

Artist Resources – Oskar Schlemmer (German, 1888-1943)

[Schlemmer Artist Website](#)

[Schlemmer at MoMA](#)

[Schlemmer at Thyssen-Bornemisza](#)



Oskar Schlemmer, *Self Portrait with Mask*, 1923

Read an article inspired by a [1976 lecture](#) given by RoseLee Goldberg at Yale University, “Oskar Schlemmer’s Performance Art,” later published in Artforum.

Inspired by Schlemmer’s *The Triadic Ballet*, The Getty Research Institute created an animated *Gesamtkunstwerk* (total work of art) platform. Create your own performance piece on their [website](#).

[Oskar Schlemmer](#) was on view at Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia in 1996.

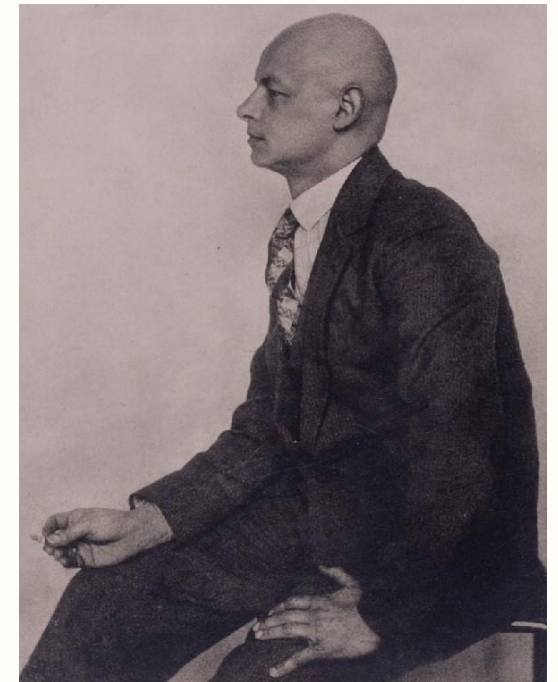
In 2016, [Oskar Schlemmer: The Dancing Artist](#) opened at Centre Pompidou, featuring his paintings and drawings in conversation with his work for the stage, including figures, costumes, drop cloths, masks, sculptures, posters, and other unpublished documentation. Read a [review](#) of the exhibition by Joseph Nechvatal for Hyperallergic.

[The Bauhaus and its Legacy: Oskar Schlemmer’s Triadic Ballet](#) was on view at the St. Louis Art Museum in 2019. The exhibition was presented at the centennial anniversary of the Bauhaus, which opened in 1920.

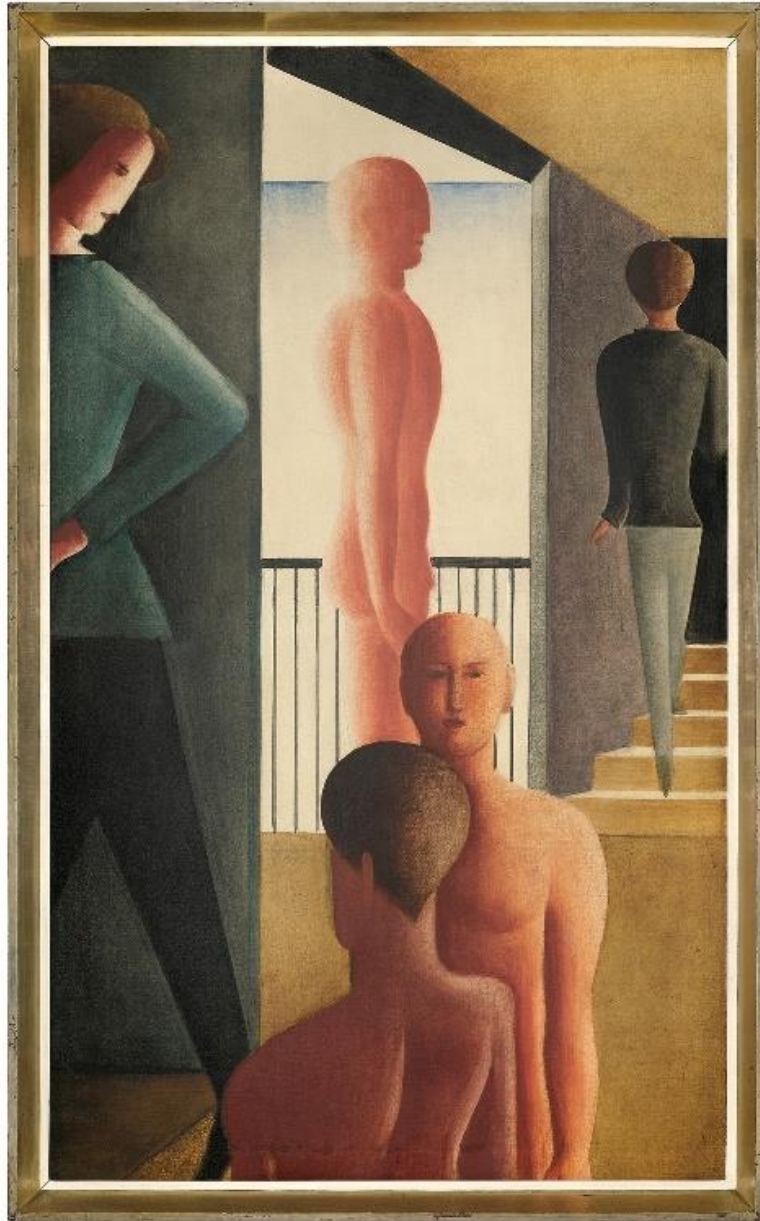
Staatsgalerie in Stuttgart, Germany, opened [Moved by Schlemmer: 100 Years of Triadic Ballet](#) in 2022. Three contemporary artists – Ulla von Brandenburg, Kalin Lindena, and Haegue Yang – were invited to take inspiration and refer to Schlemmer’s work in their new large-scale installations.

Read a [2024 interview](#) with C. Raman Schlemmer, curator of the Oskar Schlemmer Theatre Estate and Archives, about the legacy of the artist and the Bauhaus School.

[Oskar Schlemmer: Stage design for “Don Juan and Faust” – The “Farewell Debut” of a Bauhaus Master in Weimar](#) was at Klassik Stiftung Weimar in 2025, featuring Schlemmer’s innovative sets that debuted 100 years prior at the DNT Weimar Theater for Christian Dietrich’s “Don Juan and Faust.”



Hugo Erfurth, *Portrait des Malers Oskar Schlemmer*, 1920



Oskar Schlemmer (German, 1898-1943)

Fünf Männer im Raum, 1928

Oil on canvas

Private Collection; L2025:63.1

German artist Oskar Schlemmer was orphaned at a young age and supported himself as an apprentice in inlay and marquetry workshops. He later studied art in Stuttgart and was invited to teach at the prestigious Bauhaus School in 1920, where he taught a course entitled “Der Mensch” (“The Human Being”) that focused on relationships between the body and its surroundings. **Fünf Männer im Raum (Five Men in a Room)** is one of many paintings that illustrate the artist’s ideas, placing figures in relation to each other in geometric architectural settings. Schlemmer’s work was targeted by Nazi Germany in the next decade, and similar paintings by Schlemmer were included in the huge *Degenerate Art* exhibition staged by the Nazi regime in Munich in 1937.

On view October 8, 2025 – January 16, 2026