

JOHN LEES

Chronology

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| 1943 | Born in Denville, NJ |
| 1950 | Moved to Los Angeles, CA |
| 1961 - 63 | Attended Los Angeles City College, Los Angeles, CA |
| 1963 - 67 | Attended Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles, CA, B.F.A., M.F.A. |
| 1967 - 81 | Studios in Los Angeles and vicinity |
| 1971 - 81 | Taught at Mount San Antonio College, Walnut, CA |
| 1981 | Moved to New York area |

Solo Exhibitions

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| 2005 | "Johann's Castle", Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA |
| 2003 | "John Lees: Wisps", Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA |
| 1998 | "John Lees - Paintings, Drawings, and Sculpture", Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY |
| 1997 | Galleria I.S.A., Montecastello di Vibio, Italy Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA |
| 1996 | Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY |
| 1993 | Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY |
| 1992 | Genovese Gallery, Boston, MA |
| 1990 | Compass Rose Gallery, Chicago IL |
| 1989 | Compass Rose Gallery, Chicago, IL Mayor Gallery, London, England Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY |
| 1986 | Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY |
| 1983 | Edward Thorp Gallery, New York, NY |
| 1982 | Feigenson Gallery, Detroit, MI |
| 1981 | Ruth Braunstein Gallery, San Francisco, CA |
| 1980 | Edward Thorp Gallery, New York, NY |
| 1979 | Feigenson-Rosenstein Gallery, Detroit, MI |
| 1977 | Edward Thorp Gallery, New York, NY |
| 1976 | Ellie Blankfort Gallery, Los Angeles, CA |

1975 Edward Thorp Gallery, New York, NY
 1971 Unitarian Center, First Unitarian Church, San Francisco, CA
 1969 San Bernadino Valley College, San Bernadino, CA

Group Exhibitions

2004 "The Self-Reliant Spirit", Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
 "Invitational Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture",
 American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York

2002 "In the Spirit of Landscape VII, Nielsen Gallery, Boston,
 MA
 "Portraits: More Than Skin and Bones", Nielsen Gallery,
 Boston, MA

1998 "In the Spirit of Landscape III", Nielsen Gallery, Boston,
 MA
 "Masters of the Masters: MFA Faculty of the School of
 Visual Arts, New York, 1983-1998", Butler Institute of
 American Art, Youngstown, OH
 "Invitational : Portraits", Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA

1997 "In the Spirit of Landscape II", Nielsen Gallery, Boston,
 MA

1995 "The Horse Show", Sylvia White, Contemporary Artists'
 Services, Los Angeles, CA and New York, NY

1994 "Artists' Nature", Greene County Council on the Arts,
 Catskill, NY
 Kansas City Art Institute Kansas City, MO
 School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

1993 "Drawings III", Koplín Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

1992 "Art on Paper", Weatherspoon Art Gallery, Greensboro,
 NC

1992-83 "Shift: LA/NY", Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport
 Beach, CA; Newberger Museum, State University of New
 York at Purchase, NY

1991 "The Painted Landscape: Seen, Translated, Apprehended
 and Eulogized", Genovese Gallery, Boston, MA
 Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO

- 1989 "Rugged Terrain" Toby Kahn, John Lees, David Lowe and Yishai Jusidman", Shea & Beker Gallery, New York, NY
 "Direct Response: Contemporary Landscape Painting", Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
 New York Studio School, New York, NY
 "Belief in Paint: Eleven Contemporary Artists", Usdan Gallery, Bennington College, Bennington, VT
- 1987 "A Contemporary View of Nature", Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT
 "Still Life Painting", University Gallery, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
- 1986 "Objects Observed, Summit Art Center, Summit, NJ
 "Intuitive Line", Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY
- 1985 "Minimal Representations", Jan Baum Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
 "Views: Interior and Exterior", Koplín Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
 "American Still Lifes", Hirschl & Adler Galleries, New York, NY
- 1984 Oscarsson-Hood Gallery, New York, NY
 "A Decade of New Art", Artists Space, New York, NY
 "Selections from the Merry and Bill Norris Collection", Fine Arts Gallery, University of California at Irvine, CA
- 1983 - 84 "American Still-Life", Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, TX; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY; Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH; Neuberger Museum, State University of New York at Purchase, NY; Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR
- 1981 University Art Gallery, California State University, Dominguez Hills, CA
 "Five Figurative Painters", Huntsville Museum of Art, Huntsville, AL
 "California: A Sense of Individualism", L.A. Louver Gallery, Venice, CA
 "Painters' Painters", Siegel Contemporary Art, Inc., New York, NY
- 1979 "American Portraits of the Sixties and Seventies", The Aspen Center for the Visual Arts, Aspen, CO

- 1978 "Traditions/Five Painters", Artists Space, New York, NY
 "Traditions/Five Painters", Artists Space, New York, NY
- 1976 Edward Thorp Gallery, New York, NY (also annually 1977 - 1983)
- 1975 "Stretching It", Pasadena Artists Concern Gallery, Pasadena, CA
 "24 From L.A.", Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery at Barnsdall Park, Los Angeles, CA
 Janus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
 Ellie Blankfort Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1974 "Word Works", Mount San Antonio College, Walnut, CA
 Edward Thorp Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA
- 1973 Ellie Blankfort Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1971 "American Portraits Old and New", Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
 Faculty Exhibition, Mount San Antonio College, Walnut, CA (also 1973, 1976, 1979)
- 1970 "Temple Street Artists", Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
- 1969 "Microcosm '69", Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
 Jewish Community Center, San Diego, CA
- 1968 "Artists Who Make Boxes", Palos Verdes Art Association, Palos Verdes, CA
 Lytton Center of the Visual Arts, Los Angeles, CA
 Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Rental Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (also 1969, 1970)
- 1967 Horizon Gallery, Venice, CA
- 1963 Los Angeles Art Association Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1962 The Blue Couch, Los Angeles, CA
- 1960 - 61 Venice West Cafe, Venice, CA
- 1960 The Gashouse, Venice, CA

Bibliography

- Adams, Brooks. **Art in America**, October 1986.
- Ballatore, Sandy. "Ironic L.A. Artist Course Wraps Up", **Art Week**, December 21, 1974.

Cathcart, Linda. Traditions/Five Painters, exhibition catalog, Artists Space, New York, NY, 1978.
American Still Life, 1945 - 83, exhibition catalog, Contemporary Art Museum, Houston, TX, 1983.

Clothier, Peter. **L.A. Weekly**, July 26 - August 1, 1985.

Colby, Joy Hakanson. **The Detroit News**, January 24, 1984.

Corbet, William. **artsMedia**, June 1997.

Cotter, Holland. **The New York Times**, March 15, 1996.

Danieli, Fidel. "Mainstream California Individualism", **Art Week**, September 12, 1981.

Frank, Elizabeth. "John Lees: Hirschl & Adler Modern", **ARTnews**, May, 1996

Frank, Peter. **ARTnews**, December 1976.

Jaeger, William. "Artists' Nature", **Albany Times Union**, March 12

Johnson, Ken. "John Lees at Hirschl & Adler Modern", May 1990.

Kalina, Richard. "John Lees", **Arts Magazine**, March 1990.

Karmel, Pepe. *Art in America*, May 1980.

Knight, Christopher. **The Los Angeles Herald Examiner**, August 11, 1985.

Kohn, Michael. **Flash Art**, Summer 1983.

Larson, Kay. **New York Magazine**, April 7, 1986.

Lubell, Ellen. **Arts**, June 1977.

Marandel, Patrice. **The New Art Examiner**, May 1982.

McQuaid, Cate. **The Boston Globe**, May 15, 1997.

Miro, Marsha. "The Romantics Magical Touch", **The Detroit Free Press**, January 10, 1982.

Muchnic, Suzanne. "A Louvre Celebration of the Nonconformist", **The Los Angeles Times**, August 3, 1981.
Art Week, December 11, 1976

Neher, Ross. "Minimalism Versus Painting", **Artforum**, February 1979.
American Portraits of the Sixties and Seventies, exhibition catalog, The Aspen Center for the Visual Arts, Aspen, CO, 1979.

Ratcliff, Carter. "New York Letter", **Art International**, Summer 1976.

Raynor, Vivian. **The New York Times**, February 18, 1983.

Schimmel, Paul. Shift: L.A./N.Y., exhibition catalog, Newport Harbor Museum, Newport, Beach, CA

Secunda, Arthur. Microcosm '69, exhibition catalog, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach CA

- Sherman, Mary. Goldberg and Lees Challenge Tradition", **The Chicago Sun-Times**, April 1, 1989.
- Storr, Robert. **Art in America**, May 1983.
Art Week, March 8, 1983.
- Watkins, Eileen. **The New Jersey Star Ledger**, December 19, 1986.
Objects Observed, exhibition catalog, Summit Art Center, Summit, NJ, 1986.
- Westfall, Stephen. **Arts**, May 1983.
- Wilson, Barbara. "John Lees: An Old-Fashioned Painter", **Art Week**, March 8, 1975.
24 From L.A., exhibition catalog, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery at Barnsdall Park, Los Angeles, CA, 1975.
- Wilson, William. "Integrity Fails to Shift from L.A. to N.Y.", **The Los Angeles Times**, October 17, 1982.
- Wolf, Tom. Minimal Representation: Another View of New York, exhibition catalog, Jan Baum Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 1985.
- Wortz, Melinda. Selections from the Merry and Bill Norris Collection, exhibition catalog, Fine Arts Gallery, University of California at Irvine, CA, 1984.
"The L.A./N.Y. Shift; For Some Artists, the Fast Lane Heads East", **ARTnews**, January 1983.
- Yau, John. "Eskimo Villanelle", Compass Rose Gallery, Chicago, IL, 1990
A Contemporary View of Nature, exhibition catalog, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT, 1987.
"John Lees", introduction to catalog, Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY
- Yourgrau, Barry. **Arts**, May 1981.
- Zinsser, John. "Lees: Layers of Historical Dialogue with Tradition", **Art/World**, February/March/April 1990.
"John Lees", introduction to catalog, Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY

Public Collections

Arkansas Art Center, Little Rock, AR
The Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY
The Kemper Collection, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
The New Museum, New York, NY
Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Harbor, CA

Grants & Awards

2005 Francis J. Greenberger Awards
1993 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Grant
1989 National Endowments for the Arts Fellowship Grant

Teaching

1996-now State University at New Paltz, New York
1995 School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA - Painting classes
1994 - 95 Bard College, Annadale, NY - Drawing Marathons
1991 Wayne State University, Detroit, MI - Visiting artist
1989 Vermont Studio School, Johnson, VT - Resident visiting critic
1988 - now New York Studio School of Painting, Drawing and Sculpture, New York, NY - Life drawing and painting classes; Drawing Marathons
1987 - now School of Visual Arts, New York, NY - M.F.A. Fine Arts Department, all media
1978 Wayne State University, Detroit, MI - Visiting artist
1971 - 81 Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, CA - Undergraduate classes in painting, drawing, life drawing, art fundamentals, art appreciation