Jean Tinguely's works are also source of inspiration for the publication of a story for children: a magical and moving fairytale made of unicorns, goddesses, wizards and riddles.

The exhibition is free and open from October 18 to December 18 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Part of the artworks will be for sale.

For further info:

[www.artrust.ch](http://www.artrust.ch)

**NIKI DE SAINT PHALLE – JEAN TINGUELY**

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October 18 - December 18, 2015 - every day: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Artrust SA

Via Pedemonte di sopra 1, CH 6818 Melano | 0041 (0)91 6493336 | behind FFS Maroggia-Melano train station

For further info:

[www.artrust.ch/mostraduo](http://www.artrust.ch/mostraduo)

twitter: [@ArtrtustSA](https://twitter.com/ArtrtustSA) #mostraduo

For info and high definition images: [www.artrust.ch/press-area](http://www.artrust.ch/press-area)

*Niki de Saint Phalle (1930–2002): French painter and sculptress, she was born in the suburbs of Paris but grew up in New York. Very young she married the American writer Harry Matthews and after the divorce she lived in Paris with the sculptor Jean Tinguely. She joined the artistic group Nouveaux Realism. At the exhibitions of the group she acquired fame by presenting the Shooting paintings, but her artistic consecration happened with the Nanas, sculptures made from various materials and representing female figures often in a provocative manner, fact that confuses the traditionalists ensuring to her a growing popularity, with the installation of her works in several European cities. From the collaboration with Tinguely started the huge project of the Tarot Garden, an artistic garden realized in Tuscany and inspired by Gaudi's Park Guell in Barcelona and by the Garden of Bomarzo: a group of twenty-two monumental sculptures inspired by the major arcana of the Tarot, built in reinforced concrete and covered with a mosaic of mirrors, glass and ceramic. Always with Tinguely, Niki de Saint Phalle realized Igor Stravinsky fountain in the square of the Centre Pompidou in Paris. The artist's works have been presented in numerous international exhibitions around the world.*

*Jean Tinguely (1925 – 1991): He was born in Fribourg and studied in Basel, where he discovered Schwitters and Klee and Bauhaus. Still young Tinguely devoted himself to painting, with references to Dalí, Mirò and Klee. But soon he understood that he wasn't able to express himself freely through painting. When he moved to Paris, he took part at the group Nouveaux Réalisme and discovered sculpture: thus he created the first three-dimensional works with ironic and playful inspiration, made with parts of toys, wires, levers, gears, and visibly influenced by Dadaist poetry. That's how he payed tribute to the provocations and the paradoxes of Duchamp, as well as Picabia. Thanks to the relationship with the French artist Niki de Saint Phalle, the Fountain Igor Stravinski in the Centre Pompidou square and sculptures in Giardino dei Tarocchi in Tuscany were created.*

*Artrust is an art company based in Melano, Ticino. Its art collection, which includes more than 2 thousand pieces of modern and contemporary artists as well as thousands of antiques, is a treasure that Artrust decided to enhance and share to bring it to the knowledge of the widest audience possible. A goal that Artrust pursues with passion and enthusiasm, not only through trade, sale or loans of paintings and sculptures, but also by making the collection a source of inspiration for various activities: the organization of monographic exhibitions with the artists in the collection, the publication of art catalogs, the proposal of educational workshops for children, the rental of the exhibition spaces for private events, the collaboration and the loan of artworks to museums, foundations and associations.*

[www.artrust.ch](http://www.artrust.ch)

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