

Biography

Nissan Engel was born in Haifa, Israel and has dedicated himself to painting since his youth. His formal training as an artist began in his native land at the Bezalel School of Art in Jerusalem; he later received a diploma from Centre Dramatique de l'Est in Strasbourg, France for theatre set and costume design.

He is an artist's artist, having progressed through all the classical phases of apprenticeship before arriving at his own unique style of collage. Nissan moved to New York in 1965 and stayed there for ten years before settling in Paris, France in 1975.

He discovered his affinity for collage after working on a series of stained-glass windows in New York and Maryland, a job that inspired him to create intense blocks of color with painted collage elements.

Musical themes are often his subject, giving his work its remarkable sense of harmony and rhythm. Nissan refers to his own work as "Abstract Lyricism."

Translating the feelings and emotions of music and color into the visual arts; he holds together his compositions by their likeness to tonal and harmonic qualities of music.

A similar feel pervades his engravings, which usually stem from his collages. He began exploring this print medium in the early 1980's in Paris, and quickly became as masterful at engraving his visual music on metal plates as at piecing it together in collage.

His etchings portfolio counts almost 300 subjects.

He worked with art galleries in New Orleans, Munich, Hamburg, Paris, Malmo, Tokyo, Florence and others.

He died in Paris in 2016.