

## Christo and Jeanne-Claude



Gabrovo, 1942

**Christo (left) and his two brothers Stefan (center) and Anani (right)**

Photo: Vladimir Yavachev

© 1942 Christo

### **1935**

**Christo: American, Bulgarian-born Christo Vladimirov Javacheff, June 13, 1935, Gabrovo, of a Bulgarian industrialist family.**

**Jeanne-Claude: American, French-born Jeanne-Claude Marie Denat, June 13, 1935, Casablanca, of a French military family, educated in France and Switzerland. Died November 18, 2009, New York City.**

### **1952**

**Jeanne-Claude: Baccalauréat in Latin and Philosophy, University of Tunis, Tunisia.**

### **1953-56**

**Christo: Studies at the National Academy of Art, Sofia, Bulgaria.**



Gabrovo, 1949

**Christo (left) during a drawing lesson**

Photo: Archive

© 1949 Christo

**1956**

In fall, Christo leaves Bulgaria to go to Prague, Czechoslovakia.

**1957**

On January 10, Christo escapes to Vienna, Austria, where he studies one semester at the Academy of Fine Arts. In October, he moves to Geneva, Switzerland.

**1958**

In March, Christo arrives in Paris, where he meets Jeanne-Claude in early October.

*Packages and Wrapped Objects.*

**1960**

Birth of their son, Cyril, May 11.

**1961**

*Project for a Wrapped Public Building.*

*Stacked Oil Barrels and Dockside Packages, Cologne Harbor, 1961.* Rolls of paper, oil barrels, tarpaulin and rope. Duration: two weeks. Christo and Jeanne-Claude's first collaboration.



Paris, 1961

**Christo in his studio at 14 rue de Saint-Senoche**

Photo: Jean-Jacques Lévêque

**1962**

*Wall of Oil Barrels – The Iron Curtain, Rue Visconti, Paris, 1961-62.* 89 barrels. Height: 13.7 feet (4.2 meters). Width: 13.2 feet (4 meters). Depth: 2.7 feet (0.5 meters). Duration: eight hours.

*Stacked Oil Barrels, Gentilly, near Paris, France.*

*Wrapped Woman.*

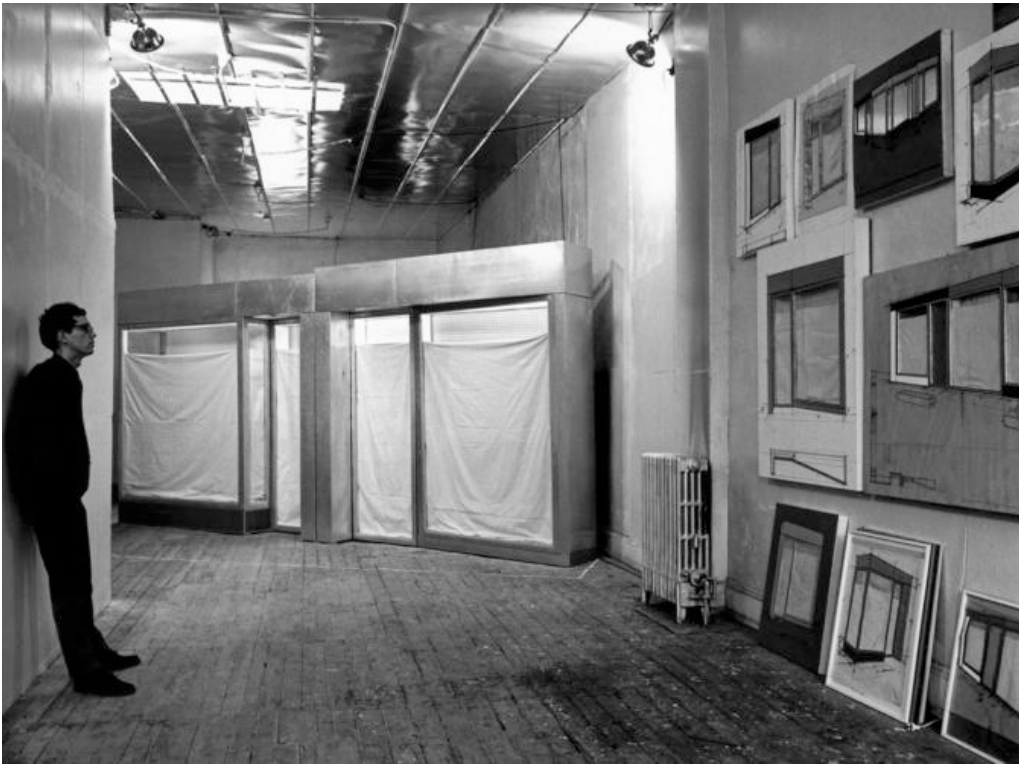
**1963**

*Show Cases.*

**1964**

*Store Fronts and Show Windows.*

In September, Christo and Jeanne-Claude move to New York City for good.



New York City, 1966

Christo in his studio with "Four Store Fronts Corner, 1964-65"

Photo: Ugo Mulas

© 1966 Christo

**1966**

*Air Package, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, 1966.* Rubberized canvas balloon, polyethylene, rope and steel cables. Diameter: 17 feet (5.2 meters). Duration: one month.

*42,390 Cubic Feet Package, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1966.* Length: 60 feet (18.3 meters). Diameter: 25 feet (7.6 meters). Height: 32 feet (9.8 meters). Polyethylene: 8,000 square feet (740 square meters). Manila rope: 3,000 feet (914 meters). Duration: two days.

**1968**

*Wrapped Fountain and Wrapped Medieval Tower, Spoleto, Italy, 1968.* Polyethylene and rope. Duration: three weeks.

***Wrapped Kunsthalle, Bern, 1967-68.*** Polyethylene: 26,156 square feet (2,430 square meters). Nylon rope: 1.9 miles (3 kilometers). Duration: one week.

***5,600 Cubicmeter Package, documenta IV, Kassel, 1967-68.*** Height: 280 feet (85 meters). Six concrete foundations arranged in a 920 feet (280 meters) diameter circle. Fabric: 21,528 square feet (2,000 square meters). Rope: 11,482 feet (3,500 meters). Weight: 7 tons. Duration: two and a half months.

***Corridor Store Front.*** Total area: 1,450 square feet (135 square meters).

***1,240 Oil Barrels Mastaba and Wrapped Hay,*** Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Kassel, 1968

**Christo (right), Jeanne-Claude (center) and their chief engineer Mitko Zagoroff (left) during the installation of 5,600 Cubicmeter Package**

Photo: Klaus Baum

© 1968 Christo

**1969**

***Wrapped Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 1968-69.*** Tarpaulin: 10,000 square feet (930 square meters). Manila rope: 4,000 feet (1,219 meters). Duration: one and a half months.

***Wrapped Floor and Stairway,*** Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. House painter's cotton drop cloths: 2,800 square feet (260 square meters). Duration: one and a half months.

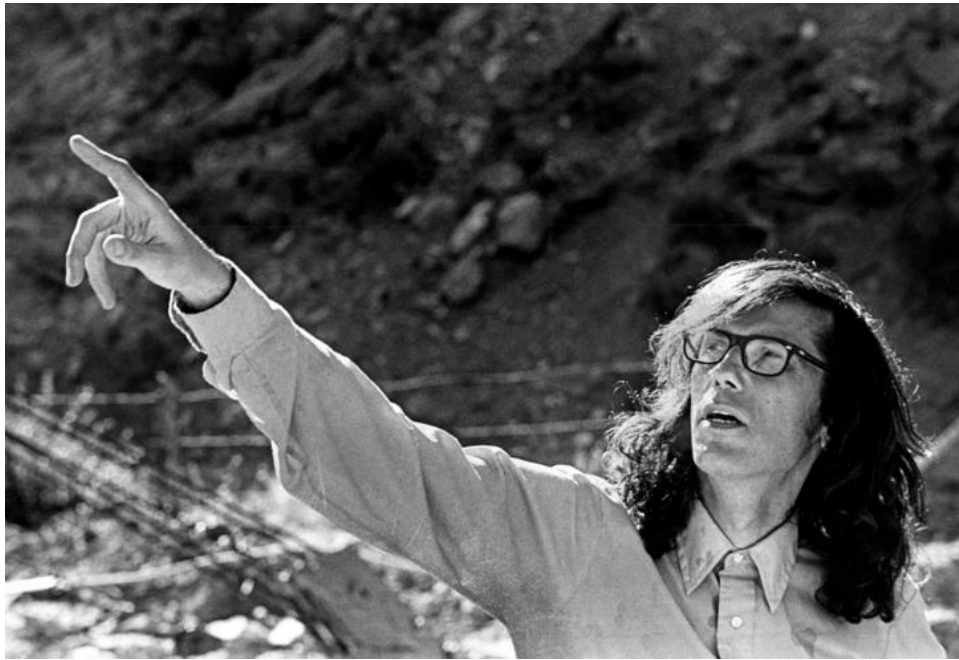
***Wrapped Coast, One Million Square Feet, Little Bay, Sydney, Australia, 1968-69.*** Erosion Control fabric: 1,000,000 square feet (92,900 square meters). Rope: 35 miles (56.3 kilometers). Length: 1.5 miles (2.4 kilometers). Height: 85 feet (26 meters). Duration: two months.

**1970**

*Wrapped Monuments, Milan, Italy, 1970: Wrapped Monument to Vittorio Emanuele II, Piazza del Duomo. Polyethylene and rope. Duration: one day. Wrapped Monument to Leonardo da Vinci, Piazza della Scala. Polyethylene and rope. Duration: two days.*

**1971**

*Wrapped Floor, Wrapped Stairs, Covered Windows and Wrapped Walk Ways, Museum Haus Lange, Krefeld, Germany, 1971. House painter's cotton drop cloths and brown wrapping paper. Duration: 50 days.*



Rifle, 1971

**Christo directing work at Valley Curtain**

Photo: Bill Wunsch

© 1971 Christo

**1972**

*Valley Curtain, Rifle, Colorado, 1970-72. Width: 1,250 feet (381 meters) and a height curving from 365 feet (111 meters) at each end to 182 feet (55.5 meters) at the center. Nylon polyamide fabric: 200,200 square feet (18,600 square meters). Steel cables: 61 tons. Concrete: 864 tons. Duration: 28 hours.*

**1974**

*The Wall – Wrapped Roman Wall, Via Veneto and Villa Borghese, Rome, Italy, 1973-74. Woven polypropylene fabric and Dacron rope. Height: 49 feet (15 meters). Length: 820 feet (250 meters). Depth: varying between 13 to 18 feet (4.3 to 5.5 meters). Duration: 40 days.*

*Ocean Front, Newport, Rhode Island, 1974.* Width: 420 feet (128 meters), Length: 320 feet (97.5 meters). Polypropylene fabric: 150,000 square feet (13,935 square meters) floating over the ocean. Duration: 8 days.

## 1976

*Running Fence, Sonoma and Marin Counties, California, 1972-76.* 18 feet (5.5 meters) high, 24.5 miles (39.4 kilometers) long, crossing 14 roads. 2,050 fabric panels: 2,152,780 square feet (200,000 square meters) of woven nylon fabric. 90 miles (145 kilometers) of steel cables. 2,050 steel poles, each: 3.5 inch (8.9 cm) in diameter, 21 feet (6.4 meters) high. Duration: 14 days.



New York City, 1976

**Christo and Jeanne-Claude in Christo's studio**

Photo: Fred W. McDarrah/Getty Images

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## 1977

*The Mastaba, Project for United Arab Emirates.* In progress.

## 1978

*Wrapped Walk Ways, Jacob Loose Park, Kansas City, Missouri, 1977-78.* Woven nylon fabric: 135,000 square feet (12,540 square meters) over 2.7 miles (4.4 kilometers) of walkways. Duration: 14 days.

**1983**

*Surrounded Islands, Biscayne Bay, Greater Miami, Florida, 1980-83.* Pink woven polypropylene fabric: 6.5 million square feet (603,870 square meters) floating around eleven islands. Duration: 14 days.

**1984**

*Wrapped Floors and Stairways and Covered Windows, Architekturmuseum, Basel, Switzerland.* House painter's cotton drop cloths and brown wrapping paper. Duration: 17 days.

**1985**

*The Pont Neuf Wrapped, Paris, 1975-85.* Woven polyamide fabric: 450,000 square feet (41,800 square meters). Rope: 8 miles (13 kilometers). Duration: 14 days.

**1991**

*The Umbrellas, Japan-USA, 1984-91.* 1,340 blue umbrellas in Ibaraki, Japan. 1,760 yellow umbrellas in California, USA. Each umbrella: Height: 19 feet 8 inches (6 meters). Diameter: 28 feet 5 inches (8.66 meters). Valley size in Japan: Length: 11.8 miles (19 kilometers). Width: 2.5 miles (4 kilometers). Valley size in USA: Length: 18 miles (29 kilometers). Width: 2.5 miles (4 kilometers). Duration: 18 days.

**1995**

*Wrapped Floors and Stairways and Covered Windows, Museum Würth, Künzelsau, Germany, 1994-95.* House painter's cotton drop cloths and brown wrapping paper. Duration: three months.

*Wrapped Reichstag, Berlin, 1971-95.* Polypropylene fabric with aluminum surface: 1,076,390 square feet (100,000 square meters). Rope: 9.7 miles (15.6 kilometers). Duration: 14 days.

**1998**

*Wrapped Trees, Fondation Beyeler and Berower Park, Riehen, Switzerland, 1997-98.* 178 trees. Woven polyester fabric: 592,015 square feet (55,000 square meters). Rope: 14.3 miles (23 kilometers). Duration: 23 days.

**1999**

*The Wall – 13,000 Oil Barrels, Gasometer Oberhausen, Germany, 1998-99.* Height: 85 feet (26 meters). Width: 223 feet (68 meters). Depth: 23.7 feet (7.23 meters). Duration: six months.



**2005**

*The Gates, Central Park, New York City, 1979-2005.* 7,503 vinyl gates, with free-flowing nylon fabric panels, anchored to 15,006 steel bases on 23 miles (37 kilometers) of walkways.  
Duration: 16 days.



New York City, 2004

Christo in his studio working on a preparatory drawing for *The Gates*

Photo: Wolfgang Volz

© 2004 Christo

**2013**

*Big Air Package, Gasometer Oberhausen, Germany, 2010-13.* Height: 295 feet (90 meters). Diameter: 164 feet (50 meters). Volume: 6,250,000 cubic feet (177,000 cubic meters). Polyester fabric: 219,000 square feet (20,350 square meters). Polypropylene rope: 14,800 feet (4,500 meters). Weight: 5.3 tons. Duration: nine and a half months.

**2016**

*The Floating Piers, Project for Lake Iseo, Italy, 2014-16.* 100,000 square meters of shimmering yellow fabric, carried by a modular floating dock system of 220,000 high-density polyethylene cubes, creating a 3-kilometer-long walkway across the water. Width of the piers: 16 meters. Height: 35 centimeters with sloping sides. Duration: 16 days.

2018

*The Mastaba, Serpentine Lake, Hyde Park, London, 2016-18.* 7,506 horizontally stacked barrels on a floating platform in Serpentine Lake. Size of the temporary sculpture: 20 meters high x 30 meters wide (at the 60° slanted walls) x 40 meters long. Duration: three months.



Lake Iseo, 2016

**Christo at The Floating Piers**

Photo: Wolfgang Volz

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