



**Alina Szapocznikow**  
*Fotorzeźby [Photosculptures], 1971/2007*

## Photosculptural: Alina Szapocznikow's index of the body by Elena Filipovic

In 1971, Alina Szapocznikow had twenty photographs made of the different shapes made by the chewing gum that she had pulled from her mouth and placed on a stone ledge, the sticky drooping specimens stretched and distended like the most malleable of sculptural materials. She called the work *Fotorzeźby* (*Photosculptures*) and accompanied it with a text that suggested the tension between a result both immanent (in a sculptural sense) and impermanent:<sup>1</sup>

“In shaping with my mouth odd-looking and bizarre forms, I suddenly realized what an extraordinary collection of abstract sculptures was moving between my teeth. One has only to photograph and enlarge my masticated creations in order to achieve a sculptural presence. Chew well then. Look around you. Creation lies just between dreams and daily work.”

Alina Szapocznikow, 22 June 1971.

Extract from the text published in *Sculpture Undone 1955-1972*, 2011, The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)/Mercatorfonds, p. 64.

L'AUTRE SAMEDI, EN PLEIN SOLEIL, FATIGUEE D'AVOIR POLI  
PENDANT DES HEURES MA ROLLS-ROYCE EN MARBRE ROSE DU PORTUGAL,  
JE ME SUIS ASSISE ET ME SUIS MISE A REVER EN MACHANT MACHINALEMENT  
M ON CHWING-GUM.

TIRANT DE MA BOUCHE DES FORMES INSOLITES ET BIZARRES J'AI SOUDAIN  
REALISE QUELLE EXTRAORDINAIRE COLLECTION DE SCULPTURES ABSTRAITES  
ME PASSAIT PAR LES DENTS.

IL SUFFIT DE PHOTOGRAPHER ET D'AGRANDIR MES DECOUVERTES MASTICATOIRES  
POUR CREEER L'EVENEMENT DE LA PRESENCE SCULPTURALE.

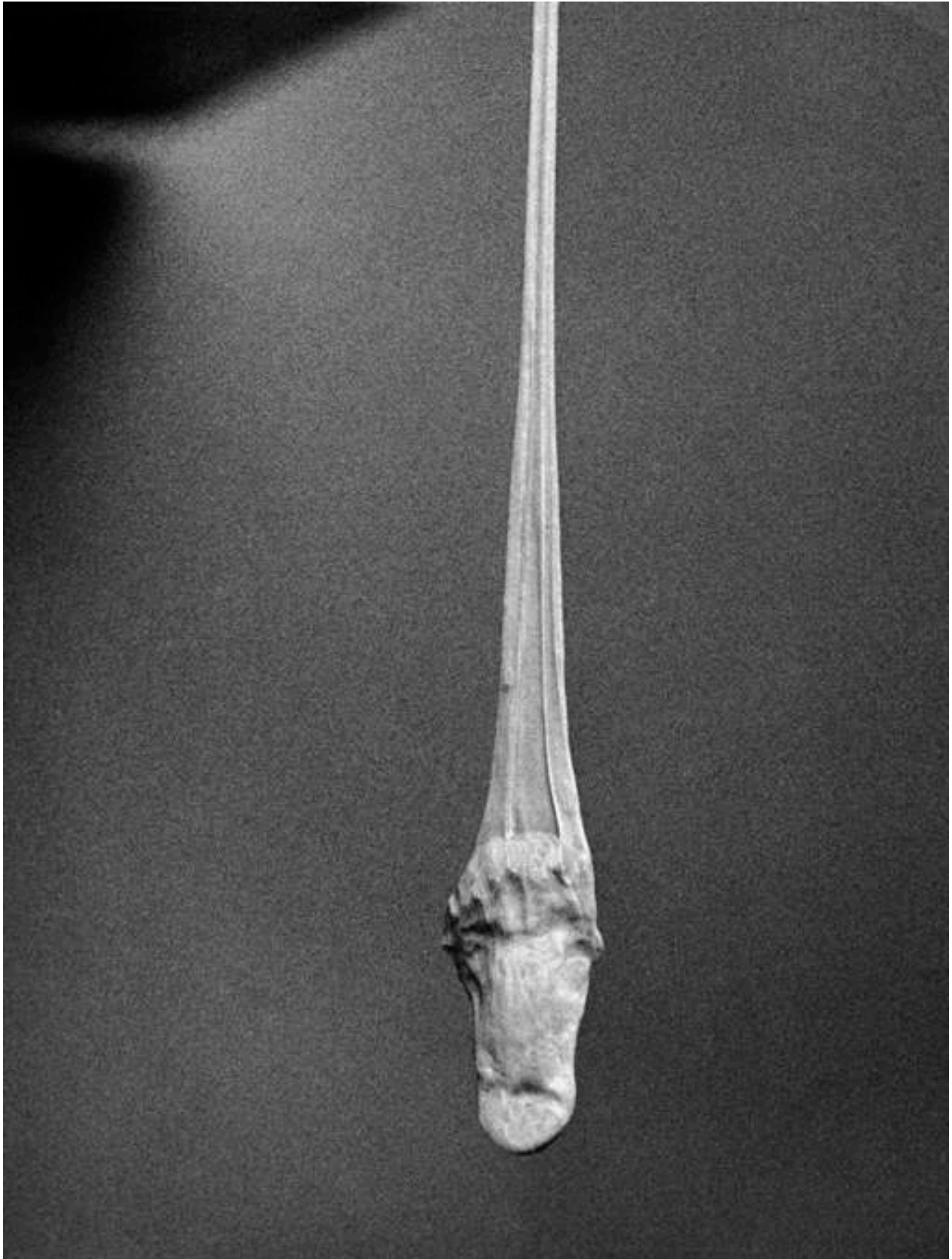
MACHEZ BIEN, REGARDEZ AUTOUR DE VOUS.

LA CREATION SE SITUE ENTRE LE REVE ET LE TRAVAIL DE TOUS LES JOURS.

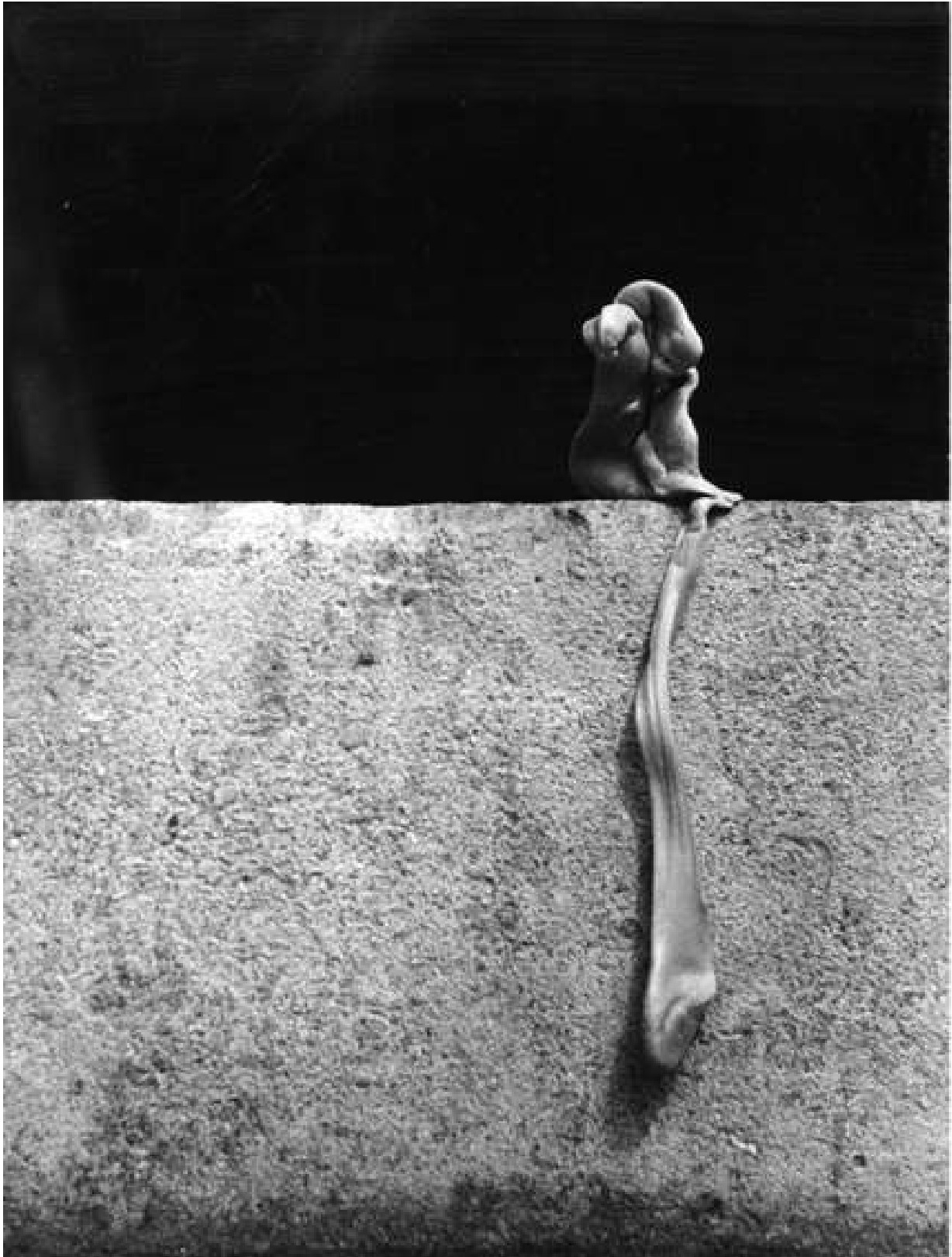
92 MALAKOFF, LE 22 JUIN 1971

ALINA SZAPOCZNIKOW















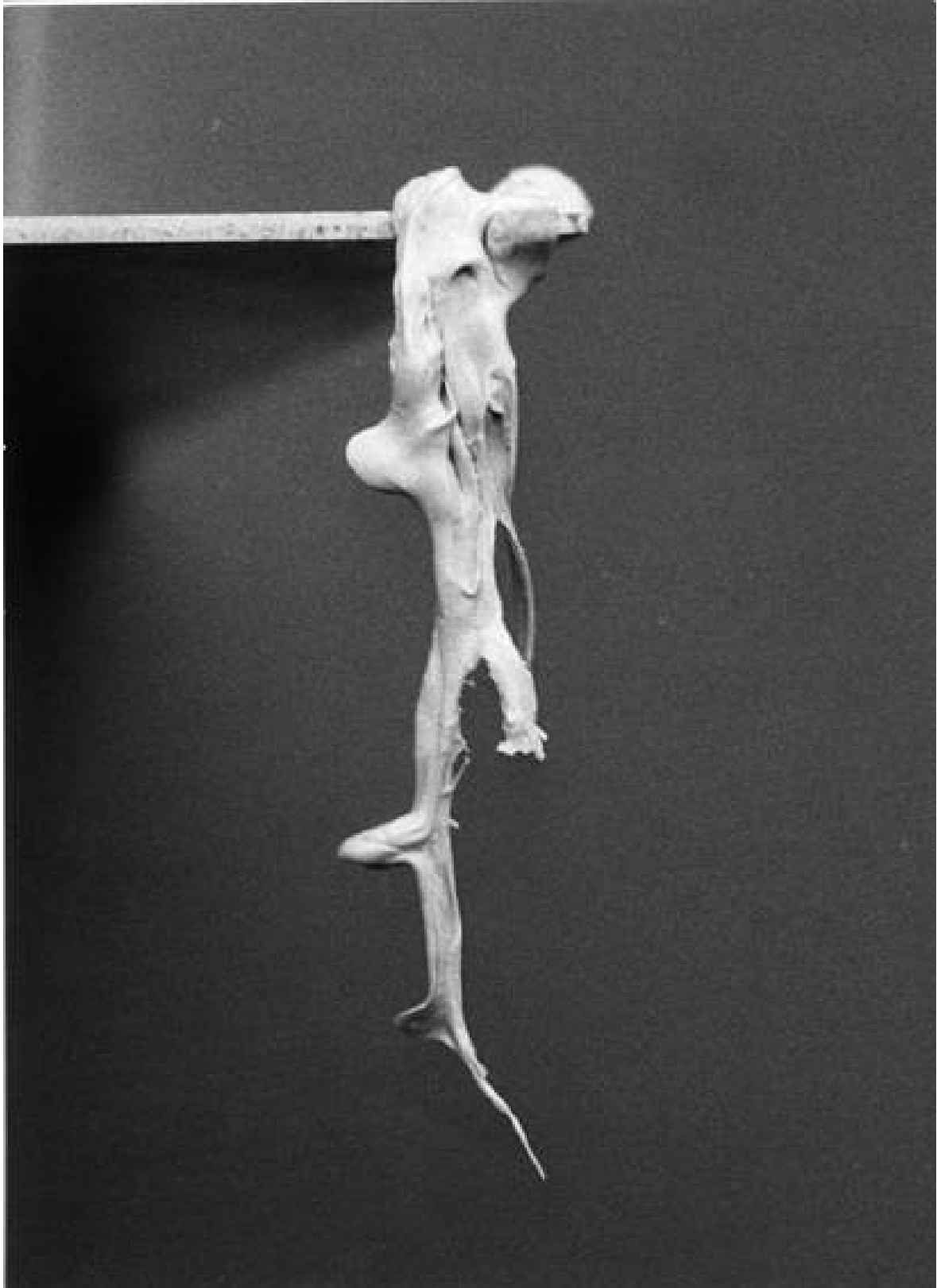














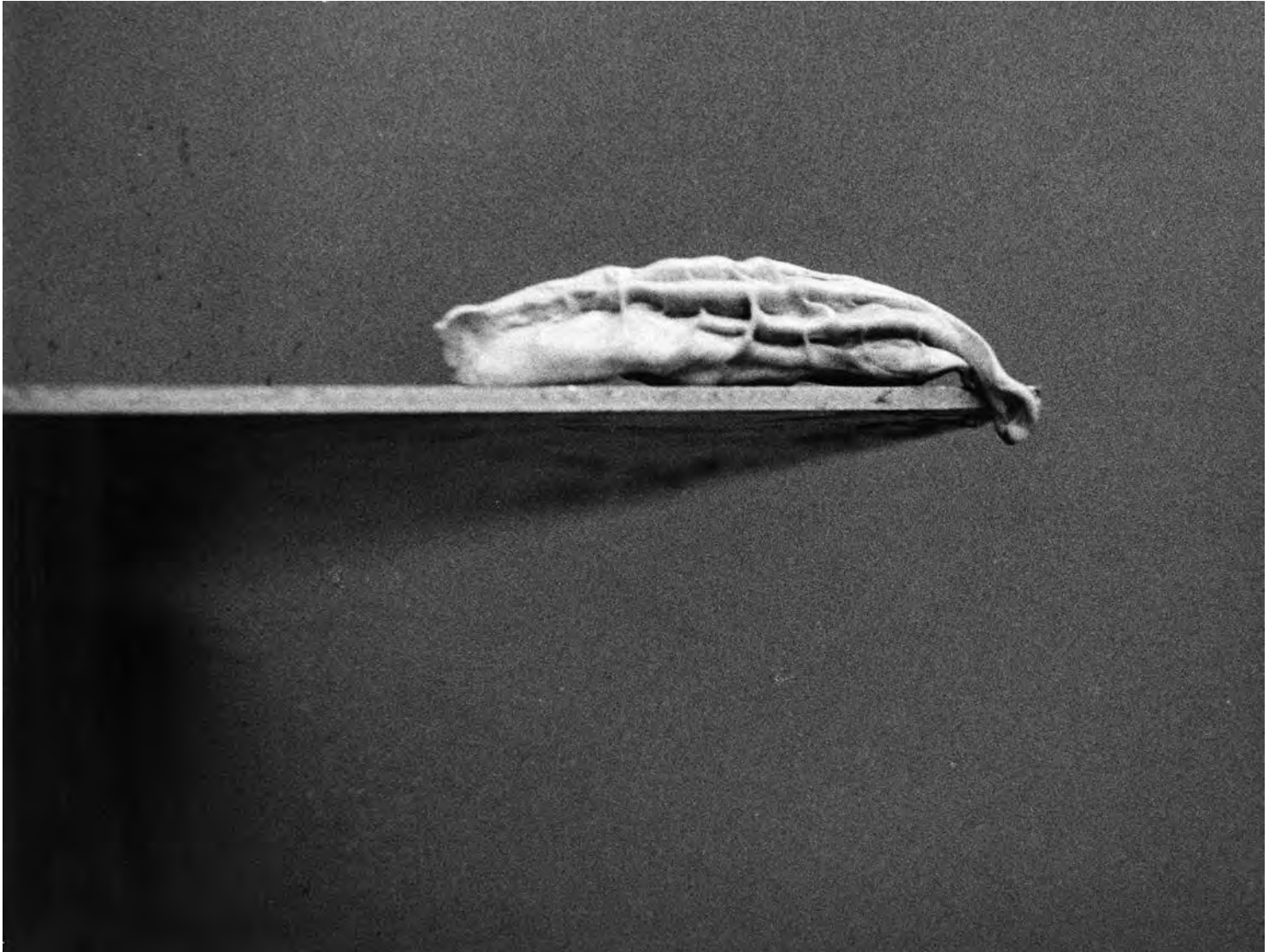








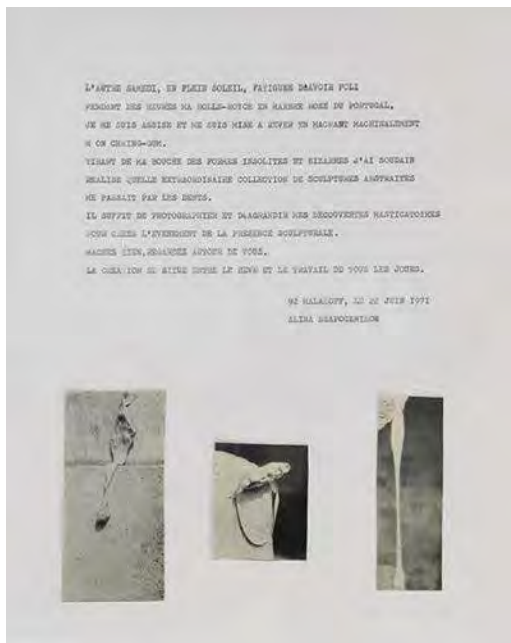












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## Alina Szapocznikow *Fotorze żby* (Photosculptures), 1971/2007

Twenty original gelatin silver prints, collage with text on paper  
Photography: Roman Cieslewicz  
24 x 30 cm and 30 x 24 cm (each); 9 7/16 x 11 13/16 in and 11 13/16 x 9 7/16 in (each)

Ed. 6/12

Inv. No. : ASCRS457.4

**Selling price : 450 000 euros**

## Exhibitions history

2020	"To Exalt the Ephemeral: Alina Szapocznikow, 1962-1972"	Hauser & Wirth	London	GB
			07.02.2020 – 14.08.2020	
2020	"Radical Passivity: Politics of the Flesh"	nGbK	Berlin	DE
			11.09.2020 – 01.11.2020 Curated by: Kathrin Busch, Ilse Lafer	
2020	"How to Survive"	Sprengel Museum Hannover	Hanover	DE
			14.11.2020 – 25.04.2021 Curated by: Carina Plath	
2019	"Unconscious Landscape, Works from the Ursula Hauser Collection"	Hauser & Wirth	Somerset	GB
			25.05.2019 – 08.09.2019 Curated by: Manuela Wirth, Laura Bechter	
2019	"To Exalt the Ephemeral: Alina Szapocznikow, 1962 – 1972"	Hauser & Wirth	New York	US



29.10.2019 – 21.12.2019

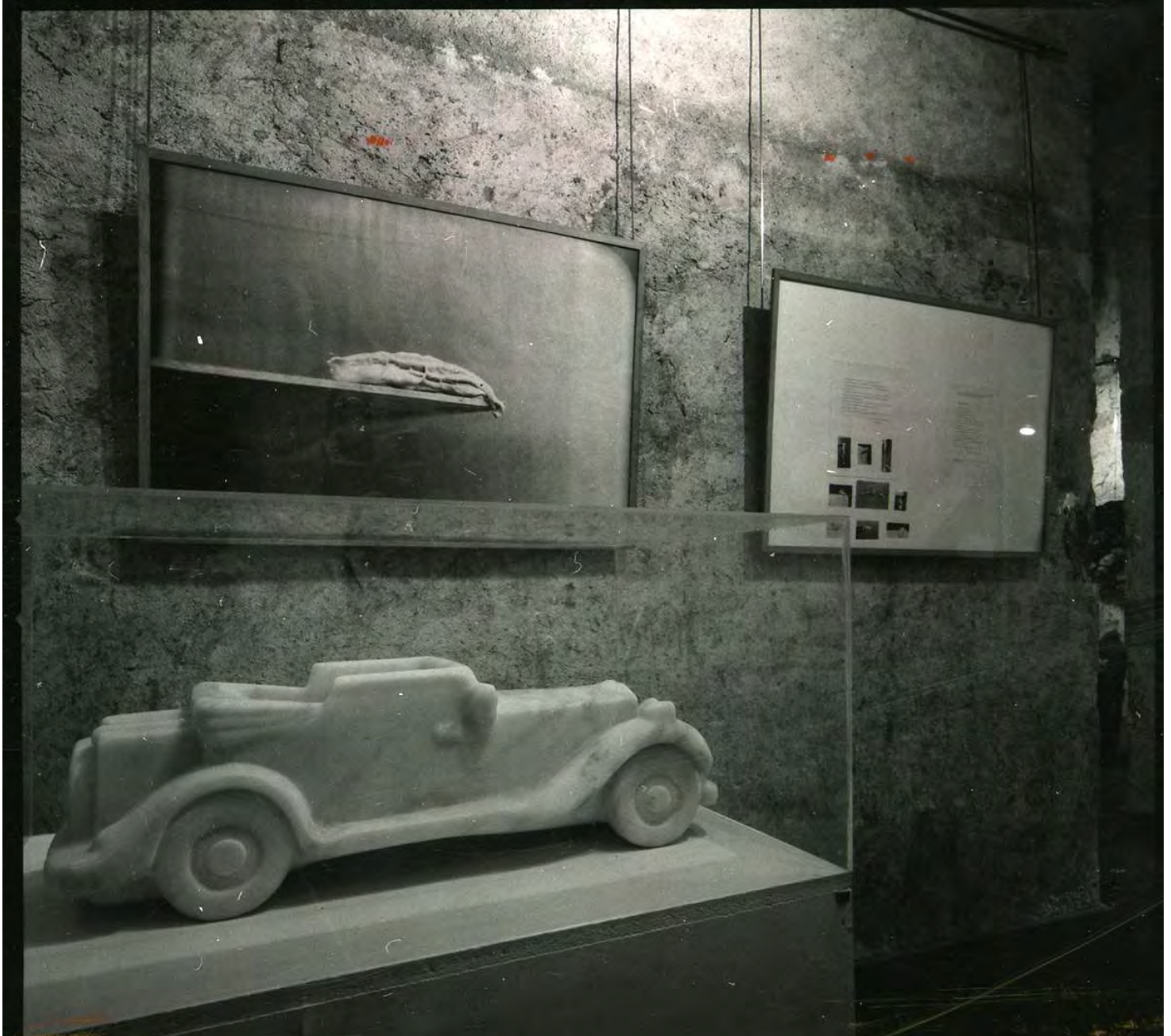
2018	"Alina Szapocznikow: Human Landscapes"	Staatliche Kunsthalle	Baden-Baden	DE
		21.07.2018 – 07.10.2018 Curated by: Luisa Heese		
2018	"The shape left by the body"	The Sunday Painter	London	GB
		06.07.2018 – 04.08.2018 Curated by: Dorota Michalska		
2017	"Alina Szapocznikow: Human Landscapes"	The Hepworth Wakefield	Wakefield	GB
		21.10.2017 – 28.01.2018 Curated by: Andrew Bonacina, Marta Dziewanska		
2017	"The specter of surrealism"	Rencontres d'Arles - Atelier des Forges	Arles	FR
		03.07.2017 – 24.09.2017 Curated by: Karolina Ziebinska-Lewandowska		
2016	"Almost Animated"	Galerie Loevenbruck	Paris	FR
		05.02.2016 – 26.03.2016		
2016	"Bittersweet Transformation. Alina Szapocznikow, Kateřina Vincourová and Camille Henrot"	Kunsthaus Graz	Graz	AT
		26.05.2016 – 28.08.2016		
2015	"THEM"	Schinkel Pavillon	Berlin	DE
		13.06.2015 – 26.07.2015		
2015	"Alina Szapocznikow"	Andrea Rosen Gallery	New York	US
		30.10.2015 – 15.12.2015		
2014	"Manners of Matter"	Salzburger Kunstverein	Salzburg	AT
		01.05.2014 – 13.07.2014		
2014	"Alina Szapocznikow: Body Traces"	Tel Aviv Museum of Art (TAMA)	Tel Aviv	IL
		06.02.2014 – 31.05.2014		
2014	"ART Farhenheit 451: Sailing into the sea of oblivion"	Yokohama Triennale 2014	Yokohama	JP
		01.08.2014 – 03.11.2014		
2014	"Manners of Matter "	Castle of the Dukes of Württemberg	Montbeliard	FR
		19.09.2014 – 01.02.2015		
2013	"Le Surréalisme et l'objet "	MNAM/CCI Centre Pompidou	Paris	FR
		30.10.2013 – 03.03.2014		
2013	"Counter Forms"	Andrea Rosen Gallery	New York	US
		12.10.2013 – 16.11.2013 Curated by: Elena Filipovic		
2012	"Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972"	Hammer Museum	Los Angeles	US
		05.02.2012 – 06.05.2012 Curated by: Elena Filipovic, Joanna Mytkowska. Organized by Allegra Pesenti, Curator, Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts. Organized by Allegra Pesenti, Curator, Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts.		
2012	"Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972"	The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)	New York	US
		07.10.2012 – 28.01.2013 Curated by: Elena Filipovic, Joanna Mytkowska. Organized at MoMA by Connie Butler, The Robert Lehman Foundation Chief Curator of Drawings. Organized at MoMA by Connie Butler, The Robert Lehman Foundation Chief Curator of Drawings.		

2012	"Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972"	Wexner Center for the Arts	Columbus, Ohio	US
		19.05.2012 – 05.08.2012 Curated by: Elena Filipovic, Joanna Mytkowska		
2012	"Sculptural Matter"	Australian Centre for Contemporary Art	Melbourne	AU
		11.08.2012 – 23.09.2012 Curated by: Charlotte Day		
2011	"Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972"	WIELS Contemporary Art Center	Brussels	BE
		10.09.2011 – 08.01.2012 Curated by: Elena Filipovic, Joanna Mytkowska		
2010	"Out of My Mouth: The 'Photosculptures' of Alina Szapocznikow"	Henry Moore Institute	Leeds	GB
		03.06.2010 – 29.08.2010		
2007	"Alina Szapocznikow"	BROADWAY 1602	New York	US
		18.11.2007 – 12.01.2008		
2007	"Documenta 12"	Neue Galerie am Landesmuseum Joanneum	Kassel	DE
		16.06.2007 – 23.09.2007 Curated by: Roger M. Buergel, Ruth Noack		
2007	"Photographies, Nouvelles acquisitions 2003-2007"	Centre Pompidou	Paris	FR
		07.11.2007 – 07.01.2008		
1999	"Alina Szapocznikow. 1926-1973"	Muzeum Sztuki	Łódź	PL
		09.01.1999 – 21.02.1999 Curated by: Janina Ladnowska		
1998	"Alina Szapocznikow. 1926-1973"	Zachęta National Gallery of Art	Warsaw	PL
		18.05.1998 – 05.07.1998 Curated by: Anda Rottenberg, assisted by Joanna Puzynska. Includes session devoted to Szapocznikow's artistic legacy, May, 19.		
1978	"Alina Szapocznikow, Fotorzezby, 1971" ("Alina Szapocznikow, Photosculptures, 1971")	Wroclawska galeria fotografii	Wrocław	PL
		1978 Curated by: Jerzy Olek		
1978	"Alina Szapocznikow, Fotorzezby, 1971" (Alina Szapocznikow, Photosculptures, 1971)	Critis' Salon, BWA	Lublin	PL
		06.06.1978 – 26.06.1978 Curated by: Jerzy Olek		
1971	"Instants et choses"	Aurora Gallery	Geneva	CH
		07.10.1971 – 30.10.1971		

## Bibliography

2020	<i>How to Survive. Art as Survival Strategy</i>	Sprengel Museum Hannover	Hanover	p. 54-55
2019	<i>To Exalt the Ephemeral: Alina Szapocznikow, 1962-1972</i>	Hauser & Wirth Publishers	Zurich	p. 202-210

2019	<i>Krytyka jako interwencja</i>	Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego	Krakow	cover
2018	<i>Human Landscapes</i>	Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König	Cologne	p. 124-128, n°66A
2016	<i>Bittersüße Transformation / Bittersweet Transformation, Alina Szapocznikow, Kateřna Vincourová, Camille Henrot</i>	VfmK Verlag für moderne Kunst GmbH	Vienne	p. 20-26
2015	« <i>Amusante et poétique</i> ». <i>Studi di storia dell'arte per Enzo Bilardello</i>	Campisano Editore	Rome	n°73
2015	<i>ferwor zycie Aliny Szapocznikow</i>	Mowi Muzeum	Warsaw	p. 230
2014	<i>Yokohama Triennale 2014. Art Fahrenheit 451: Sailing into the sea of oblivion</i>	Heibonsha Ltd. Publishers	Tokyo	p. 162-165
2014	<i>Cookie!</i>	Sternberg Press	Berlin	p. 143, back cover
2014	<i>Alina Szapocznikow / Body Traces</i>	Tel Aviv Museum of Art	Tel Aviv	p. 86 ; 88-91, cover
2014	<i>Counter Forms</i>	Andrea Rosen Gallery	New York	p. 106-109
2013	<i>Dictionnaire de l'objet surréaliste</i>	Co-édition Gallimard / Musée national d'art moderne - Centre Pompidou	Paris	p. 256-259
2012	<i>Sculptural Matter</i>	Australian Center for Contemporary Art	Melbourne	p. 7, cover and back cover
2011	<i>Alina Szapocznikow - Awkward Objects</i>	Agata Jakubowska - Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw	Warsaw	p. 35 ; 121 ; 152
2011	<i>Alina Szapocznikow, Sculpture Undone 1955-1972</i>	WIELS Contemporary Art Center and Mercatorfonds	Brussels	p. 61-63 ; 65 ; 199, n°36 ; 55
2011	<i>Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972</i>	The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), Mercatorfonds	New York, Brussels	p. 61-63 ; 65 ; 199, n°36 ; 55
2007	<i>Documenta Kassel 16/06 - 23/09 2007</i>	Taschen	Cologne	
2004	<i>Capturing Life. Alina Szapocznikow - Drawings and Sculptures</i>	Josef Grabski / IRSA	Krakow / Warsaw	p. 285-291
2001	<i>Katalog rzeźb - Aliny Szapocznikow</i>	National Museum in Krakow	Krakow	p. 188, n°457



Exhibition view, “Instants et choses”, Aurora Gallery, Geneva, 1971.



Exhibition view, “How to Survive”, Sprengel Museum  
Hannover, Hanover, Germany, 2020–2021.



Exhibition view, “Alina Szapocznikow: Human Landscapes”,  
Staatliche Kunsthalle, Baden-Baden, Germany, 2018.



Exhibition view, “Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972”, The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, 2012.



Exhibition view, “Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972”, WIELS Contemporary Art Center, Brussels, 2011.





Exhibition view, "Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972", WIELS Contemporary Art Center, Brussels, 2011.



*Alina Szapocznikow. Human Landscapes, The Hepworth Wakefield, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, 2018, p. 124–125.*



*Alina Szapocznikow. Human Landscapes*, The Hepworth Wakefield, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, 2018, p. 126–127.



**Alina Szapocznikow. *Human Landscapes*, The Hepworth Wakefield, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, 2018, p. 128–129.**

**Loevenbruck**

6, rue Jacques Callot  
75006 Paris

t +33 1 53 10 85 68

contact@loevenbruck.com  
www.loevenbruck.com



Portrait of Alina Szapocznikow, 1972

“My gesture is addressed to the human body,  
‘that complete erogenous zone,’ to its most  
vague and ephemeral sensations.  
I want to exalt the ephemeral in the folds of  
our body in the traces of our passage”

Alina Szapocnikow, 1972

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# Alina Szapocznikow

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Born: 1926, Kalisz, Poland. Died: 1973, Passy, France.

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Alina Szapocznikow is now recognized as one of the preeminent woman sculptors of the post-war era. Her work has been presented at premier institutions, from the Centre Pompidou to MoMA. In the years after her death, by contrast, art historians were virtually silent on her art, even though she had been well connected in the circles of artists and curators of her time. A Holocaust survivor, she spoke with a markedly female voice, articulating an enormously forceful and energetic engagement with the image of a surreal sensuality informed by pop art in conjunction with the existential transience of the material.

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## Representation

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Galerie Loevenbruck	Paris	FR
Hauser & Wirth	Zurich, London, New York, Somerset, Los Angeles, Hong Kong & Gstaad	

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## Educational background

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1945	Studio Otokar Velímský	Prague	CZ
1946	Artistic Industrial College of studio Josef Wagner	Prague	CZ
1948	École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts	Paris	FR

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## Public collections

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Centre national des arts plastiques	Paris	FR
Tate	Londres	GB
MoMA	New York	US
MOCA	Los Angeles	US
Philadelphia Museum of Art	Philadelphie	US
The Isreal Museum	Jerusalem	IL
Museum of Modern Art	Varsovie	PL
Galerie nationale d'Art Zacheta	Varsovie	PL
Muzeum Sztuki	Łodz	PL
Musée national	Cracovie	PL
Musée national	Wroclaw	PL
Musée national d'art moderne - Centre Pompidou	Paris	FR

## 10 major solo exhibitions

2018	"Alina Szapocznikow: Human Landscapes"	Staatliche Kunsthalle 21.07.2018 – 07.10.2018 Curated by: Luisa Heese	Baden-Baden	DE
2017	"Alina Szapocznikow: Human Landscapes"	The Hepworth Wakefield 21.10.2017 – 28.01.2018 Curated by: Andrew Bonacina, Marta Dziewanska	Wakefield	GB
2014	"Alina Szapocznikow: Body Traces"	Tel Aviv Museum of Art (TAMA) 06.02.2014 – 31.05.2014	Tel Aviv	IL
2013	"Alina Szapocznikow. Du dessin à la sculpture"	Cabinet d'art graphique, MNAM / Centre Pompidou 27.02.2013 – 20.05.2013	Paris	FR
2012	"Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972"	The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) 07.10.2012 – 28.01.2013	New York	US
2012	"Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972"	Wexner Center for the Arts 19.05.2012 – 05.08.2012	Columbus, Ohio	US
2012	"Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972"	Hammer Museum 05.02.2012 – 06.05.2012	Los Angeles	US
2011	"Alina Szapocznikow: Sculpture Undone, 1955-1972"	WIELS Contemporary Art Center 10.09.2011 – 08.01.2012	Brussels	BE
1998	"Alina Szapocznikow. 1926-1973"	Zachęta National Gallery of Art 18.05.1998 – 05.07.1998 Curated by: Anda Rottenberg, assisted by Joanna Puzynska. Includes session devoted to Szapocznikow's artistic legacy, May, 19.	Warsaw	PL
1973	"Alina Szapocznikow, Tumeurs, Herbier"	Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris 08.05.1973 – 03.06.1973 Curated by: Pierre Restany	Paris	FR