

ARTPEOPLE

Claire Falkenstein, innovative and prolific Modernist sculptor and painter known for her heroic and often controversial metal and glass public art, died at the age of 89 of stomach cancer at her studio/home in Venice, California.

Philip L. Ravenhill, chief curator of the National Museum of African Art, part of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, died in October at the age of 52.

Donald B. Goodall, professor of art history, founding director of the University of Texas Art Museum in Austin and a specialist in Latin American Art, died in Glendale, CA at the age of 85.

Kathy Acker, novelist and performance artist who started in Southern California and came to New York and London to become the abrasive novelist and performance artist in the post-punk East Village of the 1970s and 80s, died in December at the age of 53 at an alternative cancer treatment center in Tijuana, Mexico.

Margaret Grierson, former archivist of Smith College who built its Sophia Smith Collection into an international research center, died in December at the age of 97. The archive includes materials about women's rights, suffrage, birth control, the women's movement of recent years, and women in the arts.

Philip I. Berman, an art collector and philanthropist who was chairman of the Philadelphia Museum of Art from 1989 until last October, died at the age of 82.

Robert Stanley, a painter who translated newspaper photographs and other commercial imagery into gritty works on canvas, died at the age of 65 of cancer. His images bordered on the abstract or could be powerfully explicit. Subjects included rock stars, sporting event and pornography.

Roger Brown, a leading painter of the Chicago Imagist style, whose panoramic images were as passionately political as they were rigorously visual, died in November of liver failure.

Brendan Gill, a pillar of New York's civic, social and literary life for nearly 50 years, prominent advocate for architectural preservation and other visual arts, died at the age of 83. He was Chairman of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, a vice president of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a founder of the P.S. 1 Center for Contemporary Art in Long Island City, Queens, New York.

Mary Jayne Gold, a Chicago heiress who used some of her fortune to help prominent Jewish or anti-Nazi artists like Chagall flee Nazi-occupied France, died in France

in October at the age of 88. She worked with American journalist, Varian Fry, to aid thousands of refugees who had fled the Gestapo, including sculptor Jacques Lipchitz and writer Hannah Arendt.

Yevgeny Khaldei, the photographer whose pictures of Soviet soldiers hoisting the red flag over the Reichstag in Berlin are among the best known images of World War II, died in October at the age of 80.

Edmund P. Pillsbury has resigned as director of the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas as of 1 February 1999. He has been director since 1980.

Kevin E. Consey has resigned as director and chief executive officer of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, a post he held for 8 years. He will leave in September to begin the executive master's program at the School of Management at Northwestern University and will teach in the Chicago area.

Dominique de Menil died on 31 December 1997 at the age of 89. A cultural force in the city of Houston, de Menil and her husband, John, loved truth and beauty, as well as human dignity and freedom. She built up the 15,000-piece Menil Collection, ranging from antiquities and the Byzantine period to tribal art from the Pacific Northwest to 20th century artists such as Picasso, Calder and Warhol. The Rothko Chapel is her creation!

Alan E. Cober, an innovative magazine, newspaper and book illustrator and a graphic commentator known for his visual essays on the death chamber at Sing Sing prison and on mental patients at the Willowbrook State School on Staten Island, died at the age of 62 of a heart attack. He injected the precepts of modern art into commercial art.

Phyllis Lambert, founder and director of the Canadian Center for Architecture in Montreal, has been awarded the annual Hadrian Award for preservation of world art and architecture by the World Monuments Fund.

Ralph Fasanello, who worked as a union organizer, a machinist and a gas station owner, but whose fame as a self-taught, late-blooming painter of teeming urban panoramas, died at the age of 83 in December.

Stanton L. Catlin, 82, expert on modern Mexican muralists, died in November. During his first study trip to Mexico, he soon met Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo and Jose Clemente Orozco. He has been documenting the history of mural painting in Mexico, locating 150 Mexican murals in the United States. He also helped organize Latin American art exhibits at Yale and the Detroit Institute of Arts. In 1964, he shared a Grammy Award for writing material about murals to accompany a Columbia Records recording of Mexican music.

James Turrell, 54, of Flagstaff, Arizona received the \$100,000 Wolf Prize for the Arts for his "highly individualist imagery, which is a spiritualized synthesis of form and light in seemingly infinite space." Turrell's major work is an interactive sculpture and observatory he calls a "celestial theatre". He is building it at Roden Crater, an extinct volcano in Arizona's Painted Desert.

Werner Spies, art historian, is the new director of Centre Pompidou in Paris. He was also the curator of "Paris-Berlin", "Paris-Moscow" and the "Berlin-Moscow" show at Berlin's Martin-Gropius-Bau.

Victor Pasmore, painter, printmaker, educator and for more than 50 years a volatile but invaluable figure in the British art world, died in January at the age of 87 at his home on the island of Malta. He shared the Carnegie Prize at the Pittsburgh International Exhibition in 1964 with Pierre Soulages.

Howard Gilman, the chairman of the Gilman Paper Company, who was a philanthropist and a collector of photographs and other art, died in early January at the age of 73. He endowed the Metropolitan Museum's first permanent gallery dedicated exclusively to photography, the Howard Gilman Gallery, which was inaugurated in October.

Walter E. Diemer, who accidentally invented bubble gum while testing recipes in 1928, died in January at the age of 93. Developed when he was a 23-year-old accountant for a chewing gum company, Diemer's invention became the bane of parents throughout the world, but remains the pleasure of countless youngsters—including some adults too. Discovered in the company lab where Diemer liked to putter around, bubble gum came from experimentation where Diemer suddenly took a gob out of the pot and blew a magnificent bubble, while working for the Fler Corporation. Fler called it Dubble Bubble and began marketing it in Philadelphia and away we blew!

Mario Schifano, one of Italy's best-known contemporary painters, died on 26 January in Rome at the age of 63 of a heart attack. Having begun painting in the late 1950s, he soon became one of the leading members of the avant-garde school. When he returned from New York after a prolonged stay, where he participated beside Robert Rauschenberg, Claes Oldenburg and Jasper Johns in the New Realist group, he made his mark on Italian art with his interpretation of Pop Art. He used photography, cinema, television and the Internet in his continuous experimentation.

Jane Alexander, former National Endowment for the Arts Chairwoman, is a member of the 1998 Council on Ideas, an intellectual think tank charged with determining and writing a statement on "the singular

issue of overriding importance in our time." Joining Alexander, at a ranch outside Santa Fe, NM in July, will be two Harvard professors, a physicist from the University of Mexico and writer and two-time Pulitzer Prize nominee Robert D. Kaplan.

Milton Brown, emeritus professor of Art History at the Graduate School of the City University of New York, who was responsible for the formation of the Ph.D. program in Art History, where he was the first Chair, died in February at the age of 86. A pioneer in 20th-century American art history, he is renowned for his groundbreaking book, *American Painting from the Armory Show to the Depression*, and was critical in the development of the field of 20th century American art history. He was also an artist, having studied painting in the late 1920s with Louis Lozowick, a family friend, and was only able to devote full attention to this art after retiring. His first one-man show was in 1996 in Manhattan.

Aldo Rossi, architect, town planner and theorist whose rationalist philosophical convictions were rooted in Platonic formalism, died at the age of 66. Famed for cemeteries, public squares, the new Opera House in Genoa as well as the dream-like floating "teatro del mondo" for the Venice Biennale and an office complex for the Disney corporation in Celebration, Florida, he taught several generations of students.

Jill Medevow has been named the director of the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, succeeding Milnea Kalinovska, who resigned in April after 5 1/2 stormy years as director of the museum. Medevow was a former deputy director of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and founding director of Vita Brevis, a company that produces site-specific contemporary art institutions.

Lily Harmon, an artist who worked in portraiture, assemblage and book illustration, and whose third husband was Joseph H. Hirshhorn, died at 85.

Peter Max, the darling of the psychedelic 1960s, pleaded guilty to charges of concealing more than \$1.1 million in income from the IRS in connection with sales of his works. Seems he bartered his artwork as a partial payment for properties that he purchased in Woodstock, Southampton, NY and St. John, Virgin Islands and then failed to pay the proper taxes from 1986 - 1992.

Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation grants for 1997 went to sculptors **Anne Chu**, **Bryan Crockett** and **Glen Seator** and the painters **Kim Dingle**, **Rochelle Feinstein**, **Richard Jackson**, **Judy Ledgerwood**, **David Moreno** and **Shahzia Sikander**.