



NATHALIE DU PASQUIER



LIFE AND INFLUENCES

Nathalie Du Pasquier was born in Bordeaux, France in 1957. She was first inspired by her Mum, an art historian, which gave du Pasquier an appreciation for classic art. From 1975 to 1977, she travelled through Gabon and West Africa, and in 1979 she moved to Milan. Pasquier drew influence from African art and music. After a brief time illustrating, until 1986, she worked as a designer with a focus on fabrics for fashion design brands, but she also designed a range of furniture and installations. Many of Nathalie's pattern designs were influenced by her time in Gabon, Africa. She watched sign painters, observed culture and absorbed local pattern design. Moving to Milan, Italy, the Byzantine mosaics also added to her later creativity. She was introduced to the Memphis Group ideals by her husband George Sowden who was a founding member with Ettore Sottsass.

MEMPHIS GROUP

The group was a collaborative design group conjured by Italian designer Ettore Sottsass, with its roots in furniture design – it made its influential debut at the Milan furniture fair in 1981, but it was relatively short-lived as an actual collective, closing down after just six years, though its influence still lives on. The Memphis style was perhaps similar to the Art Deco and Pop Art styles that had become so popular over the previous decades. Since the disbandment of the Memphis Group, Nathalie has focused more on her still-life paintings, of which her more recent pieces still hold onto cubist themes.

PAINTING

In 1985, du Pasquier started painting, and by 1987 it became her primary medium. She is represented by Pace Gallery, and has exhibited in their locations around the world. Her work has been the subject of several survey exhibitions. In 2015, Nathalie du Pasquier opened a solo exhibition in Berlin, Germany titled "Big Game." This exhibit included 35 years of her artwork, dating back from 1980.

SOLO DESIGN WORK

Du Pasquier has continued to design textiles, including patterns for clothes produced by American Apparel since 2014 and blankets and other bedding, with George Sowden, for Zig Zag Zurich in 2015. Her recent exhibit in Modena, Italy, includes seven of du Pasquier's sculptures. She also designs silk scarves for Hermès and dresses for Valentino.





FIND OUT MORE...

<https://www.pacegallery.com/artists/nathalie-du-pasquier/>

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. Where was Nathalie born?
2. Where did she travel to in Africa?
3. What group did she become part of?
4. Which gallery represented her?
5. Who does she design silk scarves for?