

MORRIS GRAVES

- 1910 Born August 28 in Fox Valley, Oregon.
- 1911 Graves family moves to Seattle, Washington.
- 1916 Graves begins school but is often kept at home due to chronic illness.
- 1928 Along with his brother, Graves finds a job on a merchant ship travelling to Honolulu, Yokohama, Kobe, Shanghai, and San Francisco.
- 1929 Begins drawing and painting regularly.
- 1930 Graves takes two more trips to Asia.
- 1933 Wins \$100 prize for his piece *Moor Swan* which is shown in the newly founded Seattle Art Museum.
- 1934 Wins the Bakers Memorial Award.
- 1935 After the death of his father, Graves begins to regularly visit a Buddhist temple in Seattle. His studio burns down, destroying most of his paintings and collection of Asian objects.
- 1936 First solo exhibition at the Seattle Art Museum.
- 1938 Graves spends several months working with Father Devine in New York. He then travels to San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 1940 Participates in *Four Americans: 35 Under 35* at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. This exhibition travels to many American museums.
- 1942 As part of MOMA's *Americans 1942: 18 Artists from 9 States*, he exhibits 30 of his plant, animal, and vessel pieces. He refused induction into the army and is put in a stockade at Camp Roberts for 11 months.
- 1943 He is released from prison and devotes himself to his painting and on finishing construction of his cabin, The Rock near La Conner, WA.
- 1945 Graves participates in numerous exhibitions including *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Sculpture, Watercolors, and Drawings* at the Whitney Museum of Art.
- 1947 Hoping to travel to Japan, Graves goes to Hawai'i. Despite knowing the American ambassador to Japan he is prevented from completing his trip. He is inspired to paint his Ritual Bronze series by his deep interest in Chinese ritual vessels.
- 1948 At a collector's invitation, travels to England.
- 1949 Travels to Italy and lives France near Chartres for several months. He returns to Seattle to be awarded the Watson F. Blair prize from the Art Institute of Seattle.
- 1951 Travels to Mexico for half a year.

- 1952 Travels throughout Japan.
- 1954 Again travels to Japan before emigrating to Ireland.
- 1958 Travels throughout Europe, buys a manor near Dublin, Ireland, and starts renovating it.
- 1959 Graves begins to work on *Instruments for a New Navigation*.
- 1961 Travels to Europe and Egypt.
- 1962 Introduced to Indira Ghandi in London and is invited to India.
- 1963 Travels to India and then returns to Ireland via Yemen, Lebanon, and London.
- 1964 Sells his manor and leaves Ireland permanently. Asked by NASA to participate in an art project in conjunction with manned space flight.
- 1965 Graves settles in Loleta, California, building a new house and studio called The Lake. A number of his earlier works are purchased by a Virginia Hazeltine and then gifted to the University of Oregon Museum of Art in Eugene, Oregon, now the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art.
- 1966 The University of Oregon hosts the exhibition *Morris Graves: A Retrospective*.
- 1971 Travels throughout Asia.
- 1972 Travels throughout South America and Africa.
- 1973 Travels again to the Asia, this time with his assistant Robert Yarber.
- 1979 Graves' works are included in the exhibition *American Modern Art Between the Two World Wars* in Dusseldorf, Germany.
- 1983 His largest retrospective ever, *Vision of the Inner Eye*, is shown at the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.
- 1986 Graves travels the world once again.
- 1990 Marsha Shankman curates a show of Graves' work from the collection at the University of Oregon.
- 1994 Theodore F. Wolff publishes a book titled *Morris Graves: Flower Paintings*.
- 1996 Vicki Halper curates a show of Graves' floral works also titled *Morris Graves: Flower Paintings* at the Seattle Art Museum.
- 1999 *Morris Graves: Toward the Ultimate Reality* is shown at the Michael Rosenfeld Gallery in New York.
- 2001 Graves dies on May 5th at his house in Loleta, California. Robert Yarber establishes the Morris Graves Foundation with his wife Desireé as co-director.