

# ***Lothar Baumgarten Dies at 74; Artist Explored Collision of Cultures***

By Neil Genzlinger

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Lothar Baumgarten, a conceptual artist who used photography, film, prints, storytelling, soundscapes and more to explore a wide range of subjects, most notably the collision of cultures threatening people like the Yanomami in the South American rain forest, died on Dec. 3 in Berlin. He was 74.

The Marian Goodman Gallery in New York, which represented him, announced his death without specifying a cause.

“The breadth of his work was really enormous,” Ms. Goodman said in a telephone interview.

In the late 1970s, Mr. Baumgarten spent months at a time on repeated occasions living with the Yanomami in a remote region on the border of Venezuela and Brazil, immersing himself in their way of life. His experiences formed the basis of numerous exhibitions for decades afterward, including, in 1993, “America: Invention,” in which he transformed the famed spiral at the Guggenheim Museum into a study of threatened and lost cultures.

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