

SAM MESSER

(b. 1955)

Lives and works in New York, US

EDUCATION

1981 | Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, M.F.A.

1976 | The Cooper Union, New York City, US

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022 | I Sing to You, Allouche Benias Gallery, Athens, GR

2021 | Go to it Laughing, M+B Los Angeles, US

2018 | Bridges, BRIC, Brooklyn, NY, US

2017-2018 | Denis the Pirate, Matrix 178, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT, US

2015 | Talking Portraits II, Fredericks & Freiser Gallery

2014 | Sam Messer - Twenty years of work, University of Tampa, US

2014 | "New work", Gary Snyder Gallery, NY, US

2013-2014 | Hanging Conversation II, (Collaborative drawings) Jonathan Safran Foer & Sam Messer, University of Southern Georgia, US

2013 | Hell Hurts- Gasser Grunert, NY, US

2013 | Talking portraits, Messer/Jonathan Safran Foer, The Suburban, Chicago, IL, US

2009 | Hanging Conversations, Messer/Safran-Foer Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US

2007 | The Evolution of Desire, Messer in print, Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US

2004 | Paintings, Nielsen gallery, Boston, MA, US

2002 | "New work", Shoshanna Wayne Gallery, LA, CA, US

2001 | "Family and Friends," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US

2000 | "Sam Messer-20 Years of Painting", Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US

1999 | Shoshanna Wayne Gallery, LA, US

1998 | David Beitzel Gallery, NY, US

1997 | "Self Portraits", Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US

1997 | "The Four Seasons", Shoshanna Wayne Gallery CA, US

1995 | Nina Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US

1994 | "Work, Death, Play," David Beitzel Gallery, NY, US

1993 | David Beitzel Gallery, NY, US

SOLO EXHIBITIONS *(continued)*

1992 | Nina Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
 1992 | StellaR Gallery, Paris, France
 1991 | Nina Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
 1991 | David Beitzel Gallery, NY, US
 1991 | Compass Rose Gallery, Chicago, Ill, US
 1989 | Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
 1989 | Ruth Siegel Ltd., NY, US
 1988 | Christine Burgin Gallery, NY, US
 1988 | Spoleto Festival Show, Gibbes Museum, Charleston, SC, US
 1988 | Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
 1986 | Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
 1986 | Ruth Siegel Ltd., NY, US
 1985 | Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
 1984 | Ruth Siegel Ltd., NY, US
 1983 | Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
 1983 | Twining Gallery, NY, US
 1981 | Yale University, New Haven, CT, US
 1979 | University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, US
 1976 | Cooper Union, NY, US

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 | The Ranch, Montauk NY, US
 2022 | Singing in Unison, Scully Tomasko Foundation, NY, US
 2019 | Strange LOOPS, Art Space New Haven CT, US
 2013 | Flesh and Blood, Museum on The Seam, Jerusalem
 2013 | "Interiors" ACME, Boston, MA, US
 2006 | National Portrait Gallery Survey Show, National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC, US 2002-2006 | "America" a national traveling show in response to 9/11, US
 2005 | "Cloud of Chalk", Volume Gallery
 2004 | "Ernest" curated by Michael Duncan, Pomona College
 2002 | "I SEE YOU" curated by Sam Messer, Fredricks/Freiser Gallery, NY, US

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS *(continued)*

- 2001 | "The Changing Face of Portraiture," Chapman University, CA, US
- 1999 | "Knowing Children, David Beitzel Gallery, NY, US
- 1998 | "Bathroom," Thomas Healey Gallery, NY, US
- 1998 | Nina Neilsen, 2 person Show, NY, US
- 1997 | "Portraits," Rosamund Felsen Gallery, LA, CA, US
- 1997 | "Summer Group Show," David Beitzel, NY, US
- 1996 | "Recent Acquisitions," Wadsworth Athenaeum, Hartford, CT, US
- 1995 | "Inside Out," Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, US
- 1995 | "Fresh Paint," ER. Berman Gallery, NY, US
- 1995 | "DeCordova Collects! Selected Recent Acquisitions," DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA, US
- 1995 | "A Tribute to Stephen Greene: Painter, Teacher, Friend," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
- 1994 | "Small Works," Gallery II, Sculpture Center, NY, US
- 1993 | "Masterworks from Private Connecticut Collections," Wadsworth Athenaeum, Hartford, CT, US
- 1993 | "Paintings From New York," Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR, US
- 1993 | Art on Paper, Weather Soon Guild, Greensboro, NC, US
- 1992 | Self-Amused, Fitchburg Museum, Fitchburg, MA, US
- 1992 | "Paper Houses," David Beitzel, NY, US
- 1992 | "Art Show" New York Downtown Hospital, NY, US
- 1992 | 44th Annual Academy Institute of Arts and Letters Purchase Exhibition, NY, US
- 1992 | "Apocalypse and Resurrection," Amfar Benefit, The Gallery Three Zero, NY, US
- 1991 | "USA/JAPAN/CHINA: Drawings 1991," Cork Gallery, Lincoln Center, NY, traveled to Canada & Japan
- 1991 | "New Work," David Beitzel, NY, US
- 1991 | "Cruciformed : Images of the Cross in Contemporary Art." Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, OH, 1991, curated by David Rubin, catalogue
- 1991 | "The Unique Print," Boston Museum of Fine Arts, US
- 1990 | Group Show, David Beitzel Gallery, NY, US
- 1990 | Group Show, Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
- 1989 | Fred Hoffman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, US
- 1988 | "New York Gallery Artists," Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US
- 1987 | Group Show, Hirschl & Adler Modern, NY, US
- 1986 | "Thirteen Americans," C.D.S. Gallery, NY, US
- 1986 | "Fifth Anniversary Exhibition," Lawrence Oliver Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, US
- 1985 | "Harvest," Ruth Siegel Ltd., New York, NY, US

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS *(continued)*

- 1985 | "More Than Meets the Eye - 9 Painters From New York," Fabian Carlson Gallery, London, England, and Galeria Carini, Florence, Italy
- 1985 | Group Show, Lawrence Oliver Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, US
- 1985 | "Drawings, Paintings, Sculpture," Nielsen Gallery, US
- 1985 | "Picture Frame, Frame Picture," Gabrielle Bryers Gallery, NY, US
- 1985 | "Large Figurative Drawings," Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA, US
- 1985 | "Double Vision," B-Side Gallery, NY, US
- 1985 | Winter Invitational," Susan Montezinos Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, US
- 1985 | "Inspirit", Monique Knowlton Gallery, NY, US
- 1984 | "24 x 24 x 24," Ruth Siegel Ltd., NY, US
- 1984 | "Salvo" Ruth Siegel Ltd., NY, US
- 1984 | "Bathers," Coe Kerr Gallery, NY, US
- 1984 | "34," Institute for Art and Urban Resources, Clocktower, NY, US
- 1983 | Group Show, Galarie Taub, Philadelphia, PA , US
- 1983 | "Nocturne," Ruth Siegel Ltd., NY, US
- 1983 | Group Show, Hirschl & Adler Modern, NY, US
- 1983 | "Queens Museum Annual Juried Show," Flushing, NY, US
- 1983 | Group Show, Nielsen Gallery, Boston, MA, US

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Art Institute of Chicago
- Archer J. Huntington Art Gallery, University of Texas
- Bank of America Corporation Art Collection, San Francisco, CA
- David Winton Bell Gallery, List Art Center, Rhode Island
- DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, 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
- Neuberger Museum, Purchase, NY
- Paine Webber, New York, NY

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS *(continued)*

Prudential Insurance Company NJ
 Rose Museum, Brandeis College, Waltham, Mass.
 Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT.
 Wellington Management
 Yale University Art Gallery Museum, New Haven, CT
 Whitney Museum of American Art, N.Y.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

2000 | Twentieth Century Fox, "Breakout," oil on canvas, 17 x 30 feet
 1999 | Twentieth Century Fox, "Family," oil on canvas, 17 x 30 feet
 2005 | Jonathan Safran Foer, "Tree of Hands," bronze, 7 feet x 8 feet x 3 feet
 2006 | Richard Sakai, "Standing Typewriter," bronze, 7 feet x 4 feet x 5 inches
 2008 | The Simpsons Movie | Vans Sneakers - designed sneakers for Vans and the Simpson Movie

BOOKS

2020 | Family Garden, Messer, Jonathan Safran Foer, Jungle Press
 2005 | Cloud of Chalk, etchings and poetry, a collaboration with Denis Johnson, Volume editions
 2002 | "The Story of My Typewriter", Paul Auster, DAP
 1995 | One Man by Himself, the Last Portraits of Jon Serl Hard Press, "Sam Messer"; with essays by Denis Johnson and Eleanor Gaver

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2015 | Holland Cotter, "Reading Pictures", NY Times
 2105 | Art in America, "Reading Messer/Foer"
 2002 | Brendan Bernhard, "Sam Messer, Old fashioned Modernist, LA Weekly
 2002 | Jonathan Safran Foer, "Sam Messer Goes Fishing, MODERN PAINTERS
 2001 | William Corbett, "Sam Messer - OBSESSIVE PORTRAITS," Arts Media
 2000 | Paul Parcellin, "The Beauty of Paint"
 2000 | Cate Mcquaid, "Messer Exhibitions Shows a Vital Artist," Boston Globe
 2000 | Duncan, Michael, " Sam Messer at Shoshana Wayne," Art in America

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY *(continued)*

- 1998 | Ken Stillen, "Sam Messer at David Beitzel Gallery", New York Arts Magazine
- 1998 | Ken Johnson, "Sam Messer at David Beitzel Gallery", New York Times, Friday
- 1998 | Ken Johnson, "Sam Messer at David Beitzel Gallery", New York Magazine
- 1997 | Ben Harman, "Takes on the Truth", Bay Windows
- 1997 | Cate McQuaid, "Snyder's Paintings from the Heart", The Boston Globe
- 1997 | Lois Tarlow, "Sam Messer", Art New England
- 1997 | Jonathan Gams & Peter Occhiogrosso, "Fringe Narratives", Lino 6
- 1994 | Princenthal, Nancy, "Art in America", "Sam Messer"
- 1992 | Boston Herald, "Sam Messer"
- 1991 | Rubinstein, Meyer Raphael, "Sam Messer," "Art News", vol. 90, no. 7., no. 3, p.204.
- 1990 | Gerrit, Henry, "Sam Messer," "Art in America", vol. 78,
- 1990 | Holland, Cotter, "Sam Messer," "ART NEWS", vol. 89, no. 3, p. 185.
- 1990 | Robert Mahoney, "Sam Messer," "Arts", vol. 64, no. 5, p.104.
- 1989 | "For AIDS Victims, "A Day Without Art," "New York Newsday, p.8 Part II.
- 1989 | Michael Kimmelman, "Sam Messer", New York Times
- 1986 | Barry Schwabsky, "Sam Messer", Flash Art
- 1986 | Jeffrey Schaire, "Lions and Lambs: Contemporary Art on the March", Art & Antiques, p.37
- 1985 | Christine Temin, "Sam Messer Peers Into the Darkness", Boston Globe, p.83
- 1985 | Grace Glueck, "Today, the Frame May Be a Part of the Picture", The New York Times, p.H29.
- 1985 | John Yau, "Sam Messer," Artforum, p. 86.
- 1985 | Peter Beck, "Art: Large Figurative Drawings at the Virginia Museum -Impact!", Style Magazine
- 1985 | Julia Boyd, Catalogue Essay for "Large Figurative Drawings at Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA
- 1984 | Eleanor Heartney, "Sam Messer," "Arts Magazine", p. 7
- 1984 | Ellen Lee Klein, "Nocturne", Arts Magazine, p. 7.
- 1984 | Michael Brenson, "Inspirit,' The New York Times, p. C33.
- 1984 | Robert Raczka, "Five Painters", New Art Examiner (East Coast Edition), Vol II, no. 6, p. 17
- 1983 | Victoria Donohue, "Showing Artists Rarely Seen Here", Philadelphia Inquirer, p. 1 5H
- 1983 | Eleanor Heartney, "Nocturne", Arts Magazine, p. 16.
- 1983 | Donald Kuspit, "Sam Messer at Twining", Art in America, p.160

HONORS AND AWARDS

2016 | American Academy of Arts and Letters, Purchase Award

2012-2013 | Marie Walsh Sharpe, Space Program

1998 | Fellowship, Moonhole Artist Colony, Bequia, St.Vincent and the Grenadines

1996 | Guggenheim Fellowship

1993 | Pollock-Krasner Foundation Award, NY, US

1992 | Academy of Arts and Letters Purchase Award, NY, US

1985 | The Engelhard Award, Cambridge Massachusetts

1984 | Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant, New York City, National Studio Program, Institute for Art and Urban Resources, P.S.1, Long Island City, NY, US

1981-1982 | Fellowship | The Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Provincetown, Massachusetts

1974 | Fellowship, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture Skowhegan, Maine

TEACHING POSITION

2004-2018 | Associate Dean, Yale University School of Art

1996-2019 | Associate Professor Yale University School of Art

1999-2018 | Director Yale Norfolk Summer Art Program

2019 | Professor Emeritus