

**Galerie Jean-François Cazeau**  
**André Masson : Le surréalisme révolutionnaire**



27 septembre - 21 décembre 2024

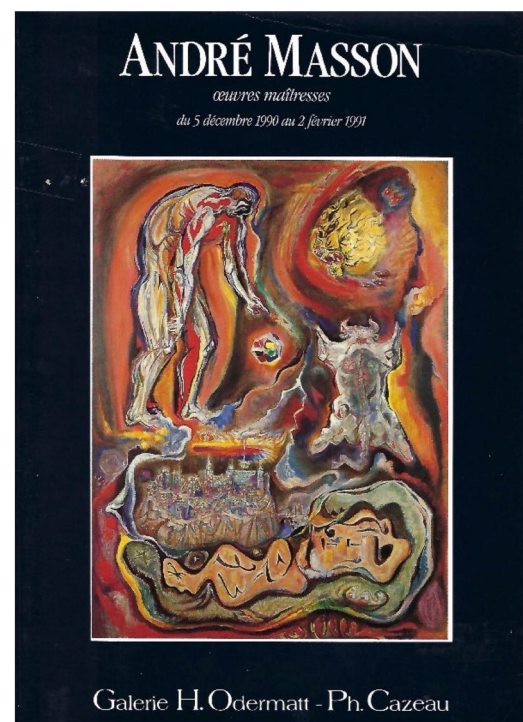
**The work of André Masson (1896-1987), a modern and postmodern artist in equal measure, is marked by metamorphosis: an art of instability that stages the eroticism and violence of life. Experimentation without preconception is its fundamental value, a technique always adapted to the internal needs of the work, which spring freely from the artist's vision. One of the founding members of the Surrealist group, André Masson was the inventor of automatic drawing, which he later transposed into painting and even sculpture. In 1927, he laid the foundations of dripping in his sables, and his canvases were to influence the beginnings of American abstract expressionism.**

Committed and sensitive to the spirit of his time, the artist maintained fruitful artistic collaborations, notably with Georges Bataille. Masson's art is in continuous renewal. Claiming a "native disposition for variety", his prolific output is marked by incessant inventiveness, summed up by André Breton's enthusiastic phrase: "L'éclectisme dirige, rien de plus beau". The exhibition *André Masson: Le surréalisme révolutionnaire* (*André Masson: Revolutionary Surrealism*) aims to reveal all the facets of Masson's work: from the artist's cubist beginnings, imbued with a surrealist imagination, through his sables and automatic drawings, to the Massacres of 1932-34, the paroxysm of the century's violence in the artist's work.

Paintings from the American period show the artist's influence on the post-war abstract school on both sides of the Atlantic : American abstract expressionism and French lyrical abstraction. The 1950s also marked Masson's "Chinese period", in which he again renewed himself, this time by inventing an abstract language inspired by the archaic Chinese pictographic alphabet. All of Masson's creative periods will be represented by some thirty works.

An outstanding draughtsman, works on paper by the artist will complete the exhibition, including automatic drawings, a major invention of the surrealist movement. A total artist, several of Masson's major sculptures will also be on show.

The Galerie Jean-François Cazeau, located in the Marais district of Paris since 2009, builds bridges between the Modern Masters and post-war art on both sides of the Atlantic, while opening up to contemporary art. With a particular penchant for surrealism, the gallery has been exhibiting works by Max Ernst, Joan Miró, Leonor Fini, Alberto Giacometti, Hans Bellmer, Paul Delvaux, Toyen and Josef Sima for over a decade. Above all, André Masson is on permanent display. Links with the work of André Masson date back to 1990, when the former Galerie Odermatt-Cazeau organized the first retrospective exhibition after the artist's death, with the help of the family. It's a bond that has been nurtured over the decades. This year, the gallery was present as a lender of six of the artist's works at the Centre Pompidou-Metz retrospective, as well as at the "Histoire de ne pas lire: le Surréalisme en Belgique" exhibition at Bozar / Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels.





**Exhibition from September 27th to December 21st 2024  
Vernissage on the 26th of September from 16h to 21h**

**Galerie Jean-François Cazeau**  
8 rue Sainte-Anastase 75003 Paris  
[www.galeriejfcazeau.com](http://www.galeriejfcazeau.com)  
T. +33 1 48 04 06 92 / +33 6 03 79 76 26  
[jfc@galeriejfcazeau.com](mailto:jfc@galeriejfcazeau.com)

A catalog will be published by the gallery on the occasion of this exhibition.

This exhibition is part of the Paris Surréaliste event organized by the Centre Pompidou Paris and the CPGA, September - October 2024.

**Relations avec la presse**  
**Lorraine Hussenot**  
T. + 33 1 48 78 92 20  
[lohussenot@hotmail.com](mailto:lohussenot@hotmail.com)  
*Visuels disponibles sur demande*

André Masson, *Fête*, 1956, huile sur toile, 90 x 81 cm.