

/ *SHOWS (by Marcel Duchamp)*

Art-historical essay, co-authored with Katharina Neuburger, for the bilingual (French/English) publication “Marcel Duchamp. Dictionary”, Paris 2027 (provisional title). The publication is edited by the Association Marcel Duchamp / Mercatorfonds, Paris.

Marcel Duchamp’s disguises and countless photographic selfstagings, and his humorous comments on art, the art industry, art criticism, and art history, are legendary in speech and image. Less widely known is a Marcel Duchamp who, with empathy and strategic awareness, actively championed artists of his contemporary cultural milieu while simultaneously directing the reception of his own work: as curator of nearly seventy exhibitions from the early 1910s to his death in 1968, as juror and consultant for some of the most important collections, museums, and galleries of modern art. The essay outlines the initial impulses behind this curatorial work by Duchamp, supplemented by recent research findings, and discusses Duchamp’s close cooperation with leading figures of his time, including Louise and Walter Conrad Arensberg, Katherine S. Dreier, Francis Picabia, Sidney and Harriet Janis as well as André Breton, Julien Levy, and Peggy Guggenheim.

A preliminary overview of Marcel Duchamp’s curatorial work, published in 2019 [Renate Wiehager: Marcel Duchamp: The Curatorial Work. Chronology of Curated Shows and Collections. Cologne 2019], is accessible on Academia.edu: https://www.academia.edu/130179690/Marcel_Duchamp_Chronology_of_Curated_Shows_by_Renate_Wiehager