



Anne Montaut, born in Paris in 1957, grew up in Narbonne and later in Bages from the age of five. Trained at the Beaux-Arts and the École nationale supérieure des Arts Décoratifs in Paris, she turned toward photography outside institutional frameworks, developing a nonconformist and experimental style.

Favoring staging over the straightforward depiction of reality, she created works within a *castelet*, a miniature theater where she combined objects, materials, and light to delve into profound themes. Her *Crucifix* series, inspired by the Shroud, approached photography as a graphic art, while *Couronne d'épines* intertwined Mexican dolorism with snowy landscapes. In *Angélus*, she revisited Christian symbolism by merging antique plates with fish evoking biblical narratives.

Her work, marked by meticulous aesthetic research, established a subtle connection between faith and photography, reflecting a spiritual quest. Returning to Bages in the 1980s, she played a pivotal role in founding the Maison des Arts and served as municipal delegate for Culture (2001-2008). Until her passing in 2022, Anne Montaut remained a key artistic figure, embodying charisma, creativity, and commitment.

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