

Since 1993,
Claude Lemand
Gallery has
been presenting
a biannual
international
exhibition
entitled Masters
of the Tondo,
showcasing the
very rich variety
of Post-War and
contemporary
round paintings.

Masters of TONDO



Sam Francis. **Tondo**, 1987
Oil on canvas on wood panel, diam. 150 cm
© The Sam Francis Foundation
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



Joan Mitchell. **Tondo**, 1991
Oil on canvas, diam. 150 cm
© The Joan Mitchell Foundation
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



Dia Al-Azzawi. **Sunny Day**, 2009
Acrylic on wood panel, diam. 190 cm
© Dia Al-Azzawi
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



Antonio Segui. **Manpower 1**, 1999
Acrylic on canvas, diam. 120 cm
© Antonio Segui
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris

Tondo paintings featured in the collection are by: Sam Francis (USA), Joan Mitchell (USA), Shafic Abboud (Lebanon), Dia Al-Azzawi (Iraq), Abdallah Benanteur (Algeria), Antonio Segui (Argentina), Vladimir Velickovic (Yugoslavia), Bengt Lindström (Sweden), Saul Kaminer (Mexico), Manabu Kochi (Japan), Zoulikha Bouabdellah (France), Pat Andrea (Netherlands) and Rashid Al Khalifa (Bahrain).

These artists, from different geographic, cultural and aesthetic backgrounds all chose Paris, London or New York as their capital of life, creation and international growing success, whether it be temporary or permanent.

History and Continuity of the Tondo

The use of the round format goes back to the origins of painting, both in the East and in the West. Beyond its technical and symbolical specificities and the variety of the tondo's aesthetic and social functions, it furthermore encompasses all the trends of modern and contemporary painting.

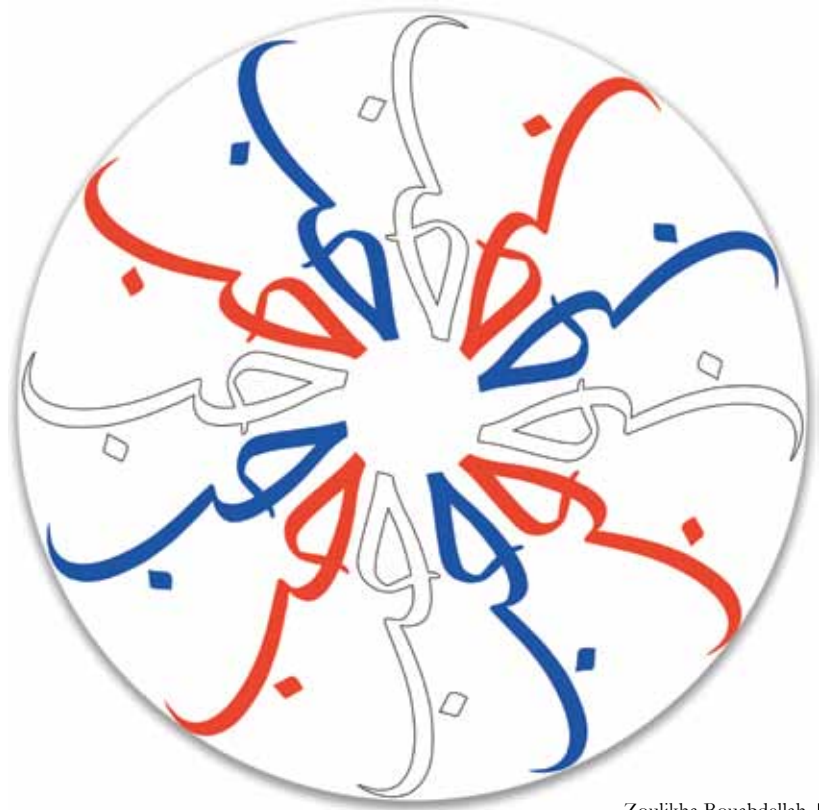
It is true that many artists never felt the use or the attraction to explore this shape and some even loathe it, as they feel they cannot grasp it and instead, they need angles and marks. The tondo also destabilizes many amateur artists who wrongly assimilate it with the oval shape, sometimes used for bourgeois portraits. In the classical era, tondo painting corresponded in some instances to the constraints of architecture or interior design from public and private commissions. However, from 1900 onwards, many painters were drawn by the tondo because of its ideal shape and its formal challenge in having to adapt oneself to its specific features, just like during the Renaissance period. Some have discovered through the tondo the revival of their art and the perfect channel for their artistic expression, by including in it concentric circles, an eye, a dish, a target, our planet seen from space...



Manabu Kochi. **Autre réalité**, 1992
Acrylic on canvas, diam. 80 cm
© Manabu Kochi
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



Abdallah Benanteur. **Le Témoin**, 1991
Oil on canvas diam. 130 cm
© Abdallah Benanteur
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



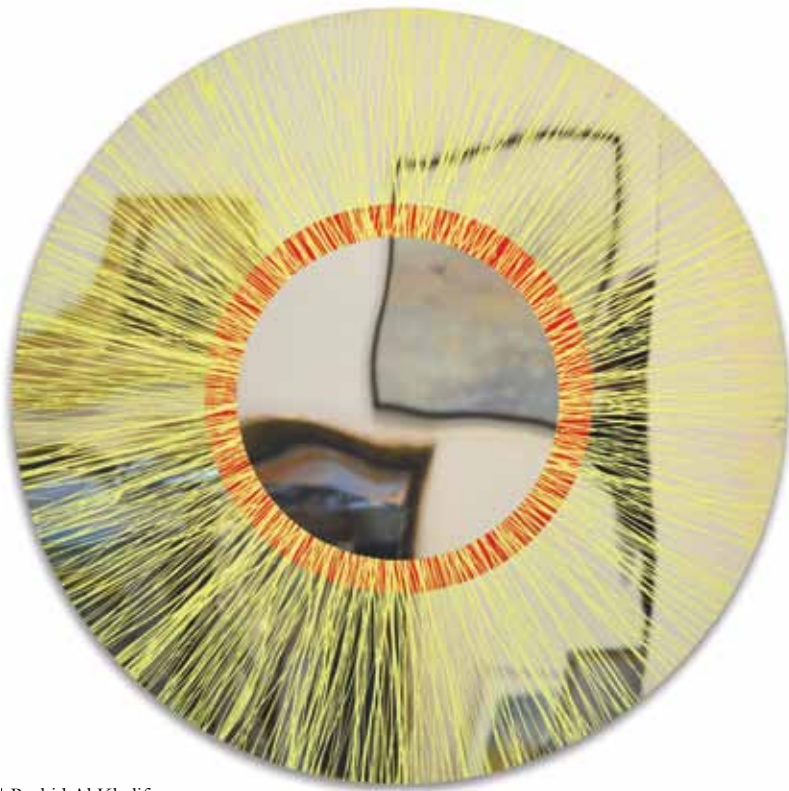
Zoulikha Bouabdellah
LOVE bleu blanc rouge, 2014
Painting on metal, diam. 240 cm
© Zoulikha Bouabdellah
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



Velickovic. **Execution**, 1998
Oil on canvas, diam. 120 cm
© Vladimir Velickovic
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



Saul Kaminer. **Equilibrista**, 2000
Oil on canvas, diam. 120 cm
© Saul Kaminer
Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



Rashid Al Khalifa
Iris, 2014
 Enamel on chrome, diam. 120 cm
 © Rashid Al Khalifa
 Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris

In Europe, some of the most important masters distinguished themselves in tondo painting, from Jean Maluel (1400) to the painters of the Italian, Flemish and Dutch Renaissance, without omitting the great artists of later centuries, from Goya and Delacroix to Ingres with his iconic *Bain turc*, Monet with his signature *Nymphéas* (1907), Delaunay (1911), Picasso, Metzinger, Kandinsky (1923), Léger, Gleizes, Gorin, Bolotowsky, Herbin... After 1940, a continuous re-emergence of the tondo took place, with Glarner, Pollock, Riopelle, Hantai, Zao Wou Ki, Villeglé, Stella, Télémaque, Wesselman, Tovar, Lichtenstein, Estève, Corneille, Doucet, Alechinsky, Viallat, Félix Gonzalez-Torres, Honegger, Belkahia, Sam Francis, Jaffe, Benanteur, Kim En Joong, Kuroda, Rougemont, Madi, Shimi, Kuroda, Klasen, Camacho, Vedova, Azzawi, Lindström, Kermarrec, Franta, Le Parc, Morellet, Kapoor, Mitchell, Velickovic, Koraichi, Titus-Carmel, Schlosser, Keita, Khalil, Haring, Corpet, Favier, Kaminer, Kochi, Hirst, Mehadji, Abboud, Andrea, Segui, Paladino, Rondinone, Castaneda, Sahli, Afjehei, Ehsai, Derakshani, Assadour, Baalbaki, Ben Bella, Alechinsky, Murakami, Kaws, Kher, ... and many other painters from all around the world, whom we continue to discover throughout exhibitions and auctions.



Bengt Lindström. **Le Baiser**, 1987
 Oil on canvas, diam. 120
 © Bengt Lindström
 Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris



Pat Andrea. **Sundown-iris**, 1999
 Oil on canvas, diam. 120 cm
 © Pat Andrea
 Courtesy Galerie Claude Lemand, Paris