



TRAVELLING EXHIBITION  
young visitors

# MECACOLLAGES

WORKSHOP BASED ON THE WORK OF ERRÓ

**Centre  
Pompidou**

# MECACOLLAGES

## A WORKSHOP BASED ON THE WORK OF ERRÓ

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Department of Public Activities  
Educational action and young public  
program service

Exhibition curator  
Sarah Mattera

Travelling exhibition unit  
Anne-Marie Héricourt  
phone  
00 33 (0) 1 44 78 47 06  
fax  
00 33 (0) 1 44 78 13 87  
email  
[ahericourt@centre.pompidou.fr](mailto:ahericourt@centre.pompidou.fr)

Website  
[www.centrepompidou.fr/hors-les-murs](http://www.centrepompidou.fr/hors-les-murs)

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## 1 – GENERAL PRESENTATION

The Mecacollages workshop invites children to discover the world of ERRÓ through the theme of collage, an essential and separate form within the work of this artist.

The Mecacollages are produced by ERRÓ from scientific and mechanical magazines cut up to produce compositions taking the form of hybrid, surrealist portraits. Twenty of these images constitute the database of the workshop's materials library. The children will be encouraged to produce their own self-portrait on the basis of ERRÓ's works, using the technique of collage.

Using mirrors and felt tips, they will start by drawing the outline of their self-portrait before embarking on the collage phase.

This workshop takes place in three stages which alternate individual and collective work.

A video presenting the workshop and an interview with ERRÓ is shown in context of the exhibition.



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## 2 – BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF ERRÓ

### Who is Erró?

To create a great collage, you have to know how to collect. Keep, accumulate, intermingle, play with, bring together, change, exchange, build bridges between different worlds, put enemies face to face, make two people from different periods meet, have a dog and a singer converse, exchange the nose of a woman for the lens of a camera...

To create a great collage, you must imagine that everything could be otherwise: that Pablo Picasso might be behind your door, that Wonder Woman is the best friend of your sister, that you can meet Clint Eastwood and Superman in a single day. To know how to create collage is not about using everyday life, it is about projecting oneself for an instant into another history...

Erró is the author of some of these new histories. This artist of Icelandic origin was born in 1932 and has not stopped painting since being admitted to the Academy des Beaux Arts at the age of 17.

The world of Erró overflows with references; he borrows from popular imagery to create meaningful work. An artist of accumulation, he is the creator of a burgeoning universe in which different worlds collide.

He works by back-projection of collages, redrawing the contours before colouring the whole work with paint.

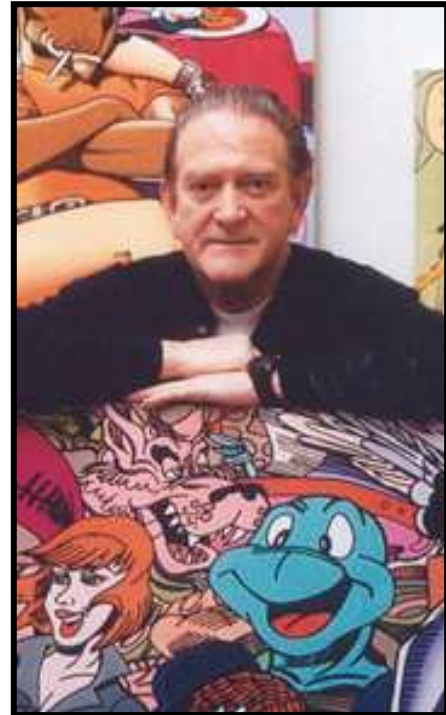
He has created various series, in particular the Mecacollages (1959-1963) and the Skapes (from 1963 to the present day).

### Erró in the history of art

Erró was one of the central actors in Narrative Figuration. Narrative Figuration was born in the 1960s in a specific historico-political context: at the end of the cold war and during the Vietnam War.

Rather than a movement, Narrative Figuration was a group of essentially French artists who came together in opposition to the then prevalent lyrical abstraction and the new École de Paris. At the same time, Pop Art was also at its height, but the artists of the Narrative Figuration group also opposed this movement, which they found too inflexible.

Their common objective was to create a link between painting and immediate reality; in other words to come closer to news and the media. Their painting thereby became a form of expression relating to the world. These artists surpassed a fixed image: their principle was to make their work capable of providing a narrative and speaking, to give the spectator the opportunity to understand what they were seeing.

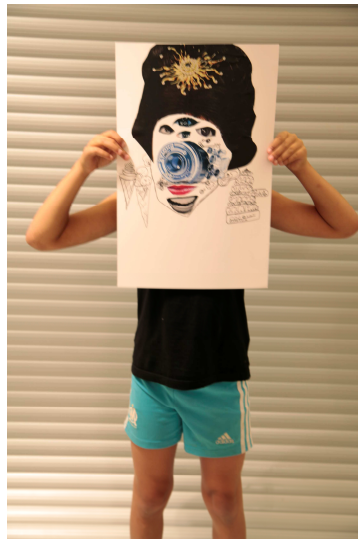




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## 3 – FACILITATED EVENTS

The training of the facilitators leading the events is provided by the Centre Pompidou. The choice of the person responsible for facilitator training is made by the Centre Pompidou under the responsibility of the Curator.

Activities for children aged 6 to 12 in school or family groups.

The graphic files of the 20 Mecacollages that constitute the workshop's educational material will be provided to the partner by the Centre Pompidou (two images per child).

The workshop takes place in three stages accompanied by the facilitators:

### 1. The presentation of the Mecacollages

What is it?

What is it made from?

What does it mean?

Who made it? Who is Erró?

The facilitators will emphasise the fact that the artist has himself produced all of the raw materials for this workshop: the children will be cutting up the artist's actual images.

### 2. Individual work to produce a self-portrait

The child will draw the shape of their face with the help of felt tips or pencils on a white sheet of paper with the help of a small mirror.

The children will then choose images from the Mecacollages of Erró and will cut these up to produce their self-portraits by assemblage and adjustment.

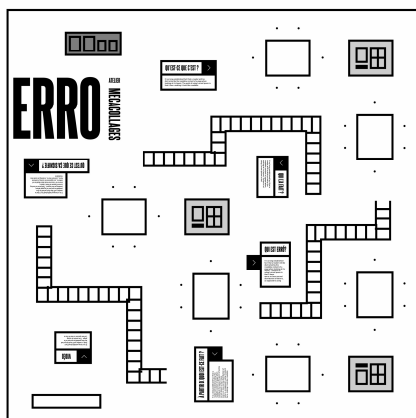
### 3. Exhibition of self-portraits

Once the self-portraits are complete, the children will present them in the portrait gallery provided for in the scenographic design.

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## 4 – SCENOGRAPHY

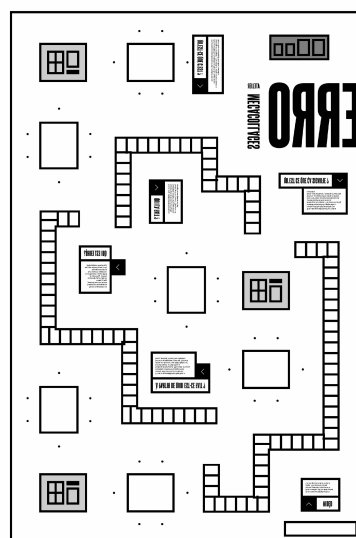
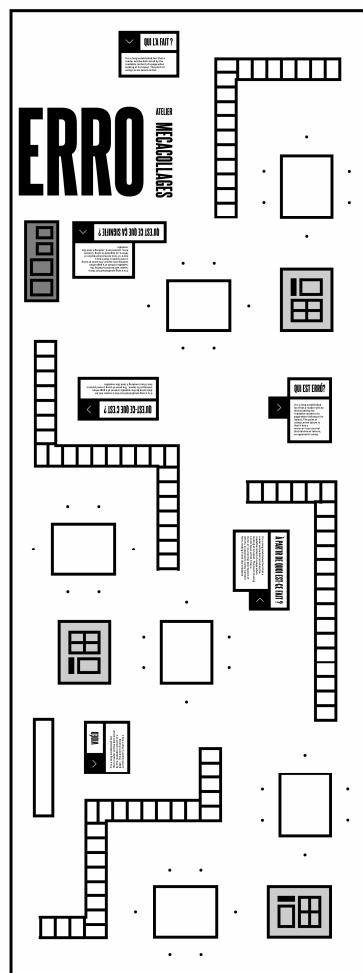
The graphical files enabling the production of the scenographic elements of the workshop will be provided to the partner by the Centre Pompidou. The files must be printed by the partner.

Three scenographic options are left to the choice of the partner institution, according to the available exhibition space.

The scenography also serves as an element of mediation. It has been designed as a journey leading visitors to understand who Erró is, what the Mecacollages are and how they were conceived.

The whole workshop is based around this scenography, which is constructed with adhesive elements that organise the facilitated events according to sections: presentation, materials library, creation, thinking, etc.

Each element has been designed for the activities to take place on the floor. No furniture (with the exception of transparent containers for small items) will be installed.



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## 5 – TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL DETAILS

Exhibition surface required: 150 m<sup>2</sup>

Rental price: on request

### ADDITIONAL EXPENSES COVERED BY THE PARTNER INSTITUTION:

- ✓ provision of a plastic floor covering, grey colour reference: RAL 7044
- ✓ production of the scenography and signage (according to files provided by the Centre Pompidou): black gloss adhesive
- ✓ printing of a portrait of the artist
- ✓ provision of material:
  - IT/audiovisual equipment: one screen, one DVD reader -
  - educational: white A3 160g drawing paper
  - black 0.4 mm felt tip pens, stick or liquid glue, scissors, drawing pencils, transparent containers for storage of educational material, mirrors
  - printing of the 20 Mecacollages according to files provided by the Centre Pompidou (2 images per child)
- ✓ provision of personnel
  - assembly: Two people
  - facilitators: One facilitator for 15 children

### International

- Translation of texts
- Interpreter for the Centre Pompidou teams

### ASSIGNMENT (One assignment):

- One assignment, all expenses paid (transport, accommodation, meals), for the exhibition curator or an educational representative of the Centre Pompidou to carry out the installation of the space in the assembly, carry out the training of facilitators and participate in the vernissage of the exhibition