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## Oswaldo Vigas: The Venezuelan Painter Whom History Should Remember



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Some artists, like Pablo Picasso, Max Ernst, Alexander Calder, and Wilfredo Lam, become immortalized in history, while others — like the Venezuelan artist Oswaldo Vigas, who was a contemporary of Picasso, Ernst, Calder and Lam, often socializing with the artists while he lived in Paris during the '50s and '60s — remain under the radar, despite being just as talented.



Vigas returned to Venezuela with his French wife Janine Vigas in the early '60s because he felt he could accomplish more in his home country than abroad. Although he would go on to become Venezuela's most revered and prolific artists, his name would fade away into obscurity and remain practically unknown internationally.

Vigas passed away in 2014 at age 90, and now his family, through the [Oswaldo Vigas Foundation](#), is reviving the artist's career posthumously through a series of retrospectives around the world, which, after stops in Peru and Chile, is currently at the Museo de Arte Moderno Bogotá for the exhibition [Antológica](#), which is on view through August 23. The survey takes viewers through Vigas's career, which spanned over eight decades, beginning with two abstract paintings from 1943, when he was only 20 years old to large scale paintings from 2012 that pay homage to the healers who took care of him after he suffered a bout of the bacterial infection cellulitis.