

ANTOINE GRAFF

Profile:

- French artist having worked in Nice with Arman, César and Sosno...
- A unique style based on folding.
- The spectator has only one wish: to imagine the unfolding which will reveal the secret of the work.

Biography (1937)



Born in 1937, Antoine Graff spent his childhood in Alsace. In 1954, he entered the Brianchon studio at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, and assiduously attended the studios of Zadkine and André Lhote in Montparnasse. He exhibited in Paris, Strasbourg and Munich, but at the age of 26 considered that his work did not have the innovative quality he aspired to. He thus abandoned his artistic ideas and concentrated on industrial graphics. He created an industrial silkscreen workshop and opened the Galerie de la Main Bleue. His innovative approach in reproduction processes was truly remarkable, and he also worked with leading artists including Arman, César, Sosno and Villeglé. In 1988, he found inspiration in the sinuous folds of some wrapping paper left by chance on a breakfast tray. It was this piece of paper that revealed to him the philosophical and visual organisation that he would later apply to his works. **He thus constructed his artistic thinking around the evolutionary and innovative theme of folding.**

In his view, folding/unfolding also signifies contracting/dilating, involution/evolution, and reducing/increasing.

Antoine Graff for Daum



With "**Pliage**", a piece created in 2003 and produced in 175 copies, the artist folds his own artistic drawings to create a singular, unique sculpture. The viewer is then invited to imagine the folding/unfolding of the work. On the subject of Daum, the artist told us: "I am grateful to Daum for having enabled me, as an onlooker myself, to see my folds increase and grow in the countless colourful nuances of crystal."

Height 50 cm

The world of Antoine Graff



"Ungultige Lizenz " Wand-und Raumreliefs
Exhibited in February 2004 in the Emilia Suciú Gallery in Ettlingen (Germany)