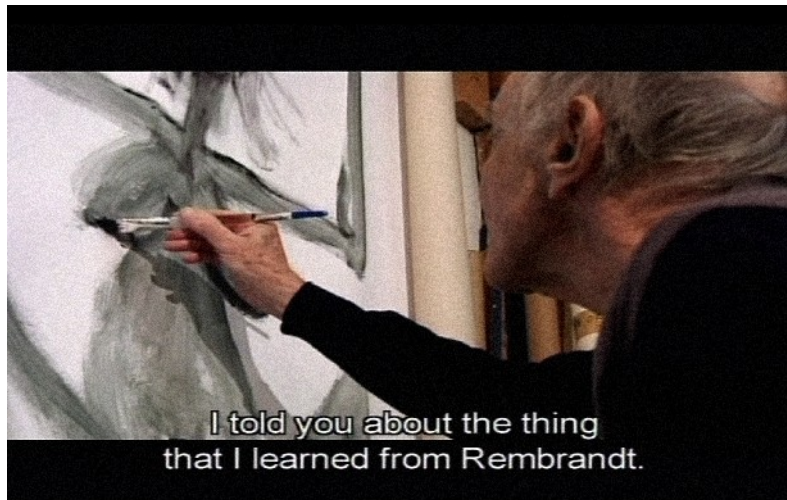


Harold Rubin



Harold Rubin

Born in 1932 in Johannesburg, South Africa. Lives in Tel-Aviv, Israel. Painter, jazz musician, improvising musician, poet, architect and teacher.

Art was always a big part of his life, Rubin started drawing and painting as a child, and never stopped since. Music came a bit later into his life: he started studying classical clarinet when he was 16 years old, and discovered Jazz very soon after.

In the climate of Apartheid, Rubin chose to be part of the protest, which he expressed in his art and music. Risking incarceration, Rubin played Jazz with black musicians, in clubs, in Sophiatown – Johannesburg's black township, and even in his own home. In 1960 he came out with the first artistic protest against the rule of Apartheid when he published a set of prints called 'Sharpeville' protesting the massacre of black demonstrators which took place there that year.

In Johannesburg of the 1950s Harold Rubin was a dominant figure in the Jazz music scene of the city and an up-coming artist: between 1956 and 1962 he had five one-man exhibitions in prominent galleries around Johannesburg. This promising career was cut short at the end of 1962 when he was charged with blasphemy for his drawing, 'My Jesus' put on trial and was facing 9 years in jail. Though he was acquitted, the blasphemy charge, which reeked with Anti-Semitism, changed Rubin's life forever, and he left South Africa and immigrated to Tel-Aviv, Israel.

In Tel-Aviv Harold Rubin continued to paint and make music, while always seeking new challenges and boundaries to break.

Since he left South Africa he has had 48 one-man exhibitions and 26 group shows in galleries and museums in Israel, Holland, Germany, England, USA and South Africa. 6 of his works were incorporated into public buildings such as universities and hospitals. His work was also printed in 5 publications in Israel, Holland, the US and South Africa.

Throughout the years Rubin had been teaching drawing in several art-schools among them the acclaimed Bezalel Art Academy.



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Rubin continued to make music in Israel as well, and he soon became a leading figure in the Israeli Jazz scene. Defined by music critics as "the most innovative and fascinating jazz musician around," Rubin has been, for years, performing and recording in Israel, Europe and the US.

Rubin formed 9 bands of jazz and free music among them 'Zaviot', a band that became very successful, received an award in the Red Sea Jazz Festival and toured Europe for a while.

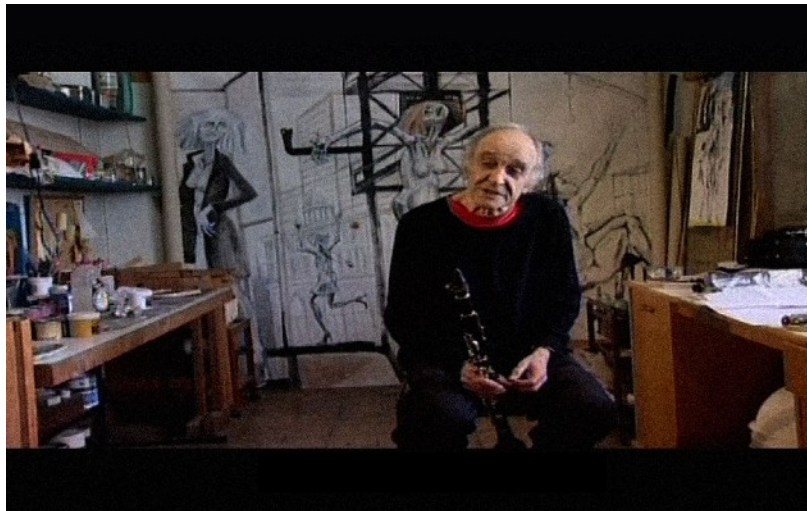
Rubin has performed solo and with others in scores of Jazz clubs in Israel, Europe and New York, took part in several festivals.

So far he has recorded 13 albums, and was a guest artist in 7 albums.

In 2007 he played for the first time in Berlin at the TOTAL MUSIC MEETING, hosted by the prestigious Berlinische Galerie. This duo concert with the young Israeli pianist Maya Dunietz with whom he collaborates since years, was a highlight of the festival and received much critical acclaim.

In 2008 he received the Landau Prize for performing arts.

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