PARIS
“Sheila Hicks: Life Lines”
Centre Pompidou
February 7 - April 23
Curated by Michel Gauthier

The American artist Sheila Hicks will finally have her first retrospective in Paris, her adopted home. A Nebraska native and a former student of Anni and Josef Albers, Hicks has created monumental fiber sculptures since the late 1950s. Early on, these works took the form of interior—design commissions for corporate and public spaces; later, she made a turn toward dimensional sculptural forms that drape and unfurl. As a peripatetic expatriate, Hicks produced site-specific sculptures and installations that explored indigenous weaving practices in Mexico, India, Morocco, Israel, and elsewhere, long before the term globalization came into vogue. A progenitor of material—driven installations, she has created projects that privilege abstraction, utilizing a vast textile vocabulary of bundling, heaping, coiling, braiding, weaving, and wrapping. Hicks is, at heart, a formalist, building a complex and dense palette of color, volume, texture, and space. A bilingual catalogue will accompany the show, featuring essays by Monique Lévi-Strauss and Cécile Godefroy.

— Jenni Sorkin