

NEWS

Press Contact:
 Online Press Room:
 Twitter

Rachel Joyce 612.375.7635 rachel.joyce@walkerart.org
press.walkerart.org
 WalkerArtMedia

TARGET FREE THURSDAY NIGHTS IN DECEMBER FEATURE ÉCOLE DE KLEIN



Portrait of Yves Klein with a monochrome, Paris, France, circa 1955
 Courtesy Yves Klein Archives, Paris
 ©2010 Yves Klein and Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/ADAGP, Paris

Minneapolis, November 12, 2010—Target Free Thursday Nights in December feature a series of events related to the Walker Art Center exhibition **Yves Klein: With the Void, Full Powers** (on view through February 13, 2011). Patrons are invited to participate in *École de Klein*, a curriculum of gallery talks, blue screams, judo demonstrations, pigment-inventing, and conversations/tours in French, that seeks to bring visitors closer to this many-faceted and revolutionary thinker.

A visionary and provocateur, Yves Klein took the European art scene by storm in a career that lasted just eight years, from 1954 to 1962. An innovator who embraced painting, sculpture, performance, photography, music, theater, film, architecture, and theoretical writing, Klein was a precursor of many movements to the postwar avant-garde, including Minimalism, conceptual art, land art, and performance art. He self-identified as “the painter of space,” seeking to achieve immaterial sensibility through pure color—primarily an ultramarine blue of his own invention, International Klein Blue. Through these and other experiments, Klein aimed to reach “beyond the problematic in art” and rethink the world in spiritual and aesthetic terms, creating a pivotal transition between modern art’s concern with material objects and contemporary notions about the conceptual nature of art.

Target Free Thursday Nights

December 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30
 Galleries open 5–9 pm; special events follow.
 Free

Thursday, December 9

Art Activity: Monochromatic Studies, 5–8 pm

Star Tribune Foundation Art Lab

Through color, Klein experienced “a feeling of complete identification with space.” In these drop-in art labs, work alongside an artist to make your own pigment and monochrome painting while learning about the symbolic role of color in Klein’s work. Led by artist-instructor Clea Felien.



Yves Klein practicing judo at rue Gentil-Bernard, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France, circa 1959 Photo: Harry Shunk Courtesy Yves Klein Archives, Paris ©2010 Yves Klein and Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/ADAGP, Paris

Judo Demonstration, 7 and 8 pm

Cargill Lounge

“The true *judoka* practices in [a state of] pure spirit and sensibility,” said Klein. As a dedicated student of judo—he earned a black belt from the Kôdôkan Institute in Tokyo in 1952 and then wrote the book *Les Fondements du Judo* [*The Foundations of Judo*—Klein discovered “the spirit of victory” in body, mind, and heart that would shape his artistic and world view. Watch as the Midway Judo Club demonstrates the forms of attack and defense (*kata*) and free-style sparring (*randori*).

Thursday, December 16

Gallery Talk: Architecture of the Air, 7 pm

Meet in the Bazinet Garden Lobby

At the pinnacle of Klein’s utopian vision was his research dedicated to *architecture de l’air* or air architecture. Join professor Leslie Van Duzer, director of the school of architecture and landscape architecture at the University of British Columbia, who will discuss how the elements fire, air, and water are used to construct Klein’s “city of tomorrow.”

Performance: Blue Scream, 8:15 pm

Meet in the Bazinet Garden Lobby

In his desire for “direct and immediate perception-assimilation” Klein once proposed a soundtrack of blue cries for a film documenting his blue paintings. Join artist Marcus Young who will lead a chorus of blue screams outdoors in James Turrell’s *Sky Peshier*.

Target Free Thursday Nights sponsored by 

Premier Partners



StarTribune



The Walker Art Center is located at 1750 Hennepin Avenue—where Hennepin meets Lyndale—one block off Highways I-94 and I-394, in Minneapolis.

For public information, call 612.375.7600 or visit walkerart.org. Stay connected via your mobile device and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.