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## Biography

Manel Àlvarez was born in Sant Feliu de Codines (Barcelona, Spain) in 1945. He studied art in the San Juan Bosco School in Barcelona and began sculpting religious figures in wood. He continued to make sculpture after finishing the program and also worked as an industrial and interior designer. His success in these ventures afforded him the time and money to dedicate himself entirely to sculpture.

On a scholarship from the Pagani Foundation in Milan, he went to Carrara, Italy where he began working in marble for the first time. Working with marble and the daily contact with sculptors of differing levels of experience, combined to gradually transform his work; there was a simplification from the neoclassical to a more personal style, synthesising human and organic forms.

Manel spent 14 years working in Italy and exhibiting in different countries throughout Europe including France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Luxembourg, Italy and Spain as well as Iran, Mexico, Brazil and the United States. He travels the world both for inspiration and to install various site-specific sculptures. While in Atlanta in 1996, working on pieces for the Olympic Games, Alvarez visited a magnificent collection of African art as well as an exhibit at the MOMA in New York. He was overcome emotionally by the pieces and began working on what would be his future "Africa" series. He says: "I did not want to copy African art, nor invent an art about Africa. I just wanted to transmit what that African art meant to me."

In 2001 he completed the first piece of what would become his "Old Testament" series. This series proved to be the most exhilarating project of his career to date as he was challenged with finding solutions for the delicate theme, both in form and materials. Every piece required him to draw from his years of experience in working with wood, stone, iron, aluminium and bronze and to mix materials as he had never done before. He was also challenged to find an aesthetic solution for every piece which would transmit the concept or story.

His goal to create and exhibit this collection of medium size and monumental pieces was realized in 2011 with an exhibition in the Bible Lands Museum Jerusalem, Israel with works both in the garden and the interior of the museum. He continues working on this series as it is a rich theme which fascinates and inspires him.

## Selected Individual Exhibitions

- 1987 · Carrara en Nueva York, Galería Lavaggi (New York, USA)
- 1991 · Galería Sadalla (São Paulo, Brazil) Exhibition and launch of his third book.
- 1992 · Galería Espaço Escultural (São Paulo, Brazil)
- 1993 · Santa Apollonia Art Centre, Biennale di Venezia (Venice, Italy)
- 1994 · Aerospace Cultural Centre (Toulouse, France)
  - Museum of Contemporary Art (São Paulo, Brazil)
  - AM Gallery (Belo Horizonte, Brazil)
  - Escritorio de Arte Caribé Gallery (São Paulo, Brazil)
- 1998 · Zoellner Arts Center, Leigh University (Bethlehem, PA, USA)
- 2000 · Saks Fifth Avenue, (Atlanta, Georgia, USA).
- 2001 · Fabrice Galvani Gallery (Toulouse, France).
- 2002 · Galleria Claudia (Houston, TX, USA)
- 2004 · He opens his studio-workshop in Saus (Girona, Spain) with an exhibition of recent large-scale work.
- 2005 · Espai Volart, Vila Casas Private Foundation (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2006 · Franklin Bowles Gallery (New York, NY, USA)
- 2007 · Cyprus Art (Sant Feliu de Boada, Spain)
  - Franklin Bowles Gallery (San Francisco, CA, USA)
- 2008 · Fundacion Josep Niebla (Girona, Spain)
- 2010 · KM7 Espai d'Arte (Girona, Spain)
- 2011 · The Bible Lands Museum Jerusalem (Jerusalem, Israel)
- 2012 · Galería Ignacio de Lassaletta (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2013 · Public Art work in Katzerin (Golan Heights, Israel)
- 2015 · Paris Gibson Square Museum (Great Falls, MT, USA)
- 2017 · Hockaday Museum of Art (Kalispell, MT, USA)
- 2018 · Montana Fina Art Gallery (Kalispell, MT, USA)
  - Parc dels Estanys, open air exhibition. Big dimension sculptures (Platja d'Aro, Girona, Catalonia, Spain)

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1976 · Galería Arturo Ramón (Barcelona, Spain)
- Pinoteca (Tossa de Mar, Spain)
- 1977 · Grupo Spazio (Carrara, Italy)
- Mostra de Nicola; Mostra in Marmo, (Pietra Santa, Italy)
- Galería Laietana (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1978 · Awarded critic's prize - III Biennale in Arese, II Rasegna Internazionale di Scultura i Pintura (Brescia, Italy)
- Mostra di Scultura all'aperto a Porto Venere (La Spezia, Italy)
- Mostra d'Escultors Catalans, Galería Serrallonga (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1980 · IV Biennale di Arese, (Monza, Italy)
- 1983 · Exhibited in America for the first time in Los Angeles and New York.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Exhibition of the Luigi Corsanini Studio (Carrara, Italy)
- Galería AB (Granollers, Spain)
- 1986 · Scultura Internazionale, Castello Malaspina (Massa, Italy)
- Scultura Simposio y Mostra (Alessandria, Italy)
- 1987 · Galería Art Contemporáneo, ARCO 87, (Geneva, Switzerland)
- 1989 · Organized symposium Sculpture in the Street in El Prat de Llobregat, Spain with three important invited sculptors, creating large-scale works.
- 1997 · Il Joyas de Escultor (Vilarobau, Spain)
- 1999 · Created series of furniture for Mob Art, as part of the Primavera del Disseny (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2001 · Batecs de Memòria, Museum of Catalanian History (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2002 · Coordinated and participated in the second symposium Sculpture in the Street, El Prat de Llobregat, Spain
- Art Nimes (Nimes, France)
- Espace Languedoc-Roussillon, Hôtel de Région (Montpellier, France)
- 2003 · L'Art et l'Arène (Toulouse, France)
- Exposició d'Escultura de Gran Format (Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain)
- 2004 · Rojo, Km7 Espai d'arte (Girona, Spain)
- 2005 · Galería Ignacio de Lassaletta (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2006 · KM7 Espai d'Arte (Girona, Spain)
- 2007 · Fundació Josep Niebla (Girona, Spain)
- 2008 · KM7 Espai d'Arte (Girona, Spain)
- Feria de Milano (Milan, Italy)
- 2008 · Tucson Jewish Community Center Sculpture Garden (Tucson, AZ, USA)

## Public Sculptures

- 1976 · Monument al Coronel Sanfeliu, cast bronze, 2.5m x 1.5m x 1.5m, city of El Prat de Llobregat (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1984 · Blanca, Carrara marble, 1.60m x 0.83m x 0.32m, city of Hamburg Saar (Germany)
- 1986 · Mini-Maxi Torso, Carrara marble, 2.30m high, city of Alexandria (Italy)
- 1988 · Bird Spirit, Carrara marble, 7m x 14m x 11m, Laboratories Uriach (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1989 · Mini-Maxi Torso, Carrara marble, 3m x 2m x 0.60m, city of El Prat de Llobregat, (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1991 · Personagem Triangular, bronze, Ford Motor Company (São Paulo, Brazil)
- 1993 · Porta al Cafetal, granite and iron, Nestle (Girona, Spain)
- 1994 · d' Orient, Calatorao marble and iron, 2.55m x 1.70m x 0.85m, Laboratorios Salvat (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1995 · Art and Science, basalt and iron, 5m high, Plaça del Dr. Reventós (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1996 · Dance of Peace, Georgia marble, 7.50m dia. x 3m high, Fulton County Courthouse (Atlanta, GA, USA)
- 1996 · Covering Spaces, Corten steel and bronze, 3m x 3m x 0.60m, University of Georgia (Athens, GA, USA)
- 1996 · Mythical Door, Corten steel, 11m x 5.60m x 3.20m, Esplugues de Llobregat (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1997 · Brother – Brotherhood, granite and iron, 3.30m x 2.40m x 0.60m, Col·legi La Salle Bonanova (Barcelona, Spain)
- 1999 · Mediterrànea, iron, steel and Carrara marble, 13m x 7m x 3m, Alcampo (Sant Boi, Barcelona, Spain)
- 2001 · Lluís Companys, Corten steel and cast iron, 1.70m x 1.10m x 0.60m, Parlament de Catalunya (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2003 · Dialog, iron and Roman travertine, 12m x 3.50m x 1.50m, city of El Prat de Llobregat (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2003 · Empremta i Matriu, Carrara marble, 4m x 13m x 1.5m, city of Villadecans (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2003 · Maxi Torso, Spanish travertine and iron, 1.89m x 1.33m x 0.24m, Roche Diagnostics (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2005 · Initial, Zimbabwe black granite and Carrara marble, 4.50m x 1.45m x 0.65m, Omnium Finance, (Toulouse, France)
- 2005 · Horizonte Urbano, Carrara and Bardiglio marble, aluminium and iron, 4m x 4.20m x 0.30m, Construcciones Riera (Barcelona, Spain)
- 2006 · Dialog II, Roman travertine, 2.73m x 1.55m x .84m, Florida Atlantic University (Jupiter, FL, USA.)
- 2007 · Tree of Knowledge, iron and aluminium, 10m x 10m x 0.95m, City of Salt (Girona, Spain)
- 2007 · Dorso di Pigno, Bardiglio marble, 3.40m x 2.27m x 0.61m, City of Stresa (Italy)
- 2013 · Dialleg, Carrara marble and black granite, 10m x 2.54m x .80m, City of Katzrin (Katzrin, Israel)
- 2015 · Toro, corten Iron, 1,45 m x 2,20 m x 0,81 m Paris Gibson Square Museum (Great Falls, MT, USA)
- 2017 · Bison, corten Iron, 1,40 m x 2,10 m x 0,76 m. Hockaday Museum of Art (Kalispell, MT, USA)