

Where appropriate, the titles of exhibitions, works and publications have been translated into English for ease of legibility; please refer to the German text for the original titles.

## **Kurt Schwitters Biography**

### **20 June 1887**

Curt Hermann Eduard Carl Julius Schwitters is born to the shop-owners Eduard and Henriette Schwitters (née Beckemeyer), in 2 Rumannstrasse in Hanover. His father's family is from Wittmund, East Friesland, his mother's family from Nienburg on the Weser.

### **1889–1893**

The Schwitters family moves house several times within Hanover: to 5 Veilchenstrasse on 1 April 1889, to 31a Eichstrasse on 1 October 1889, to 10p Freitagstrasse in March 1893, to 84 Waldstrasse in Döhren (now a district of Hanover) in September 1893, and subsequently to 9 Waldstrasse.

### **1894**

Starts school at the Modernes Realgymnasium I, Hanover.

### **1900**

Travels with his father to the World Fair in Paris.

### **1901**

The Schwitters family moves to 5 Waldstrasse (re-named Waldhausenstrasse in 1907).

Nervous disorder, first epileptic seizure.

### **1905**

Produces first pictures.

### **1908**

Abitur (school-leaving examination).

### **1908–1909**

Studies at the School of Applied Art, Hanover. Taught by Richard Schlösser.

### **10 June 1908**

Inofficial engagement to Wilhelmine Eilerdine Gerhardine Friederike Fischer, known as Helma (his second cousin, who was born on 11 October 1890, the daughter of Eleonore and Johann Eduard Fischer, a managing clerk from Hanover).

### **1909–1915**

Studies at the Royal Saxon Academy of Art in Dresden on the recommendation of his teacher Richard Schlösser. Summer semester 1909 to summer semester 1911: attends Carl Bantzer's painting class, from winter semester 1912/13 onward member of master class of Gotthardt Kuehl (teacher of landscape painting, † 15.1.1915); additional tuition from Emmanuel Hegenbarth (animal painting), Hermann Dittrich (anatomical and nude studies) and from literary historian Oskar Walzel. Granted leave from studies in summer semester 1912 and from winter semester 1914/15 onward, removed from students' register on 9 August 1915.

Writes first poems.

### **Summer 1909**

Joins class of Carl Bantzer in a painting excursion to artists' colony Willingshausen in Hessen.

### **Spring 1910**

Writes notes for a publication on abstract painting.

### **Winter 1910/11**

Hiking holiday in Bohemian Switzerland.

### **Spring 1911**

The Hanoverian Kunstgenossenschaft (local grouping of Allgemeine Deutsche Kunstgenossenschaft) turns down Schwitters' pictures for inclusion in the spring show of the local art society, the Hanover Kunstverein.

### **August 1911**

Represented for the first time in an exhibition (contributes four still-lives and the portrait of his mother to a show at the Hanover Kunstverein).

### **Autumn 1911**

Applies to Berlin Academy. Turned down as "untalented" after four-week probation period.

**December 1911**

Represented in the Christmas show at the Kunst- und Gewerbehalle, Hanover; included once again in December 1913.

**1912**

Travels to Lake Garda with patron Leonard Körting (former director of the Hanoverian gasworks and grandfather of a schoolfriend).

**1912–1916**

Impressionist-influenced style of painting.

**February–May 1913**

First inclusion in the "Grosse Kunstausstellung" exhibition at Hanover Kunstverein; contributes again 1914–1918, 1926/27, 1929–1931 and 1933/34.

**September/October 1913**

First inclusion in the autumn show of Hanoverian artists at the Hanover Kunstverein. Contributes regularly up to 1934.

**Summer 1914**

Trip to Lake Garda.

**August 1914**

Outbreak of First World War. Returns to Hanover.

**13 June 1915**

Official engagement to Helma Fischer.

**5 October 1915**

Marries Helma Fischer; the couple moves into a flat on the second floor of his parents' house at 5 Waldhausenstrasse, Hanover. Sets up a studio in his parents' flat on the first floor.

**Winter 1915/16**

Honeymoon journey to Opherdicke, Westphalia.

**9 and 17 September 1916**

Birth and death of Gerd, their first son.

**1917**

Turns to the Expressionist style and develops towards abstraction. Begins the series of oil paintings entitled *Abstractions*.

Meets the critic, journalist and advertising specialist Christof Spengemann in Hanover, who introduces Schwitters to the town's literary circles; a lifelong friendship begins between the two families.

**12 March–19 June 1917**

Soldier in Reichs-Infanterieregiment 73. Declared unfit for service.

**May/June 1917**

Represented for the first time in the special show of Hanoverian artists at the Hanoverian Kestner-Gesellschaft (founded in June 1916).

**25 June 1917–28 November 1918**

Auxiliary military service as a mechanical draughtsman in Wülfel ironworks, Hanover. Hands in notice in order to devote himself to painting.

**October 1917**

Travels through South Germany (sketchpad, cf. catalogue raisonné no. 208).

**Winter semester 1917/18**

Enrols in architecture department of the Royal Technical High School, Hanover.

**1918**

Produces an extensive series of abstract drawings as well as the series of oil paintings entitled *Expressions*.

The Kestner-Museum, Hanover, purchases 18 drawings (for total sum of 400 reichsmarks).

**January/February 1918**

Meets Käte Steinitz, an artist and patron in Hanover. A lifelong friendship begins.

**February/March 1918**

Contributes to the first show of the Hanover Secession at the Kestner-Gesellschaft. The Hanover Secession was founded in June 1917; Kurt Schwitters joined at the beginning of 1918; included again 1919–1921 and 1932.

#### **June 1918**

First included in a show at Herwarth Walden's Sturm gallery in Berlin (together with Albert-Bloch, Emmy Klinker and Elisabeth Niemann); exhibits there regularly up to 1928.

#### **Autumn 1918**

Meets Hans Arp, Raoul Hausmann and Hannah Höch in Berlin. Beginning of lively artistic exchange and lifelong friendships.

Produces first collages.

#### **16 November 1918**

Birth of son Ernst.

#### **Winter 1918/19**

Produces first assemblages. Schwitters invents the term "Merz" for his art. All subsequent activities designated "Merz", and propagated as such. Even after turning towards abstraction, he continues to produce figurative works in the post-Impressionist style.

#### **1919**

Produces first *Stempelzeichnungen* (rubber-stamp drawings) and graphic prints; begins series of Dadaist watercolours.

Becomes a member of the IVEKF (International Association of Expressionists, Cubists and Futurists), founded by Herwarth Walden, Rudolf Blümner and others.

#### **May 1919**

Meets Richard Huelsenbeck in Berlin.

Establishes written contact with Tristan Tzara in Zürich.

#### **May/June 1919**

Joint exhibition at Jena Kunstverein with Otto Gleichmann and Max Burchartz.

#### **June/July 1919**

Exhibits at second special show (with non-members as guests) of the Dresden Secession at the Galerie Emil Richter and the Neue Vereinigung für Kunst, Dresden.

Merz picture *Iga-Lo* reproduced in the periodical *Neue Blätter für Kunst und Dichtung*, Dresden, edited by Hugo Zehder.

#### **July 1919**

First public showing of *Merzbilder* (Merz pictures) in the 76<sup>th</sup> exhibition of the Sturm gallery in Berlin, together with work by Magda Langenstrass-Uhlig.

#### **July–September 1919**

Represented in a show of Expressionists, Cubists and Futurists organized by the Sturm gallery and held in Kunstsalon Rembrandt, Zürich.

Publication of programmatic essay on Merz painting and of poems (including *An Anna Blume*) in the periodical *Der Sturm* (no. 4), edited by Herwarth Walden.

#### **October 1919**

1 *The Merz Stage* published in *Sturm-Bühne. Jahrbuch des Theaters der Expressionisten* (no. 8), Sturm Verlag, Berlin.

#### **November 1919**

Contributes to Dada publication *Der Zeltweg*, Verlag Mouvement Dada, Zürich, edited by Tristan Tzara, Otto Flacke and Walter Serner; poems, texts and reproductions of work published in *Der Zweemann. Monatsblätter für Dichtung und Kunst*, edited by Christof Spengemann and Friedrich Wilhelm Wagner; other contributions to same publication in 1920.

Publication of Christof Spengemann's essay *Kurt Schwitters* in periodical *Der Cicerone* (vol. 11, no. 18).

#### **End of 1919**

Publication of the book *Anna Blume. Dichtungen* as part of series *Die Silbergäule* (nos. 39/40), Paul Steegemann Verlag, Hanover.

#### **1919–1924**

Regular publication of texts known as *Tran* (polemical responses to the generally devastating reviews of his works) in diverse periodicals and publications.

#### **1920**

Publication of *Die Kathedrale. 8 Lithos von Kurt Schwitters* as part of series *Die Silbergäule* (nos. 41/42), Paul Steegemann Verlag, Hanover, and of *Sturm Bilderbücher IV Kurt Schwitters*, Sturm Verlag, Berlin.

Produces first *i-Zeichnungen* (i-drawings).

Poem *An Anna Blume (Eve Blossom)* translated into French by Roland Schacht.

Meets Michel Seuphor in Cologne and George Grosz in Berlin.

Paul Ferdinand Schmidt purchases *The Merzpicture*, 1919, for the Dresden Stadtmuseum (for sum of 1,400 reichsmarks).

Christof Spengemann's monograph *Die Wahrheit über Anna Blume, Kritik der Kunst, Kritik der Kritik, Kritik der Zeit* appears in Der Zweemann-Verlag, Hanover.

#### **February 1920**

Contributes (together with Käte Steinitz and Otto Gleichmann) to a graphics exhibition in Hanover organized by *Der Zweemann* periodical and publishing house Verlag Robert Goldschmidt.

#### **February/March 1920**

First exhibition of *Merzbilder* in Schwitters' home town of Hanover (included in the third exhibition of the Hanover Secession at the Kestner-Gesellschaft).

#### **April 1920**

Visits Max Ernst in Cologne; return visit of Max Ernst in Hanover in second half of that year.

#### **May 1920**

First public recitals in the Sturm gallery (5 and 11 May; first recital together with Rudolf Blümner, second with Herwarth Walden).

#### **May–July 1920**

Several stays in Berlin, visits the Dada fair staged by the Berlin Dadaists in the Kunsthandlung Dr. Otto Buchard.

#### **July 1920**

Represented in a "German Expressionism" exhibition at the Städtische Ausstellungsgebäude Mathildenhöhe, Darmstadt.

#### **August 1920**

Trip to Dresden. Joint exhibition at the Galerie Arnold with Oskar Schlemmer and Willi Baumeister.

#### **September 1920**

Visits Oegenbostel (Lüneburg Heath). Regularly visits Oegenbostel until 1923 as guest of Marie Heckter, a friend from his youth. Produces landscape paintings.

#### **October 1920**

Represented in the exhibition "Esposizione espressionisti Novembergruppe" in Rome.

Kurt Schwitters' studio is presented to the public for the first time in the features *A Visit to Anna Blume* by Bernhard Gröttrup, published in periodical *Die Pille. Eine aktuelle, kritische, witzige, freche, unparteiische hannoversche Wochenzeitschrift* (no. 7), and "*Kuwitters*". *At Schwitters' Place* by Alfred Dudelsack, published in the supplement of the *Braunschweiger Illustrierte Woche* (no. 5).

#### **November/December 1920**

First inclusion in a show by the Société Anonyme, New York (founded in New York in 1920 by Katherine S. Dreier, Marcel Duchamp and Man Ray); contributes again in 1921, 1926, 1928, 1930, 1936 and 1940; represented in an exhibition of the collection of the Société Anonyme in New Haven in 1942.

#### **1920/21**

During frequent visits to Worpswede, establishes contact with the group of young artists surrounding Bernhard Hoetger.

#### **1921**

Paul Ferdinand Schmidt purchases *Merzpicture with Ring* for the Dresden Stadtmuseum (for sum of 225 reichsmarks).

Contributes the lithograph *Composition with Left-side Profile of Head* to the third portfolio in the series *Neue Europäische Graphik* by Bauhaus Weimar.

Friendship begins with the couple Robert Michel und Ella Bergmann-Michel, who are both artists and live in the "Schmelzmühle" (a converted smelting mill) by Eppstein in the Taunus region north of Frankfurt-on-Main.

### **January 1921**

Joint exhibition with Kurt Krone at the Galerie Hans Goltz (Neue Kunst) in Munich.

Publication of the programmatic essay *Merz* (written in December 1920) and several reproductions of *Merzbilder* in the periodical *Der Ararat* (no. 1), edited by Hans Goltz. Publication in the periodical *MA* (= "Today"), edited by Lajos Kassák (vol. 6, no. 3), of the essay *The Merz Stage*, the poem *Eve Blossom* (translated into Hungarian by Kahána Mózes), and *Merzbilder* reproductions .

First inclusion in an exhibition at the Galerie von Garvens in Hanover (inlaid boxes made to Schwitters' own designs); exhibits at the same gallery again in July 1921 and October/November 1922.

### **February 1921**

Works presented in shop windows in Dresden (Residenz-Kaufhaus, Buchhandlung Heinrich Bender, Zigarrenhaus Robert Herrmann).

Recital evening in the Dresdener Kaufmannschaft (19 February).

### **March 1921**

Involved in producing the periodical *Die Quirlsanze*, edited by Rudolf Blümner and appearing on the occasion of the "Sturm-Ball".

### **April 1921**

First one-man show at the Sturm gallery in Berlin ("96<sup>th</sup> Exhibition. Kurt Schwitters. Merz Pictures, Merz Drawings. Survey").

### **May 1921**

Trip to Jena, Dresden and Leipzig.

### **End of June 1921**

Travels to Dresden, Erfurt, Weimar and Leipzig for recitals.

### **July 1921**

First publication of poems and texts in the periodical *De Stijl. International maandblad voor nieuwe kunst, wetenschap en kultuur* (vol. 4, no. 7), edited by Theo van Doesburg.

Reading in Jena (Rosensaal), organized by Jena Kunstverein, whose director is Walter Dexel (4 July).

### **August/September 1921**

Represented in "Messe-Kunstschau der Lia", Leipzig.

### **September 1921**

"Anti-Dada-Merz-Trip" to Prague with Raoul Hausmann, Hannah Höch and Helma Schwitters (a literary evening is staged in the Saal Urania on 6 September).

### **1922**

Produces first sound poems.

The text *Castle and Cathedral with Courtyard Well*, in which *Merz architecture* is propagated in public for the first time, is published in the periodical *Frühlicht* (vol. 1, no. 3), edited by Bruno Taut.

New edition of *Anna Blume. Dichtungen*, Paul Steegemann Verlag, Hanover. Publication of book of poems *Elementar. Die Blume Anna. Die neue Anna Blume. Eine Gedichtsammlung aus den Jahren 1918–1922*, Sturm Verlag, Berlin, and *Memoiren Anna Blume in Bleie. Eine leichtfaßliche Methode zur Erlernung des Wahnsinns für Jedermann*, Verlag Walter Heinrich, Freiburg i. Br.

*The Merzpicture*, 1919, is reproduced in *Die Kunst der Gegenwart. Die Sechs Bücher der Kunst* (vol. 6), edited by Paul Ferdinand Schmidt, Athenaion, Berlin, and *Merz House (Merz architecture) and Construction for Noble Ladies* is reproduced in *Buch Neuer Künstler*, edited by Lajos Kassák and László Moholy-Nagy, MA Verlag, Vienna.

### **March/April 1922**

One-man show in the Roemer-Museum, Hildesheim, where he delivers a lecture on "Developments in Modern Painting" (9 April).

### **May 1922**

The *i-Manifesto* is published in the periodical *Der Sturm* (vol. 13, no. 5).

Recital evening in the house of the Steinitz family in Hanover (5 May).

### **May–July 1922**

Represented in the “1st International Art Exhibition. The Young Rhineland” in the courtyard of Tietz department store, Düsseldorf.

### **Mid-July 1922**

Visits Einbeck in the south of Lower Saxony for painting and walking holiday.

### **September 1922**

Visits brother-in-law Friedrich Fischer in Vrestorf (near Lüneburg). Produces landscapes.

Stay in Weimar and Jena. Visit to Walter Dexel in Jena along with Theo and Nelly van Doesburg, Hans Arp and Tristan Tzara (23–27 September). Dada recital evenings in Jena Kunstverein (23/24 September). Takes part in “International Congress of Constructivists and Dadaists” in Weimar. Meets Sándor Bortnyik. Dada soirée organized by Theo van Doesburg and Kurt Schwitters takes place in Hotel Fürstenhof in Weimar (25 September). Reading in Jena (26 September). Dada soirée in Jena Kunstverein together with Theo van Doesburg (27 September).

Dada soirée (*Dadarevon*) in Galerie von Garvens, Hanover, together with Hans Arp, Nelly and Theo van Doesburg, and Tristan Tzara (29/30 September).

### **October 1922**

Trip to Berlin on invitation of El Lissitzky (15 October). Visits “First Russian Exhibition” at the Galerie van Diemen, Berlin.

### **November/December 1922**

Journeys to Lüneburg (recital on 20 November), Hamburg (visits collector and patron Consul Max Leon Flemming), Berlin and Dresden (lecture in Galerie Emil Richter, Dresden, on 5 December); excursion to the Ore Mountains on 14 December.

Represented for first time in an exhibition of the Dutch artists’ group De Branding in Rotterdam and The Hague; participates in other exhibitions in Rotterdam and Utrecht (1923/24) and in Amsterdam and Rotterdam in winter 1925/26.

### **Winter 1922/23**

Shares studio with László Moholy-Nagy in Spichernstrasse, Berlin.

One-man shows at Graphisches Kabinett Georg Maulhardt and Kunstsalon Maria Kunde, Hamburg.

### **1922–1926**

Intensive preoccupation with the art of International Constructivism.

### **1923**

Probable start of work on the *Merzbau* (Merz building) in Hanover. Produces first reliefs.

Publication of *Auguste Bolte (ein Lebertran)*. *Tran Nr. 30*, Sturm Verlag, Berlin.

*Merzpicture 13 A. The Small Mergel*, 1919, reproduced in Katherine S. Dreier’s book *Western Art and the New Era. An Introduction to Modern Art*, New York.

### **Early 1923**

Public presentation of *Manifesto of Proletarian Art* in The Hague, signed by Kurt Schwitters, Theo van Doesburg, Tristan Tzara, Hans Arp and Christof Spengemann.

### **January–April 1923**

Journey to the Netherlands (5 January–13 April). Start of *Dada-Tournee* with Theo and Nelly van Doesburg and Vilmos Huszár (10 January 1923). First evening in Haagsche Kunstkring, The Hague; lectures in Haarlem, Amsterdam, Delft, Bois-le-Duc, The Hague and Utrecht in January; in Rotterdam, Leiden and during the “Moderne Soirée” in The Hague (Kurt Schwitters speaks on the subject of abstract poetry) in February; Dada soirée in Drachten in April, organized by Thijs and Evert Rinsema (Kurt Schwitters makes a solo appearance). Meets Piet Zwart (annual meetings with Zwart follow in the summers of 1925 to 1928), the architects Gerrit Rietveld and Jacobus Johannes Pieter Oud, and the poets Til Brugman and Anthony Kock.

The first issue of Schwitters’ periodical *Merz* is published under the title *Merz 1. Holland Dada*.

### **March 1923**

Included in a show of Constructivist art at the Galerie Emil Richter, Dresden, together with Oskar Schlemmer, László Moholy-Nagy, El Lissitzky and Max Burchartz.

### **April 1923**

Exhibition and recital evening at the Galerie Linné und Ziegert, Bremen.

Publication of *Merz 2. nummer i.*

### **Between April and June 1923**

Publication of *Merz 3. Kurt Schwitters 6 Lithos auf den Stein gemerzt.*

### **June 1923**

Stay in Dresden. One-man exhibition at the Galerie Emil Richter, Dresden.

### **July 1923**

Publication of *Merz 4. Banalitäten (Banalities).*

### **August 1923**

Summer holiday in the Villa Garund in Sellin on island of Rügen (together with his family, Hans Arp, Sophie Taeuber-Arp and Hannah Höch). Collaboration with Hans Arp (production of text *Franz Müller's Wire Springtime*) and Hannah Höch.

### **Summer 1923**

Publication of *Merz 5. 7 Arpaden* (portfolio with 7 lithographs by Hans Arp).

Fruitless attempts to gain an entry visa for Switzerland.

### **October 1923**

Publication of *Merz 6. Imitatoren watch step. Arp 1 Prapoganda und Arp.*

Represented in a Sturm exhibition touring Scandinavia.

### **23 November 1923**

Merz evening in the Deutsches Haus, Braunschweig (Brunswick).

### **30 December 1923**

Large Merz matinée staged jointly with Raoul Hausmann in Konzerthaus Tivoli, Hanover. El Lissitzky designs the poster publicizing the event.

### **1924**

Publication of *Merz 11. Typoreklame = Pelikan-Nummer and Der Hahne Peter (Peter the Rooster)*, illustrated by Käte Steinitz, in 50 signed, hand-coloured copies, by the publishing house Apossverlag, which Kurt Schwitters co-established with Käte Steinitz (as *Aposs 1*; simultaneously as *Merz 12*), as well as publication of *Die Märchen vom Paradies (The Paradise Fairy Tales)*, illustrated by Käte Steinitz, Aposs Verlag (*Aposs 2*; 1925 as *Merz 16/17*).

Contributions to the following periodicals: *Der Sturm*, edited by Herwarth Walden; *G. Zeitschrift für elementare Gestaltung*, edited by Hans Richter; *Pásmo moderní leták*, edited in Prague by group Devětsil; *BLOK. Revue internationale d'Avantgarde*, edited in Warsaw by Henryk Stazéwski, Teresa Żarnowerówna, Mieczysław Szczuka and Edmund Miller; *Het overzicht*, edited in Antwerp by Michel Seuphor.

Founding of *Merz-Werbezentrale (Merz advertising office)*; increasing amount of work as typographer in the following years.

Represented in the exhibition "Contimporanul. Prima expoziție internațională" in Bucharest.

Meets Friedrich Vordemberge-Gildewart and Hans Nitzschke in Hanover.

Works on the "anti-revue" show *Worse and Better* together with Hannah Höch and the musician Hans Heinz Stuckenschmidt in Berlin.

Robert Siodmak, who later becomes a film director, asks Kurt Schwitters to write a screenplay for a film comedy. He and Raoul Hausmann work together on script that is subsequently turned down and whose whereabouts are now unknown (the script in question was possibly entitled *The Engagement*).

For his film manuscript *Einmal ein Huhn, immer ein Huhn*, László Moholy-Nagy uses an excerpt from Kurt Schwitters' *Auguste Bolte*.

New edition of Herwarth Walden's *Einblick in Kunst*, Verlag Der Sturm, Berlin (1st edition), with reproductions of *The Worker Picture* and *Franz Müller's Wire Springtime*, both 1919.

### **January 1924**

Nighttime Merz performance in the Operettentheater, Braunschweig (26 January).

Publication of *MERZ 7. Tapsheft*

**February/March 1924**

Numerous Merz evenings at, among other places, Atelier Dungert, Hanover (3 February), Kunstgewerbeschule, Magdeburg (5 February), Jena (13 February) and Feurich Halle, Leipzig (4 March).

**Between April and July 1924**

Publication of *Merz 8/9. Nasci* in collaboration with El Lissitzky.

**July 1924**

Stay on island of Rügen.

**September 1924**

Represented with *Normalbühne Merz* in new theatre exhibition in Vienna. Excerpt from *Aus der Welt: Merz. Ein Dialog mit Einwüfen aus dem Publikum* reprinted in catalogue; exhibition subsequently travels to Paris and New York.

**October 1924**

Joint exhibition with Hans Arp and Alexej Jawlensky in the Kestner-Gesellschaft, Hanover.

**November/December 1924**

Fairy-tale readings in the Kestner-Gesellschaft, Hanover (20 November) and at the Sturm gallery, Berlin (3 December).

**1925**

Release of *Merz 13 Merz-Grammophonplatte* with private recording of the Scherzo from the *Ursonate*.

Publication of *Die Scheuche, Märchen (The Scarecrow)* in collaboration with Käte Steinitz and Theo van Doesburg, Apossverlag, Hanover (simultaneously appears as *Merz 14/15*).

Ludwig Hilberseimer's *Grossstadtbauten* published by Apossverlag, Hanover, as the first number in the *Neue Architektur* series (appears in 1926 as *Merz 18/19*). Due to cost considerations, the scheduled further publications in the series do not appear.

Contributes to *Elementare Typographie* issue of the *Typographischen Mitteilungen*, edited by Jan Tschichold.

Pictures of Kurt Schwitters' studio in 1920 reproduced in book *Die Kunstisten* by El Lissitzky and Hans Arp, Eugen Rentsch Verlag, Erlenbach-Zürich et al.

Frequent visits to Robert Michel and Ella Bergmann-Michel at the Schmelzmühle near Eppstein.

**29 January 1925**

Fairy-tale reading at the Bauhaus in Weimar.

**14 February 1925**

Joint recital evening with Nelly van Doesburg (piano) in Potsdam at the house of Frau Kiepenheuer – first performance of the *Ursonate*.

**March 1925**

Stay in Hellerau by Dresden (6 March). Readings in Dresden. Meets Margit von Plato and the collector Ida Bienert.

*The Twin Picture*, 1922, reproduced in the periodical *Æsophage*, Brussels, edited by E. L. T. Mesens.

Merz evening in Hannah Höch's flat in Berlin.

**May–June 1925**

Visits to the jeweller and collector Carl Wilkens in Hamburg.

**July 1925**

Stay in Göhren on island of Rügen. Works on the manuscript of *Normalbühne Merz*.

**Summer 1925**

Travels to the Netherlands with Helma Schwitters. Visits the Hungarian painter Maler Lajos d'Ebneth in Kijkduin near Scheveningen.

**August 1925**

Stay with brother-in-law Friedrich Fischer in Vrestorf near Lüneburg.

**September 1925**

Becomes subscriptions agent in Germany for the journal *De Stijl*.

**October–November 1925**

Represented in the “first jury-free exhibition” at the Hanover Kunstverein.

**1926**

*The Fairy Tale*), 1919, reproduced in the book *Expressionismus und Film* by Rudolf Kurtz.

**April 1926**

Katherine S. Dreier visits Hanover (23 April) in order to prepare the “International Exhibition of Modern Art” to be held as of November in the Brooklyn Museum, New York, organized by the Société Anonyme. She accompanies Schwitters to his recital at the Bauhaus in Dessau (28 April).

**May 1926**

Recites in Kunstsalon Fides, Dresden (14 May), and takes part in two “grotesque evenings” in Prague on invitation of the group Devětsil (20/21 May).

**May–June 1926**

Week-long tour of the Netherlands with Katherine S. Dreier. Visit to Lajos d'Ebneth in Kijkduin near Scheveningen, where Kurt Schwitters also paints. A meeting possibly took place with the Swiss art theorists Sigfried Giedion and Carola Giedion-Welcker.

**Summer 1926**

Represented in the “Grosse Berliner Kunstausstellung” in Berlin.

Cruise on the Rhine to Bad Neuenahr with his parents and Helma Schwitters.

**August 1926**

Trip to Wiesbaden and Frankfurt-on-Main.

**September/October 1926**

Due to a typhoid epidemic in Hanover, spends six weeks on farm of brother-in-law Friedrich Fischer in Retelsdorf by Schönberg (Mecklenburg-Strelitz); works on manuscript of *Merzbuch 1 Die Kunst der Gegenwart ist die Zukunft der Kunst (Contemporary Art is the Future of Art)*, which was announced as a Bauhaus book but never appeared.

**October/November 1926**

Four-week visit to Berlin and Dresden. Excursion to the Ore Mountains with Ida Bienert.

Represented in the second “jury-free exhibition” at Hanover Kunstverein.

**November 1926**

Joint exhibition with Lajos d'Ebneth and Arnold Topp at the Sturm gallery in Berlin.

**December 1926**

Takes part in official opening of the Bauhaus in Dessau (recital on 5 December). Subsequently stays in Dresden, holds recital and stays with Ida Bienert in Zwickau, travels on to Halle and Eibenstock.

**December 1926/January 1927**

One-man show in Bohemian Kunstverein, Prague.

**1927**

One-man exhibition “Grosse Merzausstellung 1927” begins; extensive itinerary (including Wiesbaden, Frankfurt-on-Main, Bochum, Barmen and Cologne). Publication of *Merz 20. Kurt Schwitters. Katalog.* to accompany the show.

Translation into musical notation of the *Ursonate* (Primal Sonata) begins (lasting until 1940).

Contributes to the periodicals *Documents internationaux de l'Esprit nouveau*, edited in Paris by Paul Dermée, Enrico Prampolini and Michel Seuphor (it was the sole issue) and *i 10. International Revue*, edited in Amsterdam by Arthur Müller Lehning.

**February 1927**

Numerous Merz evenings staged in, among other places, the house of Dr. Ackermann in Hanover (2 February), the Prinzessinnenschlösschen in Jena (13 February), in Schwitters' house at 5 Waldhausenstrasse in Hanover (15 February) and in Rudolf Jahns' studio in Holzminden (24 February).

**12 March 1927**

Co-founds the group “die abstrakten hannover” (officially a sub-group of the Berlin artists' group “Die Abstrakten. Internationale Vereinigung der Expressionisten, Futuristen, Kubisten und Konstruktivisten e. V.”) with Carl Buchheister, Rudolf Jahns, Hans Nitzschke and Friedrich Vordemberge-Gildewart. Numerous joint exhibitions in the years that follow.

**April 1927**

Collaboration with Käte Steinitz on a libretto for the grotesque opera *Der Zusammenstoss* (*The Collision*), for which they win second prize (300 reichsmarks) at a competition in Vienna in August 1928.

Four-week trip to France; stays in Strasbourg (on 3 April) with Hans Arp, who is working on the decoration of the Café l'Aubette; visits Theo and Nelly van Doesburg in Paris. Performance of the *Ursonate* during a literary soirée in the gallery Le sacre du printemps. Meets Tristan Tzara, André Breton and E. L. T. Mesens; travels on to Brussels with Mesens.

**May 1927**

Travels to Prague for the premiere of his play *Schattenspiel* (*Shadow Game*, written around 1925) in an avant-garde theatre in Prague (8 May).

Contributes typographical work to an exhibition of new advertising at the Jena Kunstverein.

**June 1927**

Poem *An Anna Blume* (*Eve Blossom*) published in the American literary journal *Transition* (no.3), edited by Eugene Jonas (translation by Myrtle Klein).

**June/July 1927**

Visits Robert Michel and Ella Bergmann-Michel in the Schmelzmühle. First meeting regarding the foundation of the association of new advertising artists "ring neue werbegestalter" with Robert Michel, Willi Baumeister, Jan Tschichold, Walter Dexel, Friedrich Vordemberge-Gildewart, César Domela and László Moholy-Nagy.

**August/September 1927**

Visits Cologne, Barmen and Bochum.

*Anregungen zur Erlangung einer Systemschrift* published in the periodical *i 10* (vol. 1, nos. 8/9).

Tours the Netherlands together with Robert Michel and Ella Bergmann-Michel (19–23 September), visits Hannah Höch in The Hague.

**December 1927/January 1928**

Represented in an exhibition of new typography in the Gewerbemuseum, Basel.

Commissioned to design Festschrift of "Cinnabar Festival" in the Hannoversches Konzerthaus, Hanover, organized by Hanover branch of the Reichsverband Bildender Künstler (7 January). Writes the song *Zinnoberschlager* in collaboration with the composer Walter Giesecking.

**Spring 1928**

Five-week excursion to Italy (Rome, Naples, Sicily) as a guest student of the art historical institute of the Technical High School, Hanover.

**Summer (?) 1928**

Stays for several weeks with Lajos d'Ebneth in Kijkduin near Scheveningen.

**May–July 1928**

Included in the exhibition "Grosse Berliner Kunstausstellung" organized by the Berlin confederation of fine artists' associations.

**28 November 1928**

Recital of sound poems by Katherine S. Dreier and I. Weissshaus at an evening staged in the house of the president of the Société Anonyme, New York.

**8 December 1928**

"Festival of Technology" in Hanover, staged by the association of Hanoverian engineering and science societies. Jointly commissioned with Käte Steinitz to design the festival revue and programme brochure; music by Walter Giesecking.

**1929**

Signs contract as typographer with the Hanover town administration (until 1934). Increasing lecture activities as typographer (lecture on typographical design "Design in Typography").

The collage *Merzpicture 435*, 1922, reproduced in Bauhaus book entitled *von material zu architektur* (vol. 14) by László Moholy-Nagy.

Becomes member of artists' association Cercle et Carré, France; other members include Le Corbusier, Piet Mondrian, Wassily Kandinsky.

**January/February 1929**

Stay with Til Brugmann and Hannah Höch in The Hague.

**Spring 1929**

Visit from Katherine S. Dreier and Marcel Duchamp in Hanover.

**April/May 1929**

Contributes to "Neue Typographie. ring neuer werbegestalter" (special exhibition within exhibition "Der neue Druck – das schöne Buch") in Berlin; other venues are Magdeburg, Heilbronn and Essen.

**May–July 1929**

Represented in exhibition "Film und Foto. Internationale Ausstellung des deutschen Werkbundes" in Stuttgart.

**July 1929**

First journey to Scandinavia, together with Helma Schwitters (to Spitzbergen via Norway).

**Autumn 1929**

Designs all the exhibition publications for the Dammerstock-Siedlung project, Karlsruhe, led by Walter Gropius.

**October/November 1929**

Recital of the *Ursonate* on 24 October in Frankfurt-on-Main during an architects' conference staged by the CIAM (Congrès International d'Architecture Moderne).

Represented in exhibition of abstract and Surrealist painting and sculpture at the Zürich Kunsthaus. Joint recital with Hans Arp during a soirée organized for the exhibition (30 October).

Included in an exhibition of contemporary photography in Essen; other venues are Hanover, Berlin, Dresden and Magdeburg.

**5 December 1929**

The "14th Soirée" of the abstrakten hannover takes place in Kurt Schwitters' house at 5 Waldhausenstrasse (lecture by Herwarth Walden).

**1929–1932**

Annual trips to Paris.

**1930**

Becomes member of the PEN Club (founded in London in 1922).

Co-founds the "Ring of Hanoverian Authors" with Christof Spengemann and Carl Credé.

**February–April 1930**

Included in the exhibition "Gefesselter Blick" in Stuttgart and Munich. Publication of an autobiographical contribution in the book *Gefesselter Blick, 25 Monografien und Beiträge über neue Werbegestaltung* by Heinz und Bodo Rasch, Verlag Dr. Zaugg & Co., Stuttgart.

**3 March 1930**

Visit from Katherine S. Dreier in Hanover.

**March/April 1930**

Trip to Switzerland; represented in an exhibition of new advertising graphics in the Gewerbemuseum, Basel; catalogue text about the "ring neuer werbegestalter"; three readings in Zürich and Basel.

**April/May 1930**

Included in the "1ère exposition internationale du groupe Cercle et Carré" in Paris.

**21 December 1930**

Reading (of, among other works, *An Anna Blume* and *Schacko*) at the matinée "Künstler in Front" in the Capitol-Hochhaus in Hanover; presumably his last public appearance as a recital artist in Germany.

**1930–1936**

Annual summer trips to Norway; stays primarily in Djupsvashytta Hotel by Lake Djupvand, in Moldefjord and on the island of Hjertøya. Earns his living by selling landscape paintings.

**1931**

*Merz 21: erstes Veilchenheft* published (the issues *Merz 22 Entwicklung* and *Merz 23 e. E.* were announced but did not appear).

*Franz Müller's Wire Springtime, The Big I Picture* and *Albert Finzler Picture* reproduced in the third edition of *Die Kunst des 20. Jahrhunderts* by Carl Einstein, Propyläen Verlag, Berlin.

Elected Honorary President of the Société Anonyme. Represented in the following shows organized by the Société Anonyme: "Special Exhibition Arranged in Honor of the Opening of the New Building of the New School"

and "International Exhibition Illustrating the Most Recent Development in Abstract Art", New School for Social Research, New York (subsequently in the Albright Art Gallery, Buffalo).

Becomes member of the artists' association Abstraction-Création, Paris. Photographs of the *Merzbau* and other works reproduced in the journal of the same title 1932-1934.

#### **7 March 1931**

Death of Theo van Doesburg. Publishes two obituaries – one is written on behalf of the abstrakten hannover and emphasises van Doesburg's significance for the Bauhaus.

#### **16 March 1931**

Death of his father Eduard Schwitters.

#### **Spring 1931**

Stay with Robert Michel and Ella Bergmann-Michel in the Schmelzmühle.

#### **June/July 1931**

Represented in a show by the "ring neue werbegestalter" in Essen and (as part of an international exhibition of advertising prints, photos, and photo-montage) at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam. These are the last public presentations of work by the "ring neue werbegestalter".

Trip to the Netherlands, visits Lajos d'Ebneth in Kijkduin by Scheveningen; attends 9th congress of the PEN Club in The Hague.

#### **1932**

*Merz 24 Ursonate* published (typography executed by Jan Tschichold).

Represented in the exhibition "International Collection of Modern Art" in Lodz.

The artists' group "die abstrakten hannover", which was founded in 1927, begins to gradually disband.

#### **March/April 1932**

Represented in the jubilee centenary exhibition of the Hanover Kunstverein.

Seven-week cruise accompanied by Helma Schwitters (Guernsey, Brittany, Madeira, Southern Spain, Morocco, Italy).

#### **5 May 1932**

Recording of the Scherzo from the *Ursonate* and the poem *An Anna Blume* for the broadcaster Süddeutscher Rundfunk Stuttgart.

#### **Summer 1932**

Leases and begins to convert into a *Merzbau* a shack on the island of Hjertøya in Moldefjord.

#### **1 July 1932**

Becomes a member of the Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands (Social Democratic Party).

#### **1933**

Becomes a member of the Deutscher Werkbund (had probably joined earlier, but membership in 1933 is documented).

In the course of the following years, increasing withdrawal into "inner emigration" and concentration on the *Merzbau* in Hanover.

#### **June–September 1933**

Defamed in the exhibition "November Spirit: Art in the Service of Moral Corruption" in Stuttgart and Bielefeld, and organized by the National Socialists (presumably only reproductions of Schwitters' works were shown).

#### **July 1933**

The story *Schacko* published under the pseudonym Peter Krüger in the periodical *Zirkel. Magazin für Wissenschaft, Kunst und Technik* (no. 1), edited by Hanne Bauer-Rasch.

#### **January/February 1934**

Travels to Oslo with Ernst Schwitters; one-man show (landscapes) in Blomqvist art dealer's in Oslo.

#### **28 March 1934**

Travels to Berlin for the opening of the Futurist exhibition "Aeropittura", meets Filippo Tommaso Marinetti.

#### **Summer 1934**

In Norway, first meets his later friends Hans and Suzanne Freudenthal from the Netherlands.

### **October/November 1934**

Represented in the autumn show of Hanoverian artists at the Hanover Kunstverein. This is the last presentation of Schwitters' work in National Socialist Germany, apart from inclusion in defamatory exhibitions of so-called "degenerate art".

### **December 1934/January 1935**

Visits Hans and Suzanne Freudenthal in Amsterdam.

### **1935**

Defamatory presentation of *The Merzpicture* and *Ring Picture* (both confiscated in 1935) as well as his poem *An Anna Blume* and the quotation "Everything an artist spits out is art" in "Degenerate Art", the first touring exhibition organized by the National Socialists (began 23 September 1933 in Dresden and ended, in September 1936, in Frankfurt-on-Main.)

Alfred Barr jr. (director of the Museum of Modern Art, New York) pays a visit to 5 Waldhausenstrasse, Hanover, but does not meet Schwitters in person. Barr views the *Merzbau* and purchases a collage for the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

### **January/February 1935**

Represented in the exhibition "Tentoonstelling van modern schilderwerk, grafiek, reclame en fotografie" in De Nieuwe Kunstschool, Amsterdam. Travels to Rotterdam and Amsterdam; visits Hans and Suzanne Freudenthal.

### **September 1935**

Stay in Copenhagen. Carola Giedion-Welcker visits 5 Waldhausenstrasse in Hanover during his absence and views the *Merzbau*.

### **December 1935**

Travels to Switzerland. Recital evening held (on 1 December) while staying in Basel with the art collectors Oskar and Annie Müller-Widmann. Visits Jan and Edith Tschichold and stays with Sigfried Giedion and Carola Giedion-Welcker in Zürich. Private recital in the home of Otto Nebel in Bern (on 16 December).

### **March 1936**

Travels to Paris, visits Hans Arp and Sophie Taeuber-Arp; meets Piet Mondrian.

Trips to Switzerland and the Netherlands; visits Edith and Jan Tschichold in Basel; visits Hans and Suzanne Freudenthal in Amsterdam (end of March).

### **March/April 1936**

Included in the exhibition "Cubism and Abstract Art" at the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

### **August 1936**

The Gestapo in Hanover arrests his friends Christof and Luise Spengemann and their son Walter.

### **Autumn 1936**

Travels to Stockholm to visit the exiled photographer Andreas Feininger, the son of Lyonel Feininger.

### **November/December 1936**

Travels to the Netherlands; visits Piet Zwart and Hans and Suzanne Freudenthal.

Fruitless attempts to find parties in the USA interested in his *Merzbau*.

### **December 1936/January 1937**

Included in the exhibition "Fantastic Art, Dada, Surrealism" in the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Schwitters' 18-year-old son Ernst flees to Norway on 26 December. Kurt Schwitters follows on 2 January 1937 and in view of the political situation decides not to return to Germany. Lives in Lysaker by Oslo and, in the summer months, in Molde (officially registered as resident already on 10 November 1936). Helma Schwitters remains in Hanover and spends only a few months annually in Norway up to 1939. Important works are gradually moved from Hanover to Lysaker.

Kurt Schwitters begins work on a new *Merzbau* in Lysaker, the *Haus am Bakken*, which was destroyed in fire in 1951. During emigration in Norway, and later in Great Britain, he increasingly produces figurative drawings and paintings (primarily landscapes and portraits).

### **January/February 1937**

Represented in an exhibition of Constructivist art at the Kunsthalle in Basel.

### **Spring 1937**

Katherine S. Dreier visits Helma Schwitters in Hanover; views the *Merzbau*.

### **20. June 1937**

50th birthday. Celebrates with Helma Schwitters in Norway.

**July/August 1937**

More works by Schwitters expropriated from German museums (in Berlin, Hanover, Mannheim, Breslau, Saarbrücken and Wiesbaden, among other places).  
Second “Degenerate Art” exhibition begins, with itinerary taking in Munich, Berlin, Leipzig, Düsseldorf and Hamburg, and ending in Halle on 20 April 1941. Presentation of abstract works (for instance *The Merzpicture*, 1919, *Ring Picture*, 1920–21, *Merzdrawing* 190, 1921, und *Mz 195 The One.*, 1921) in the context of Dadaist works described as being “complete insanity”.

**1938**

Collaboration with the Norwegian composer and organist Thorolf Høyer-Finn leads to the play *Hvad er sannhet?* (German title: “Wahrheit”).

Sells five collages to Peggy Guggenheim.

**July 1938**

Represented in “Exhibition of Twentieth Century German Art”, New Burlington Galleries, London (organized in protest against the Nazi “Degenerate Art” exhibition).

**September/October 1938**

Represented in the exhibition “International nutidskunst. Konstruktivisme, neoplasticisme, abstrakt kunst, surrealisme” in Oslo.

**November 1938**

Represented in in “Exhibition of Collages, Papiers-collés, and Photo-montages” at Peggy Guggenheim’s London gallery.

**December 1938**

Travels to Stockholm, Copenhagen, Göteborg.

**1939**

Poems and a drawing published in the periodical *Plastique* (no. 4), edited in Paris by Sophie Taeuber-Arp.

*The Huth Picture*, *The Patent-Leather Picuture* and *Playing-Cards Harmonica*, all 1919, reproduced in the book *Histoire de l’Art contemporain* by Christian Zervos, Paris.

**2 July 1939**

Family celebration in Oslo (80<sup>th</sup> birthday of his mother, Henriette Schwitters, and engagement of Ernst Schwitters to Esther Guldahl); last meeting with Helma Schwitters.

**November 1939/January 1940**

Included in the exhibition “Some New Forms of Beauty” staged by the Société Anonyme in Springfield (Massachusetts) and Hartford (Connecticut).

**9 April 1940**

German troops invade Norway. Together with son Ernst and his wife Esther, flight over a period of several weeks to Tromsø in north-west Norway via Molde and the Lofoten islands. In Åndalsnes and on the Lofoten, the refugees are briefly detained by the Norwegian and British military administrations.

**8–18 June 1940**

Crosses to Scotland on the icebreaker Fridtjof Nansen.

**1940/41**

Internment in various camps in Scotland and England: for ten days in Midlothian (south of Edinburgh), two weeks in Edinburgh, six weeks in York, some four weeks in Bury by Manchester, and from 17 July onward in Hutchinson Camp in Douglas on the Isle of Man (until 21 November 1941).

Sets up a studio in Hutchinson Camp. Produces numerous portraits of fellow-internees and holds regular recitals (which include *silence*, his first poem in English) in the artists’ café at the camp. Publishes stories (including *The Story of the Flat and Round Painter*) in the internees’ journal *The Camp*.

Becomes member of the FDKB (League of Free German Artists) in Great Britain, founded in 1938 by Fred Uhlman.

**5 October 1940**

Schwitters celebrates his silver wedding anniversary alone in the internment camp.

**November 1940**

Contributes figurative paintings to an exhibition in the internment camp.

**5 January 1941**

Fire breaks out in his studio.

**December 1941**

Moves to London, 3 St. Stephen's Crescent, on being released from internment. First meeting with Edith Thomas (nicknamed "Wantee"), who later becomes his companion.

**February 1942**

Represented in the "AIA 1942 Members' Exhibition" of the Artists' International Association in London.

**May 1942**

Meets Ben Nicholson and his wife Barbara Hepworth.

**August 1942**

Moves to 39 Westmoreland Road in the London suburb of Barnes, together with Ernst Schwitters and his Norwegian colleague Gert Strindberg.

**September 1942**

Holidays in the Lake District with Edith Thomas.

**1943–1945**

Increased production of small abstract (plaster) sculptures.

**8/9 October 1943**

The house at 5 Waldhausenstrasse 5 in Hanover, the site of the *Merzbau*, is destroyed by an incendiary bomb.

**January/February 1944**

Included in the exhibition "The World of Imagination" at Jack Bilbo's Modern Art Gallery in London.

**March/April 1944**

Represented in an exhibition of Concrete Art at the Kunsthalle, Basel.

**April 1944**

A stroke suffered during a severe bout of influenza leads to temporary paralysis on one side of his body.

**22–26 August 1944**

Participates in conference organized by the PEN Club, where he meets up with Stefan and Franziska Themerson and Lucia Moholy-Nagy.

**29 October 1944**

Helma Schwitters dies of cancer. Kurt Schwitters first learns of her death later that year in December.

**December 1944**

One-man show at the Modern Art Gallery in London; introduction and catalogue text written by Herbert Read.

**February–April 1945**

One-man presentation as annex to exhibition "Der Sturm (Sammlung Nell Walden)" at the Bern Kunstmuseum on initiative of Jan Tschichold.

**June 1945**

Ernst Schwitters returns to Norway from Great Britain, and assumes Norwegian citizenship (in December).

Kurt Schwitters moves with Edith Thomas to 2 Gale Crescent, Ambleside, in the Lake District (on 26 June).

Meets the teacher Harry Bickerstaff and the artist Hilde Goldschmidt.

Earns his living by painting portraits, landscapes and still-lives. Financial assistance afforded by his friend Walter Dux, a Hanoverian industrialist and fellow-emigré living in London.

**16 November 1945**

Travels to London to attend the wedding of Ernst Schwitters and his second wife Lola "Eve" Mehrgut from Hamburg.

**28 December 1945**

Death of his mother Henriette Schwitters.

**1945–1947**

Trips to London as well as Manchester, Liverpool, Southport, Blackpool, Preston and Penrith undertaken for portrait commissions and in order to buy paints.

**1946**

Produces extensive series of *Merzzeichnungen* in the course of this year and the next.

13 poems published in Carola Giedion-Welcker's *Anthologie der Abseitigen – Poètes à l'Écart*, Benteli, Bern.

**February/March 1946**

Physical collapse due to vascular congestion, which also causes him to lose his sight for a period of four days. Moves house to a lower location in Ambleside (4 Millans Park) in consequence of this illness.

**Summer 1946–spring 1947**

Works on the periodical *PIN* planned with Raoul Hausmann.

**July/August 1946**

Represented in the exhibition "1er Salon des Réalités nouvelles. Art abstrait, concret, constructivisme, non figuratif" in Paris.

**September/October 1946**

Included as a non-member in the annual show of the Lake Artists' Society in Grasmere; represented again (as a member) in 1947; after his death, works are exhibited likewise (in 1948).

**October–December 1946**

Confined to bed for several weeks due to a break of the neck of the femur (on 8 October); increasing financial difficulties.

**February/March 1947**

Travels to London with Edith Thomas; suffers attack of asthma; spends two weeks recuperating in Broadstairs.

Two Merz evenings staged at the London Gallery (5 and 7 March). Futile attempt to persuade the BBC to record his *Ursonate*.

**March/April 1947**

Included in the exhibition "The White Plane" at the Rose Fried Gallery, New York.

**9 June 1947**

His grandson Bengt Schwitters is born in Bærum, Norway.

**20 June 1947**

60th birthday, is awarded a fellowship of US \$ 1,000 by the Museum of Modern Art, New York, originally intended for the re-building or continuation of one of the *Merzbauten* in Hanover or Lysaker; uses the award for work on a new *Merzbau*, the *Merzbarn*, on Cylinders Farm, which belongs to Harry Pierce near Elterwater in the Lake District.

**14 July 1947**

Suffers a haemorrhage; work on the *Merzbarn* is interrupted.

**5 August 1947**

Article *Kurt Schwitters. Konstruktive Metamorphose des Chaos* by Carola Giedion-Welcker published in the Zürich newspaper *Die Weltwoche* on the occasion of Kurt Schwitters' 60th birthday.

**Mid-December 1947**

Admitted to Kendal Hospital.

**7 January 1948**

Granted British citizenship.

**8 January 1948**

Kurt Schwitters' dies in presence of Edith Thomas and Ernst Schwitters in Kendal Hospital. Causes of death are acute pulmonary oedema and myocarditis.

**10 January 1948**

Buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ambleside.

**4 September 1970**

Remains transported to the Engesohde cemetery in Hanover; the grave in Ambleside is left in place, together with the gravestone erected by Edith Thomas in 1966.