

# OPERA GALLERY



Sam Francis, *Composition*, 1983, acrylic on paper, 91.3 x 94.2 cm  
All images are subject to copyright. Reproduction requires prior authorization from the gallery.

GENEVA

## Raw Emotion

SEPTEMBER 19 – OCTOBER 10, 2025

**OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 6–8 PM**

AUGUST 2025—Opera Gallery Geneva is pleased to announce ‘Raw Emotion’, a group exhibition bringing together nearly thirty works by artists who place instinct, urgency, and raw presence at the core of their practice. The show will run from September 19 to October 10, 2025, at the gallery’s location at 10-12 Place de Longemalle.

‘Raw Emotion’ invites viewers to feel first and reflect later, prioritising visceral impact over calculated analysis. The artists, unbound by a single movement or style, share a relentless drive to make emotion tangible, urgent, and undeniable.

The exhibition spans generations and geographies, with works by **Pablo Picasso, Joan Miró, Jean Dubuffet, Hans Hartung, Antoni Tàpies, Pierre Soulages, Karel Appel, Kazuo Shiraga, Antonio Saura, Sam Francis, John Chamberlain, Hermann Nitsch, Keith Haring, Georg Baselitz, Manolo Valdés, Fabienne Verdier, Pieter Obels, Anselm Reyle, and Andy Denzler.** Each artist engages emotion uniquely—through bold gestures, raw textures, or intense physicality.

Colour bursts free in the vibrant splashes of Sam Francis and Karel Appel, where it surges across the canvas with unrestrained energy. In contrast, Pierre Soulages’ deep blacks and Antoni Tàpies’ layered, ashen surfaces convey a heavy, introspective silence, emotion embedded in the material itself.

Jean Dubuffet’s rough, tactile canvases pulse with spontaneity, while Manolo Valdés and Antoni Tàpies incorporate fabric, sand, or rope, creating surfaces that absorb rather than adorn. For some, the body becomes the medium: Kazuo Shiraga paints with his feet in fluid motion, Hermann Nitsch merges creation with ritualistic catharsis, and Fabienne Verdier and Hans Hartung capture gesture as a direct imprint of feeling.

# OPERA GALLERY

John Chamberlain's twisted steel sculptures hum with volatile energy, while Pieter Obels' corten steel forms balance soft curves with latent tension. In Anselm Reyle's reflective surfaces and synthetic colours, emotion flickers between artificial gloss and hidden depth.

The human figure appears not as representation, but as site of struggle. In late works by Picasso, the body is fractured and distorted. Antonio Saura's ink and graphite compositions scratch the figure into unrest. Georg Baselitz turns it upside down, severing recognition to provoke unease. Keith Haring's sumi ink drawings, on the other hand, channel pure energy—his line is not drawn, it pulses. In Andy Denzler's blurred portraits, the figure seems to fade in and out of presence—caught between memory and disappearance.

Raw Emotion is not a theme—it's a state. These works do not depict emotion. They transmit it. Immediate, unfiltered, and profoundly human.

## About Opera Gallery

Founded in Singapore in 1994, Opera Gallery has spent the past 30 years building a global presence, with 14 locations across major cities including London, Paris, New York, Geneva, Singapore, and Madrid. Under the leadership of Gilles Dyan, the gallery has become a key player in the international art market, with a strong focus on Modern, Postwar, and Contemporary art.

Opera Gallery also champions a new generation of artists, representing rising talents such as Andy Denzler, Pieter Obels, and Gustavo Nazareno, alongside more established contemporary figures like Ron Arad, Manolo Valdés, and Anselm Reyle. Situated in the heart of the city, the Geneva location spans over 200 square meters of exhibition space and is directed by Jordan Lahmi.

For over three decades, the gallery's mission has been to highlight the richness and diversity of modern and contemporary art through a dynamic annual exhibition program, while actively engaging with cultural institutions and supporting both private collections and major public initiatives.

## Press Contact

Jordan Lahmi, Director | [jordan@operagallery.com](mailto:jordan@operagallery.com) | +41 (0)22 318 57 70

## Follow Opera Gallery

X: @OperaGallery

Facebook: @OperaGalleryOfficial

Instagram: @operagallery

Pinterest: operagalleryart

## Opera Gallery Geneva

Place de Longemalle 10-12

1204 Geneva, Switzerland

T +41 (0)22 318 57 70

Mon - Sat : 10 am - 7 pm

[operagallery.com](http://operagallery.com)