

OPERA GALLERY



George Condo, *Large Reclining Nude*, 2013, Ink and gesso on paper (in two parts)
153 x 194.3 cm | 60.2 x 76.5 in

GENEVA

The Shape of Us

28 MARCH - 17 APRIL, 2025

March, 2025, GENEVA—Opera Gallery Geneva presents ‘The Shape of Us’, an exhibition celebrating the representation of the human body. Bringing together over 20 works by modern, post-war, contemporary, and emerging artists, it offers a range of perspectives that reflect its depth and complexity.

The depiction of the human figure has been central to art history, serving as a means of storytelling, identity, and expression. From prehistoric figurines symbolizing fertility and power to Renaissance masterpieces celebrating humanism and intellect, and from the emotional realism of Caravaggio to the bold abstraction of Picasso, artists have continually reimagined the figure to explore beauty, spirituality, and emotion. Today, this fascination extends to questions of identity, society, and digital culture, as contemporary artists continue to challenge and expand our perceptions of the human form.

The Shape of Us highlights these evolving perspectives through abstraction, distortion, idealization, and simplification. The selection includes works by **Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Jean Dubuffet, Andy Warhol, Georg Baselitz, A.R. Penck, George Condo, Fernando Botero, Manolo Valdés, and Julian Opie**, alongside pieces by up-and-coming talents such as **Andy Denzler** and **Gustavo Nazareno**.

Each artist approaches the figure through a unique lens. Matisse captures the elegance of movement with fluid lines in a nude drawing, while Picasso deconstructs identity and emotion in a fragmented composition. Dubuffet fuses organic and abstract elements in a work from the *Hourloupe* series, and Warhol’s *Marilyn (Reversal)* turns an icon into a repeated image, exploring celebrity and mass culture. Baselitz inverts the portrait, challenging traditional

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perception, while Penck distills the human form into a bold, graphic language. Condo reinvents Cubist fragmentation in his expressive nude, and Botero magnifies proportions, celebrating sensuality and volume.

Opie reduces figures to their essence with striking minimalism, while Valdés sculpts a nude that reinterprets classical ideals through contemporary materials. Denzler blurs faces to evoke memory's fleeting nature, and Nazareno imbues his figures with a profound spiritual intensity.

'The Shape of Us' celebrates the infinite possibilities of interpreting the human figure, showcasing its role as a timeless muse for artists. This collection invites viewers to reflect on the universal themes it conveys—identity, emotion, and humanity—while connecting us across cultures, eras, and artistic visions.

About Opera Gallery

Founded in Singapore in 1994, Opera Gallery has forged, over its 30 years, a network of galleries worldwide including London, Paris, Madrid, Geneva, New York, and Miami, establishing itself as one of the leading global players within the international art market.

Headed by Gilles Dyan, Chairman and Founder, and Isabelle de La Bruyère, CEO, Opera Gallery specialises in Post-War, Modern and Contemporary Art. In addition, the gallery represents contemporary artists such as Andy Denzler, Pieter Obels and Gustavo Nazareno, alongside internationally recognized names such as Ron Arad, Manolo Valdés, Anthony James and Anselm Reyle.

In 2024, Opera Gallery celebrated its 30th anniversary, and its mission remains focused on showcasing the dynamic, innovative, and diverse expressions of modern and contemporary art. Through its ambitious annual exhibitions, the gallery continues to unite institutions that shape the cultural landscape, while also supporting private collections and collaborating with leading public institutions. Opera Gallery Geneva, located in the heart of the city, spans over 200 square meters of exhibition space and is led by Jordan Lahmi.

Press Contact

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Opera Gallery Geneva

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