

Sam Messer

1955 Born New York, NY
1993 - now Living and working in Brooklyn, NY

Education

1981 M.F.A, Yale University, New Haven, CT
1977 B.F.A, Cooper Union, New York, NY
1967-71 Studies at The Art Students League of New York, NY

Honors

1996 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Award
1995 Englehard Foundation Program in Bequia
1993 Pollack-Krasner Foundation Grant
Purchase Award and Exhibition, Academy of Arts and Letters
1985 The Engelhard Award, Cambridge, MA
1984 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant
1982-84 National Studio Program, Institute for Art and Urban Resources, P.S.1, Long Island City, NY
1981-82 Fellowship, The Fine Arts Work Center, Provincetown, MA
1980 Grant for Painting, The Ford Foundation, New York, NY.
Phelps Berdan Award for Painting, Yale University, New Haven, CT
1977 Ethel Cram Memorial Prize for Painting, Cooper Union, New York, NY
1974 Fellowship, Skowhengan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhengan, ME

One Person Exhibitions

2004 "Why I'm Not Where You Are," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA

NIELSEN GALLERY

- 2002 "Sam Messer: The Story of My Typewriter," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2001 "Sam Messer: The Story of My Typewriter and Portraits of Family and Friends," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2000 "Present & Past: Two Decades of Painting," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1999 "Positively Fowl," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
"Sam Messer: New Portraits and Photoplasms," Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1998 "Sam Messer," David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY (catalog)
- 1997 "Small Self-Portraits," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
"The Four Seasons," Shoshanna Wayne Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1995 "Sam Messer: One Man By Himself," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1994 "Sam Messer - Work Death Play", David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
- 1993 David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1992 Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
Stellar Gallery, Paris, France
- 1991 Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
Compass Rose Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1989 Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
Ruth Siegel Ltd., New York, NY
- 1988 Spoleto Festival Show, Gibbes Museum, Charleston, SC
Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1986 Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
"Sculpture," Christine Burgin Gallery, New York, NY
Ruth Siegel Ltd., New York, NY
- 1985 Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1984 Ruth Siegel Ltd., New York, NY
- 1983 Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA

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- 1981 Twining Gallery, New York, NY
Yale University, New Haven, CT
- 1979 University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
- 1976 Cooper Union, New York, NY

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2006 "SUBJECT," Lyman Allyn Museum, New London, CT
- 2003 "Artists Without Borders," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2002 "True Colors," Meridian Corporation, Washington, D.C. (travelling)
"Portraits: More Than Skin and Bones," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1998 "Knowing Children" David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
"Invitational : Portraits," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
Boston International Fine Art Show, Boston, MA
- 1996 "July 1996," David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
- 1995 "Ordinary Object - Extraordinary Experience," Summer Invitational, Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
"Inside Out - Psychological Self-Portraiture," The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT
"Fresh Paint," Berman - E.N., New York, NY
"Insight," David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
"A Tribute to Stephen Greene," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1994 "Masterworks from Private Connecticut Collections," Wadsworth Athenaeum, Hartford, CT
"Small Works: Gallery II, Sculpture Center, New York, NY
- 1993 Art on Paper, Weather-Spoon Guild, Greenboro, NC
"Crossing the Line: Abstraction/Figuration," Invitational Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
"Yale Collects Yale," exhibition of work by Yale artists(graduates & faculty of the school of art), collected by University Alumni, New Haven, CT
"SELF-aMUSED: The Contemporary Artists as Observer and Observed," Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA

NIELSEN GALLERY

- “Paintings from New York,” Elizabeth Leach Gallery,
Portland, OR
- 1992 “44th Annual Academy-Institute Purchase Exhibition,”
American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New
York, NY
- “Paper Houses,” David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
- “Apocalypse and Resurrection,” Amfar Benefit, The Gallery
Three Zero, New York, NY
- “Good Work,” Arthur A. Houghton Jr. Gallery, Cooper
Union, New York, NY
- “Art Show,” New York Downtown Hospital, New York, NY
- 1991 “USA/JAPAN/CHINA: Drawings 1991,” Cork Gallery,
Lincoln Center, New York, NY, traveled to Canada & Japan
- “New Work,” David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
- “Cruciformed: Images of the Cross in Contemporary Art,”
Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH
- 1990 Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
- “Prints: Choice for the 90’s,” Santa Monica Heritage
Museum, Santa Monica, CA
- “Faces,” Marc Richards Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- “The Unique Print: The 70’s into the 90’s,” Museum of Fine
Arts, Boston, MA
- 1989 “Alumni of the Fine Arts Work Center,” Devlin Hall, Main
Campus Boston College Gallery, Boston, MA
- Fred Hoffman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1988 “Common Ground,” A joint exhibit at Nielsen Gallery with
Hurst Gallery, showing the contemporary connection to
ethnological and cultural arts; Boston, MA
- “New York Gallery Artists,” Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA
- 1987 Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY
- 1986 “Thirteen Americans,” C.D.S. Gallery, New York, NY
- “Fifth Anniversary Exhibition, Lawrence Oliver Gallery,
Philadelphia, PA
- 1985 “Harvest,” Ruth Siegel Ltd., New York, NY
- “More Than Meets the Eye - 9 Painters From New York,”
Fabian Carlsson Gallery, London, England, and Galeria Carini,

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Florence, Italy

Lawrence Oliver Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

"Drawings, Paintings, Sculpture," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA

"Picture Frame, Frame Picture," Gabrielle Bryers Gallery,
New York, NY

1985

Lawrence Oliver Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

"Large Figurative Drawings," Virginia Museum of Fine Arts,
Richmond, VA

"Double Vision," B-Side Gallery, New York, NY

"Winter Invitational," Susan Montezinos Gallery, Philadelphia,
PA

"Inspirit," Monique Knowlton Gallery, New York, NY

Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA

1984

Ruth Siegel Ltd, New York, NY

"24 x 24 x 24," Ruth Siegel Ltd., New York, NY

"Salvo," Ruth Siegel Ltd., New York, NY

"Bathers," Coe Kerr Gallery, New York, NY

"Sam Messer, Maria Scotti, Chihung Yang" Thompson Park
Visitor Center, Lincroff, NJ

Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA

Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY

Queens Museum Annual Juried Show, Flushing, NY

Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA

1983

Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA

Twining Gallery, New York, NY

"34," Institute for Art and Urban Resources, Clocktower,
New York, NY

Galerie Taub, Philadelphia, PA

"Nocturne," Siegel Ltd., New York, NY

"Queens Museum Annual Juried Show," Flushing, NY

1981

Newport Art Association Annual, Newport, Rhode Island.
Yale University, New Haven, CT

1979

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

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1976 Country Arts Gallery, Locust Valley, NY
Cooper Union, New York, NY
1975 Syossett Public Library, Syossett, New York, NY

Bibliography

- Anon "Critics Choice," **The New York Times**, December 23, 1994.
- Auster, Paul The Story of My Typewriter, D.A.P. New York February 2002
- Beck, Peter. "Art: Large Figurative Drawings at the Virginia Museum - Impact!," **Style Magazine**, February 1985.
- Boyd, Julia. "Forward" in **Large Figurative Drawings**, exhibition catalogue, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA, 1985.
- Brenson, Michael. "Inspirit," **The New York Times**, September 21, 1984.
"24 x 24 x 24," **The New York Times**, December 1984.
- Cotter, Holland. "Sam Messer," **ArtNews**, March 1990, vol. 89, no. 3.
- Donohue, Victoria. "Showing Artists Rarely Seen Here", **The Philadelphia Inquirer**. December 18 1983.
- Duncan, Michael "Sam Messer at Shoshana Wayne," **Art in America**, June 2000.
- Froer, Jonathan Safran "Sam Messer Goes Fishing," **Modern Painters**, Autumn, 2001
Gerrit, Henry. "Sam Messer," **ArtNews**, September 1991.
"Sam Messer," **Art in America**, March 1990.
- Glueck, Grace. "Today, the Frame May Be a Part of the Picture," **The New York Times**, March 3 1985.
- Johnson, Denis and Gaver, Eleanor E. "One Man by Himself: Portraits of Jon Serl by Sam Messer," exhibition catalog, Hard Press, Inc., West Stockbridge, MA.
- Heartney, Eleanor. "Sam Messer". **Arts Magazine**. October 1984.
"Nocturne," **Arts Magazine**, November 1983.
- Kimmelman, Michael. "Sam Messer," **The New York Times**, November 24, 1989.
"Sam Messer," **The New York Times**, October 27, 1989.

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- Klein, Ellen Lee. "Sam Messer," **Arts Magazine**, February 1987.
"13 Americans," **Arts Magazine**, November 1986.
"24 x 24 x 24," **Arts Magazine**, March 1985.
"Group Show". **Arts Magazine**, October 1984.
"Nocturne," **Arts Magazine**. November 1983.
- Koslow, Francine A. "Sam Messer," **ArtForum**, January 1989.
Kuspit, Donald. "Sam Messer at Twining," **Art in America**, Summer., 1983.
Litt, Steven. "Using or Abusing a Powerful Symbol?," **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**, September 8, 1991.
- Mahoney, Robert. "Sam Messer," **Arts Magazine**, January 1990, vol. 64, no. 5.
"For AIDS Victims, 'A Day Without Art,'" **New York Newsday**, December 1, 1989.
- Masters, Greg "Grisly Grandeur: Sam Messer," **Cover**, Summer 1991.
Morris, Randall "Self Taught Ethics: Regarding Culture," **New Art Examiner**, September 1994.
- Narrett, Eugene. "Sam Messer: New Paintings & Sculpture," **Art New England**, January 1989.
"Sam Messer," **New Art Examiner**, January 1987.
- Norwich, William. "Sam Messer," **Daily News**, October 4, 1989.
Pacheco, Patrick. "The New Faith in Painting," **Art & Antiques**, May 1991.
Piazza, Robert. "Nielsen Art Shocks," **Heights**, 1991.
- Princenthal, Nancy "Sam Messer," **Art in America**, June 1994.
"Sam Messer," **The Boston Herald**, November 19, 1992.
- Raczka, Robert. "Five Painters," **New Art Examiner** (East Coast Edition), March 1984, vol. II, no. 6.
- Rubinstein, Raphael. "Sam Messer," **Art News**, September 1991.
Schaire, Jeffery. "Lions and Lambs Contemporary art on the March," **Art & Antiques**, March 1986.
- Schwabsky, Barry. "Sam Messer," **Flash Art**, May/June 1986.
- Temin, Christine. "Sam Messer Peers into the Darkness," **The Boston Globe**, April 25 1985.
- Yau, John. "Sam Messer," **Artforum**, February 1985.
"Sam Messer," **Arts Magazine**, March 1983.
- Selected Public Collections**
Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Archer J. Huntington Art Gallery, University of Texas, Austin,

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TX

BankAmerica Corporation Art Collection, San Francisco, CA

Criterion Investment Management Company of America,
Houston, TX

David Winton Bell Gallery, List Art Center, Brown
University, Providence, RI

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA

Fort Lauderdale Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, FL

McCrary Corporation, New York, NY

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico

Neuberger Museum, Purchase, NY

Paine Webber, New York, NY

Prudential Insurance Company, Newark, NJ

Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

University of California, Berkeley Art Museum, CA

Wellington Management, Boston, MA

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

Yale University Art Gallery Museum, New Haven, CT