

Oskar Fischinger Movement and Spirit

Sample images

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY RELIGIOUS ART (MOCRA) • SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY • MARCH 31 – JUNE 24, 2007

All works by Oskar Fischinger (1900–67)

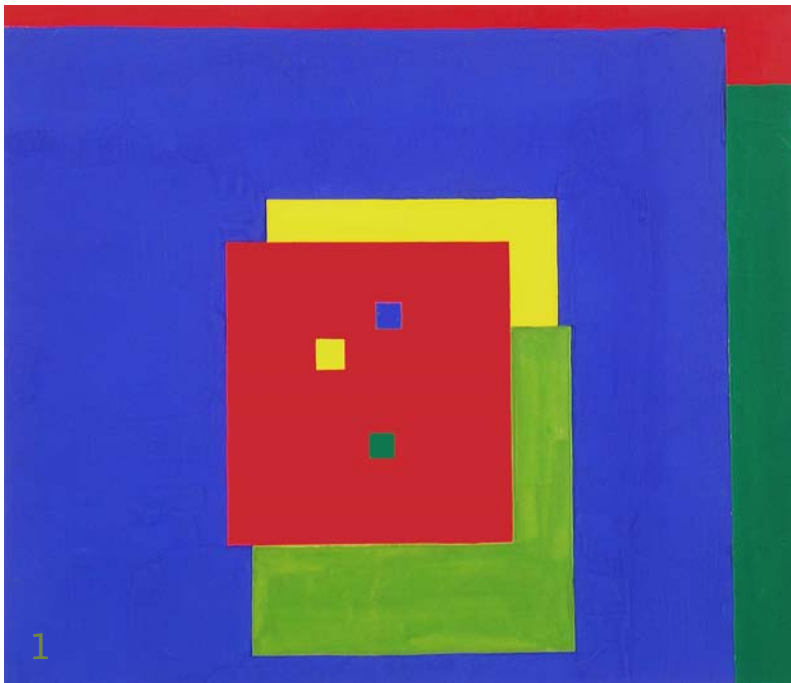
1. *Squares*, 1934. Gouache on paper. 10½ x 11½ in.

2. *Space Abstraction No. III*, 1966. Oil on canvas. 48 x 36 in.

3. *Outward Movement*, 1948. Oil on canvas. 48 x 36 in.

4. *Transparency*, 1943. Oil on English drawing silk. 8 x 10½ in.

Images courtesy Jack Rutberg Fine Arts, Los Angeles.



Oskar Fischinger Movement and Spirit

About the exhibition

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY RELIGIOUS ART (MOCRA) • SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY • MARCH 31 – JUNE 24, 2007

Paintings and drawings by a pioneer of Visual Music

Oskar Fischinger (1900–67) was a pioneering German painter and filmmaker recognized by many of the 20th century's great luminaries in art, film and music for his innovative animation techniques and the bravura of his non-objective films, many of them keyed to classical music in a way that sought to expand dimensions in both visual and auditory experience—that is, visual music. Exhibition curator Peter Frank notes that Fischinger “insisted on an indelible sensory relationship between color and form on the one hand and sound and motion on the other. It was music for the eyes.” Fischinger’s approach to abstraction in his films and paintings bears comparison to Kandinsky, Kupka, and other early abstractionists. Fischinger’s artistic work was also a spiritual pursuit consistent with his interest in Theosophy, Buddhism, and Anthroposophy.

Pressure from the Nazi regime forced Fischinger to flee to Hollywood in 1936, where he worked on the fringes of the commercial movie industry but continued to earn the appreciation of filmmakers and aficionados even after his death. Recently his work has been included in the blockbuster 2005 group exhibition *Visual Music*, held at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles and the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, D.C. MOCRA is pleased to host the first exhibition of Fischinger’s work in St. Louis, a city with significant ties to modern and contemporary German art. In addition to paintings and drawing, visitors will have the opportunity to view the newly released DVD *Oskar Fischinger: Ten Films*, which includes many of Fischinger’s great film projects, including *Motion Painting No. 1* (1947), awarded the Grand Prix at the Brussels Film Festival in 1949.

Opening weekend Special Events

Fri 3/30/07, 7 p.m. — An Oskar Fischinger Tribute Fischinger films on the big screen, with lecture by exhibition curator Peter Frank (art critic, *LA Weekly* and senior curator, Riverside Art Museum)

PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL LOCATION: Saint Louis Art Museum auditorium

tickets \$5/\$3 for Saint Louis Art Museum members; available at the door or at (314) 655-5299 or www.slam.org

Sat 3/31/07, 2–4 p.m — free public opening reception – at MOCRA

Exhibition dates: March 31 – June 24, 2007 • Museum hours: Tuesday – Sunday, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Admission is free, though there is a suggested donation of \$5 for adults and \$1 for students and children.

MOCRA is happy to work with educators to arrange class visits during and outside of regular gallery hours, as well as to arrange group tours for other organizations. Please contact MOCRA for more information.

All works courtesy of Jack Rutberg Fine Arts, Los Angeles with the support of Barbara Fischinger, The Elfriede Fischinger Trust, and the Center for Visual Music. MOCRA thanks the Saint Louis Art Museum for collaboration on “An Oskar Fischinger Tribute,” and the Regional Arts Commission for financial support.



MOCRA: Sources

This exhibition is part of **MOCRA: Sources**, an occasional series of exhibitions presenting those seminal artists who have influenced the development of modern and contemporary art, and whose impact is seen in the artists of our time who engage the religious and spiritual dimensions in their work.

Museum of Contemporary Religious Art (MOCRA) • Saint Louis University

3700 West Pine Boulevard on the campus of Saint Louis University (on the pedestrian mall)
voice (314) 977-7170 fax (314) 977-7170 e-mail mocra@slu.edu web mocra.slu.edu

mocra.slu.edu
314.977.7170

Saint Louis University’s Museum of Contemporary Religious Art (MOCRA) is the world’s first museum of interfaith contemporary art. Officially opened in 1993, MOCRA is dedicated to the ongoing dialogue between contemporary artists and the world’s faith traditions. Located in a spacious chapel that was used for over 35 years by Jesuits studying philosophy at Saint Louis University, MOCRA offers a unique, meditative setting for the display of its permanent collection and changing exhibitions. MOCRA’s exhibitions demonstrate the range of contemporary religious and spiritual artistic expression, presenting the work of artists of regional, national and international stature.