

ABBY LEIGH

ABOUT

Abby Leigh is an artist based in New York City. Her work is held in public collections including the Museum of Modern Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art; the Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Metropolitan Museum of Art; The Hammer Museum; and the Houston Museum of Fine Arts; among others.

ARTIST STATEMENT

While my work varies stylistically, my way of looking does not: I have very little depth perception. I see a layered world with flat, sometimes ambiguous, space. In keeping with such, I work in layers—be it layers of paint, of smoke, of graphite or peach pit soot, of whatever the work in front of me seems to demand. I start an abstract work randomly: making a mark with an axe, an eye dropper filled with sumi ink, or a line of smoke and I suddenly have somewhere to go. In my sledgehammer works, I work the surface until the markings form a coherent visual explanation to me. Often I return to the same surface and I rework it, sledgehammering, axing, sanding, buffing, scrubbing, erasing, adding, or subtracting.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022 Sledgehammer Paintings, Journal Gallery, New York, NY
2018 Sledgehammer Paintings, Johannes Vogt Gallery, New York, NY
2015 Pause, Jack Barrett Gallery, New York, NY
2014 Abby Leigh: Works 2011/2013, Meridian Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2012 One Evening, Dieu Donné Papermill, New York, NY
2009 The Sleeper's Eye, Betty Cuninghams Gallery, New York, NY
2007 The Eye is the First Circle, Betty Cuninghams Gallery, New York, NY
2007 Inner Circle, Evo Gallery, Santa Fe, NM, (with David Maisel)
2005 Systems, Betty Cuninghams Gallery, New York, NY
2005 My Personal Atlas, Dieu Donné Papermill, New York, NY
2004 Mon Atlas Personnel, Galerie 14, Paris, France
2003 Eye Sprout, Stefan Stux Gallery, New York, NYC
2003 Ulivi, Contemporary Exhibition Hall, Bari, Italy
2002 Naturlig Mangfoldighed II, Midtsønderjyllands Museum, Gram Slot, Gram, Denmark
2001 Naturale Plurale, Accademia dei Georgofili, Uffizi Galleries, Florence, Italy
2001 Vies Secrètes, Chapelle de la Persévérance, Tarascon, France
2001 Blow-Up, Galerie 14, Paris, France
2001 First Fruits, Musées de Nice, Galerie de la Marine, Nice, France
2000 Eden, Maxwell Davidson Gallery, New York, NY
1999 Garden of Earthly Delights, Galleria Il Milione, Milan, Italy
1999 Hortus Clausus, Palazzo Ducale, Sabbionetta, Italy, (under the patronage of the Consulate General of the United States & the U.S.I.S.)
1998 Abby Leigh, Maxwell Davidson Gallery, New York, NY
1998 Abby Leigh, Acquerelli, Galleria del Leone, Venice, Italy
1997 Abby Leigh, Galleria Carlo Virgilio, Rome, Italy
1997 Abby Leigh, Alliance Francaise, Bologna, Italy
1996 Aquarelles, Museum of Contemporary Art, Issoudun, France
1995 Abby Leigh, Aquarelles, Chapelle de Pénitants Blancs, Vence, France
1985 Abby Leigh, Windows, A.M. Adler Fine Arts, New York, New York, NY
1982 Abby Leigh, Watercolors, A.M. Adler Fine Arts, New York, NY
1981 Abby Leigh, A.M. Adler Fine Arts, New York, NY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021 In Vivid Color, Leslie Feely Gallery, group show including John Chamberlain, Josef Albers, Robert Motherwell, among others, Wain-scott, New York
2020 Uncaged, Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, New Jersey
2019 Vanishing Ocular, Rental Gallery, curated by David Salle and Nicole Wittenburg, group show including Chris Martin, Daryl Westly, and Juan Usle, among others, Easthampton, New York
2018 The Barn Show, Curated by Johannes Vogt, East Hampton, NY, group show of 30 artists including Maria Zerres, Kennedy Yanko, Lasy Skollie, Marc Horowitz, Petra Cortright, Walter Robinson, Mernet Larsen.
2018 The Masters, curated by Jillian Russo, The Art Students League, New York, New York
2018 Print/Paper: American Hand Papermaking, 1960's to Today, group show of 60 artists including Louise Bourgeois, Chuck Close, William Kentridge, Robert Gober, David Hockney, Glenn Ligon, Do Ho Suh, Michelle Stuart, Ellsworth Kelly, Louise Nevelson, Larry Rivers, Jim Hodges and Mel Bochner. International Print Center, New York
2014 Attention Span, Kathleen Cullen Fine Art, Spring Break Show, New York, NY
2013 Coming Together: Surviving Sandy, curated by Phong Bui, with Richard Serra, Chuck Close, and Alex Katz, among others, Industry Park, Brooklyn, NY

2012 Uno Per Uno, Uno Per Tutti, Lab 610XL, Spazio Pariggi, Treviso, Italy
2012 Through a Papermaker's Eye, curated by Susan Gosin, Grolier Club, New York, NY
2011 Ossessione Verde, Lab 610XL, curated by Peter Weiermair, with Joseph Beuys, among others, Sovramonte, (BL) Italy
2010-11 Fireworks, Hunterton Museum of Art, curated by Mary Birmingham, Clinton, New Jersey
2010 Will Barnet and the Art Students League, curated by Will Barnet, Art Students League, New York, NY
2009-10 Out of the Vault: 95 Years of Collecting, curated by Gail Stavitsky, Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, New Jersey
2009 Party at Chris's House, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn
2006 Personal Geographies, Contemporary Artists Make Maps, Hunter College/Times Square Gallery, New York, NY
2005 Summer Selections, Dieu Donn  Papermill, New York, NY
2005 Selections d'Et , Galerie 14, Paris, France
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2004 Bison Caravan, Mus e d'Aarhus, Aarhus, Denmark
2003 On Line, curated by Charlie Finch, George Negroponte and Robert Storr, Richard Feigen Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY
2003 New Projects, Dieu Donn  Gallery, New York, NY
2003 Bison Caravan, Friche La Pelle De Mai, Marseille, France
2002 New Projects, Dieu Donn  Gallery, New York, NY
2002 Collaborations, Dieu Donn  Gallery, New York, NY
2002 Gaggles, Flocks and Covies; Further, Exaltations and Murders: a bird show, Ricco-Maresca Gallery, New York, NY
2000 Art In America: 2000, American Embassy, Bratislava, Slovakia
1999 Recent Acquisitions, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel
1999 Gallery Selections, Maxwell Davidson Gallery, New York, NY
1999 Gallery Selections, Galleria Il Milione, Milan, Italy
1999 The IX International Exhibit of Botanical Art, Hunt Institute of Botanical Documentation, Pittsburgh, PA
1998 Gallery Selections, Galleria del Leone, Venice, Italy
1998 Gallery Selections, Maxwell Davidson Gallery, New York, NY
1997 Gallery Selections, Maxwell Davidson Gallery, New York, NY

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Accademia dei Georgofili, Uffizi Galleries, Florence, Italy <http://www.georgofili.it>
Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA <https://art.famsf.org>
Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY <https://albrightknox.org>
Armand Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA <https://hammer.ucla.edu>
Citibank, New York, NY
Collezioni Comunali, Bari, Italy
Collezioni Comunali, Sabbioneta, Italy <http://www.iatsabbioneta.org>
Davis Museum, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass
Deloitte & Touche LLP, New York, NY
The Farnsworth Museum of Art, Rockland, ME <https://collection.farnsworthmuseum.org>
Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA <http://www.harvardartmuseums.org>
Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York, NY <https://greyartgallery.nyu.edu>
Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY <https://www.guggenheim.org>
Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX <https://www.mfah.org>
Hunt Institute of Botanical Documentation, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA <http://www.huntbotanical.org>
Industrial Solvents Corporation, Rye, NY
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel <http://www.imj.org.il/en>
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY <http://www.metmuseum.org>
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY <https://www.moma.org>
Midts nderjyllands Museum, Gram Slot, Gram, Denmark
Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, NJ <https://www.montclairartmuseum.org>
Museum of Contemporary Art, Issoudun, France <https://www.museeissoudun.tv>
Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, OH <https://www.progressive.com>
Sterling Memorial Library, Yale University, New Haven, CT <http://web.library.yale.edu>
The New York Public Library, New York, NY <https://www.nypl.org>
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY <http://collection.whitney.org>
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT <http://artgallery.yale.edu>