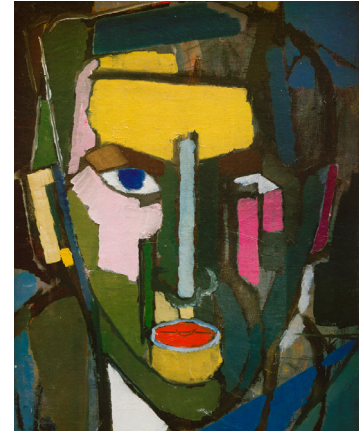


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*press release 11/6–25/7/26*

# Richard Mortensen

## *collages*



**Rocket** presents the first solo London exhibition of the Danish modernist icon Richard Mortensen. The exhibition comprises fifteen collages made by Mortensen in the last two years of his life and never before exhibited. The collages remained in his architect-designed studio since his death in 1993.

*The collages are demanding; the viewer is forced to make an effort. But the effort is rewarded, as the viewer grasps the exquisite balance between colour and form. Again displaying his sure touch – and avoiding any suggestion of the banal – Mortensen fully exploits these two basic components. The mastery is obvious.* Jens S Bork

**Richard Mortensen** (Danish, 1910–1993) was the most famous abstract painter in post-war Denmark and one of the founders of the Danish Konkret art movement, *Linien*. He participated in the influential Documenta II (1959) and Documenta III (1964) which confirmed his place in post-war European modernism. In 1960 the new Danish Pavilion at the 30th Venice Biennale was opened with a retrospective of Mortensen's paintings.

On Mortensen's death the Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen presented the first post-humous retrospective in 1994 and 250 works from the Charlotte & Richard Mortensen Foundation were accepted on permanent loan by the Museum in 1995. During his lifetime Mortensen's works were collected by many major institutions including: Trapholt Museum, Kolding; Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen; and Centre Pompidou, Paris.

In 2024 ARoS, Aarhus, Denmark presented the first major retrospective for three decades: *Mortensen – Between Lines*, which highlighted the artist's continued relevance today. In 2026 the Department of Prints & Drawings of the British Museum, London purchased Mortensen's 1960 set of screenprints *Suite de Six* from Rocket and it was included in the major Scandinavian printmaking exhibition *Nordic Noir*, curated by Jennifer Ramkalawon.

*This exhibition marks the representation of the Estate of Richard Mortensen by Rocket Gallery*

**+ side gallery exhibit Keld Helmer-Petersen 1920–2013**  
books, films & 1940s vintage photographs by the Danish photographer

*Preview on Thursday 11 June 2026 from 6-8*

*Exhibition dates: 11 June to 25 July 2026, open each Saturday 2-6 + by appointment*

*For images please contact Rocket on 020 7254 8391 / [galleries@rocketgallery.com](mailto:galleries@rocketgallery.com)*