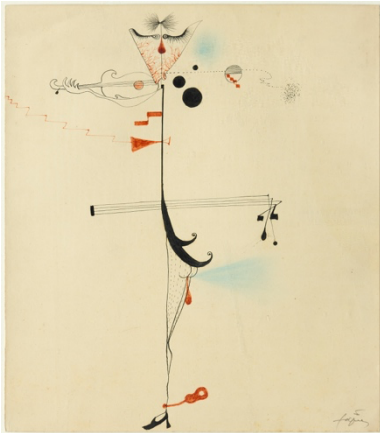


## Antoni Tàpies: On paper

**November 7 – December 20, 2025**  
**540 West 25th Street**  
**New York**



Antoni Tàpies, *Musiqueta*, 1949 © 2025 Comissió Tàpies / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / VEGAP, Madrid

New York – Pace is pleased to present a survey of works on paper by the Spanish artist Antoni Tàpies at its 540 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street gallery in New York from November 7 to December 20. Bringing together some 40 artworks created between the 1940s and the 2010s—including never-before-exhibited compositions—this presentation will showcase Tàpies’s meditations on the human condition through his works on paper and, more broadly, his indelible impact on the history of art in Europe and across North America and Asia.

Born in Barcelona in 1923, Tàpies was a self-taught artist who developed a unique visual language centering on exchanges among symbols, gestures, and materials. The artist—who was also a celebrated theorist and philosopher—incorporated signs and symbols from Catalonia and other cultures into his paintings, collages, and sculptures, imbuing his work with historical allusions and odes to phenomena of the natural world. Replete with personal resonances and references to political and social struggles in his native Catalonia and Spain, his art made radical aesthetic propositions during the postwar era.

Over the course of his seven-decade career, Tàpies investigated abstract and surrealist forms using unconventional, raw materials. His combinations of media as diverse as wood, dirt, spray paint, cardboard, blankets, clothes, carpet, furniture, and marble dust reflect the intensely experimental ethos of his process. Tàpies forged complex layers of materials like these, bringing striking amalgams of color and texture to the fore of his compositions. In this way, enactments of transformation and transfiguration animated the spirit of all his work as an artist.

Pace’s exhibition of Tàpies’s works on paper, the gallery’s twelfth exhibition dedicated to the artist since it began representing him in 1992, will shed new light on the ways that drawing functioned in his practice—as a medium through which he could narrate his own experiences and express the poetic and fragile dimensions of the human condition. Featuring a large selection of works produced between the start of his career in the 1940s and the final years of his life, this presentation will trace the development of his visual lexicon, which reflects his deep interest in signs and symbols from Eastern religions and philosophies, particularly Buddhism. They also speak to the connections between Tàpies and his American contemporaries at the forefront of Abstract Expressionism—importantly, the artist began showing with Martha Jackson Gallery in New York the year it opened in 1953, during the early years of his career, and he presented solo exhibitions with the storied American gallery until 1978.

Tàpies's reimagination and redefinition of painting as a highly physical undertaking would inspire future generations of artists. Notably, in 1993—the same year he mounted his first solo show with Pace—he was chosen to represent Spain at the 45<sup>th</sup> edition of the Venice Biennale, when he won the Golden Lion for his large-scale installation titled *Rinzen*. In 1984, the artist established the Fundació Antoni Tàpies in Barcelona—which opened a museum and library in 1990—to support the exhibition of his work and that of other modern and contemporary artists. Along with the Fundació Joan Miró and Museu Picasso, the Fundació Antoni Tàpies remains a key cultural institution in the fabric of the Spanish city.

Today, his work can be found in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art and the Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Baltimore Museum of Art; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Museo Tamayo, Mexico City; the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, Barcelona; the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid; the Museo Guggenheim, Bilbao; Tate, London; the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; the Moderna Museet, Stockholm; the Centre Pompidou, Paris; the Kunstmuseum Basel; the Städel Museum, Frankfurt; the Museum Ludwig, Cologne; the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art; the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; and many other international institutions.

Concurrently with Pace's exhibition in New York, *Antoni Tàpies: The Imagination of the World* is on view at the Museu Tàpies in Barcelona through January 25, 2026.

**Antoni Tàpies** (b. 1923, Barcelona; d. 2012, Barcelona) is recognized as one of the leading artistic voices to emerge from postwar Europe. Working in parallel with global art movements including Abstract Expressionism, Gutai, Art Informel, Tachisme, and Arte Povera, Tàpies believed that his era required a new kind of existential expression. Influenced by Surrealist methods while a member of the avant-garde Dau al Set group in postwar Barcelona, he came to develop a unique form of automatism and to reject representation and the illusionistic picture plane. He incorporated unconventional media such as textiles, straw, detritus, and found objects into his work, accentuating their tactile and material nature. Their earthy, distressed surfaces relate to themes of entropy and decay, challenging the viewer to find beauty in what is typically overlooked. Tàpies's oeuvre resides between figuration and abstraction, matter and mysticism, as manifested through his painting, sculpture, drawing, collage, and printmaking.

**Pace** is a leading international art gallery representing some of the most influential artists and estates of the 20th and 21st centuries, founded by Arne Glimcher in 1960. Holding decades-long relationships with Alexander Calder, Jean Dubuffet, Agnes Martin, Louise Nevelson, and Mark Rothko, Pace has a unique history that can be traced to its early support of artists central to the Abstract Expressionist and Light and Space movements. Now in its seventh decade, the gallery continues to nurture its longstanding relationships with its legacy artists and estates while also making an investment in the careers of contemporary artists, including Torkwase Dyson, Loie Hollowell, Robert Nava, Adam Pendleton, and Marina Perez Simão.

Under the current leadership of CEO Marc Glimcher and President Samanthe Rubell, Pace has established itself as a collaborative force in the art world, partnering with other galleries and nonprofit organizations around the world in recent years. The gallery advances its mission to support its artists and share their visionary work with audiences and collectors around the world through a robust global program anchored by its exhibitions of both 20th century and contemporary art and scholarly projects from its imprint Pace Publishing, which produces books introducing new voices to the art historical canon. This artist-first ethos also extends to public installations, philanthropic events, performances, and other interdisciplinary programming presented by Pace.

Today, Pace has nine locations worldwide, including two galleries in New York—its eight-story headquarters at 540 West 25th Street and an adjacent 8,000-square-foot exhibition space at 510 West 25th Street. The gallery's history in the New York art world dates to 1963, when it opened its first space in the city on East 57th Street. A champion of Light and Space artists, Pace has also been active in California for some 60 years, opening its West Coast flagship in Los Angeles in 2022. It maintains European footholds in London and Geneva as well as Berlin, where it established an office in 2023 and a gallery space in 2025. Pace was one of the first international galleries to have a major presence in Asia, where it has been active since 2008, the year it first opened in Beijing's vibrant 798 Art District. It now operates galleries in Hong Kong and Seoul and opened its first gallery in Japan in Tokyo's Azabudai Hills development in 2024.



For immediate release

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