

## Biography of François Pinault

# Museum Folkwang

François Pinault was born on August 21, 1936, in Champs-Géraux in Brittany. He established his first wood business in Rennes in 1963. Subsequently, he widened the scope of his activities to include wood importing and, eventually, manufacturing, sales, and retailing.

In 1988, the Pinault group went public on the French stock market. In 1990, François Pinault decided to refocus the group's activities on specialized sales and retailing and to withdraw from the wood business. The group was renamed PPR. In 1999, PPR entered the luxury-goods sector worldwide, after acquiring the Gucci Group (Gucci, Yves Saint-Laurent, Balenciaga, Bottega Veneta, Sergio Rossi, Boucheron, Stella McCartney, and Alexander McQueen).

In 1992, François Pinault created Artémis, a structure dedicated to investing in companies with strong growth potential and operating in sectors outside the fields covered by PPR. It is a private company entirely owned by the Pinault family. Artémis controls, among others, Artémis Domaine, owner of the Château-Latour vineyard in Bordeaux, Domaine d'Eugénie in Burgundy and the Aurojo Estate in Napa Valley (California, United States). Artémis also owns Christie's and the news magazine *Le Point*. François Pinault is also the owner of the Stade Rennais football club and of the Théâtre Marigny.

In 2003, François Pinault entrusted the group to his son François-Henri Pinault who continues to develop its activities in two directions: the luxury sector (a portfolio of brands that constantly grows, for example with the acquisition of Brioni, Girard-Perregaux, Pomellato, Christopher Kane...) and the sport and lifestyle sector (Puma, Volcom...). In 2013 the PPR group becomes KERING.

A great lover of art, and one of the leading collectors of contemporary art in the world, François Pinault has decided to share his passion with the greatest number of people possible. In 2005, he acquired the prestigious Palazzo Grassi in Venice, and, two years later, he received Punta della Dogana in concession to present his contemporary art collection. After the renovation works by Tadao Ando, the Japanese architect and Pritzker Prize winner in 1995, Palazzo Grassi and Punta della Dogana were inaugurated respectively in 2006 and 2009. Since then, over 2,5 million visitors have had the opportunity to discover part of François Pinault's collection thanks to numerous exhibitions organised in these spaces. In 2013, the Teatrino opened as a space for exchange, conferences and cultural events accompanying the contemporary art exhibitions.

Solicited by many public and private institutions, François Pinault also presents part of his collection outside Venice, with exhibitions in Paris, Moscow, Monaco, Seoul, Lille, Dinard, Colmar, Dunkerque.... In 2014, in collaboration with the local authorities and the cultural and educational institutions, François Pinault decided to create an artist residence in a former rectory in Lens.

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On April 27, 2016, François Pinault and Anne Hidalgo announced plans to open new exhibition spaces within the Bourse de Commerce dedicated to displaying the Pinault Collection in Paris. This new museum, slated to open in 2018, will contribute to revitalizing the area surrounding Les Halles and boost Paris's international drawing power.