



HENRI NOUVEAU

1901–1959

Henri Nouveau was a French modernist artist whose prolific career spanned nearly five decades, from the 1910s through the late 1950s. Born Henrik Neugeboren in 1901, Nouveau developed a distinctive abstract, constructivist visual language that positioned him within the geometric and constructivist movements defining European modernism.

Working across painting, drawing, and printmaking, Nouveau produced over 450 documented works, with significant artistic output during the 1940s and 1950s. His practice was characterized by a methodical investigation of form, line, and spatial composition—priorities that elevated formal exploration over representational concerns. This commitment to abstraction became the hallmark of his artistic identity throughout his career.

Nouveau's titles—*Composition*, *Construction*, *Improvisation*—reveal an artist dedicated to rigorous formal investigation. His works on paper, in particular, demonstrate a mastery of line and structural clarity that influenced contemporaries and contributed meaningfully to the development of European abstract art in the mid-twentieth century.

The substantial market activity surrounding Nouveau's work reflects the enduring recognition of his contributions to modernism. His pieces are held in collections across Europe and North America, and his legacy remains vital to any understanding of constructivist practice in twentieth-century France. Nouveau died in 1959, leaving behind a comprehensive record of modernist artistic vision in mid-century Europe.