Leonardo Drew

Biography

Leonardo Drew (b. 1961, Tallahassee, Florida, USA) is known for his significant installations and sculptures which explore the tension between order and chaos. Drew transforms accumulations of raw materials such as wood, scrap metal and cotton to create works that play upon a tension between order and chaos. His surfaces often approach a language of their own, embodying the laboured process of writing oneself into history.

Drew's work has been seen in major museums worldwide. He was commissioned for a new outdoor project City in the Grass for Madison Square Park in 2019, marking the Madison Square Park Conservancy's 38th public commission and the artist's first major public outdoor art project. City in the Grass was presented as a solo exhibition in three museums, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut (2021); Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson (2020); and North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh (2020). In 2022, Drew was elected as a National Academician by the National Academy of Design. Another major new commission featured at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, UK in 2023. Drew's mid-career survey, Existed, premiered at the Blaffer Gallery at the University of Houston in 2009 and travelled to the Weatherspoon Art Museum in Greensboro, North Carolina, and the DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Massachusetts.

Collections include: Tate, London; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; and Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD.
Drew currently lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

Solo Exhibitions

2023 _Leonardo Drew, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, West Bretton, UK
2023 _Leonardo Drew, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas
2023 _Leonardo Drew: New Works, Talley Dunn Gallery, Dallas, Texas
2022 _Leonardo Drew, Goodman Gallery, London, UK
2022 _Leonardo Drew: Cycles, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer Foundation, Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw State University 19
2021 _Leonardo Drew, Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, New York
2021 _Leonardo Drew: Two Projects, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut
2021 _Leonardo Drew, Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris
2021 _Leonardo Drew: Cycles, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer Foundation, Eskenazi Museum of Art, University of Indiana; the Frost Art Museum, Florida International University
2020 _Leonardo Drew: Making Chaos Legible, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina
2020 _Leonardo Drew: City in the Grass, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson
2020 _Hammer Projects: Leonardo Drew, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California
2020 _Leonardo Drew: New Works, Talley Dunn Gallery, Dallas, Texas (online)
2019 _Leonardo Drew, Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco, California
2019 _Leonardo Drew: Cycles, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer Foundation, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, Massachusetts
2019 _Leonardo Drew, Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, New York
2019 _Leonardo Drew, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
2017 _Leonardo Drew: Number 197, de Young Museum, San Francisco, California
2017 _CAM Raleigh, Raleigh, North Carolina
2017 _Talley Dunn Gallery, Dallas, Texas
2016 _Leonardo Drew: Eleven Etchings, Crown Point Press, San Francisco, California
2016 _Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York
2015 _Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
2015 _Pace Prints, New York, New York
2014 _Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco, California
2013 _Selected Works, SCAD Museum of Art at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Georgia
2013 _Exhumation/Small Works, Canzani Center Gallery at Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus, Ohio
2013 _Vigo, London, England
2012 _Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York
2012 _Pace Prints, New York, New York
2011 _Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco, California
2011 _Vigo, London, England
2011 _Galleria Napolinobilissima, Naples, Italy
2010 _Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York

2010 _Window Works: Leonardo Drew, Artpace, San Antonio, Texas
2009 _Existed: Leonardo Drew, Blaffer Gallery, the Art Museum of the University of Houston, Texas; Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina; DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, Massachusetts
2009 _Fine Art Society, London, England
2007 _Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York
2006 _Palazzo Delle Papesse, Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena, Italy
2005 _Brent Sikkema, New York, New York
2002 _The Fabric Workshop, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2001 _Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York
2001 _Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland
2000 _Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC
2000 _The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, New York
1999 _Madison Art Center, Madison, Wisconsin
1998 _Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York
1997 _Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida, Gainsville, Florida
1996 _University at Buffalo Art Gallery, Center for the Arts, State University of New York, Buffalo, New York
1996 _Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York
1996 _Currents: Leonardo Drew, Saint Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri
1995 _Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, California
1995 _The Pace Roberts Foundation for Contemporary Art, San Antonio, Texas
1995 _Ground Level Overlay, Merce Cunningham Dance Company Collaboration, New York, New York
1994 _San Francisco Art Institute, Walter/Mc Bean Gallery, San Francisco, California
1994 _Thread Waxing Space, New York, New York
1994 _Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
1992 _Thread Waxing Space, New York, New York

Group Exhibitions

2023 _The Alchemists, Johnson Lowe Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia (forthcoming)
2022 _What's Going On, Rubell Museum, Washington, DC
2022 _A Celebration of Trees, Southampton Arts Center, Southampton, New York
2022 _Strange Weather, Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History, University of California
2022 _The Scene Changes: Sculpture from the Collection, Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, Nebraska
2022 _Start Talking: Fischer/Shull Collection of Contemporary Art, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina
2021 _New Prints and Editions, Galerie Lelong, New York, New York
2021 _Hockney to Warhol: Contemporary Drawings from the Collection, The McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, Texas
2020 _Waking Dream, Ruby City, San Antonio, Texas
2020 _Polyphonic: Celebrating PAMM's Fund for African American Art, Perez Art Museum Miami, Miami, Florida
2020 _Generations: A History of Black Abstract Art, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland
2020 _Accidents (Part II), Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
2020 _Materials and Objects, Louise Nevelson and Leonardo Drew, Tate Modern, London United Kingdom
2019 _Legends and Legacy: Revolutions in Hand Papermaking, Rosenwald Wolf Gallery, UArts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2019 _Young, Gifted, and Black, OSilas Gallery, Concordia College, Bronxville, New York
2019 _30 Americans, Nelson-Atkins Museum, Kansas City, Missouri
2019 _Riffs and Relations: African American Artists and European Modernist Tradition, The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC
2019 _Linda Pace Gallery Foundation, Ruby City, San Antonio, Texas
2019 _Social Space: Mark Bradford, Leonardo Drew, Julie Mehretu, and Wangechi Mutu
2019 _Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at WSU, Pullman, Washington
2019 _Black Refractions: Selections from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, California
2019 _Celestial, Pace Prints, New York, New York
2019 _Solidary and Solitary: The Joyner/Guiffrida Collection, Smart Museum, Chicago, IL
2019 _Sculptor's Prints, Pace Prints, New York, New York
2019 _Legends and Legacy: Revolutions in Hand Papermaking, Rosenwald Wolf Gallery, **2019** _UArts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2019 _What You See is What You See, Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore
2018 _Talisman In the Age of Difference, curated by Yinka Shonibare MBE, Stephan **2018 2018** _Friedman Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2018 _The Bleak and the Burgeoning, Walton Arts Center, Fayetteville, Arkansas
2018 _AAM @ 60: The Diamond Exhibitions, Academy Art Museum, Easton, Maryland
2018 _The Onrush of Scenery, Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York
2018 _Vertically, Rosenfeld Porcini, London, United Kingdom
2018 _30 Americans: The Rubell Family Collection, Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, Arizona
2018 _The Next Decade, Galerie Maximillian, Aspen, Colorado
2018 _Tree, Vigo Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2017 _Solitary and Solidary: The Joyner/ Giuffrida Collection, Ogden Museum of Southern **2017** _Art, New Orleans, Louisiana; Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, **2017** _North Carolina; Snite Museum of Art at Notre Dame; David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art, Chicago, Illinois; Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland; Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, California; Pérez Art Museum, Miami, Florida
2017 _New at NOMA: Recent Acquisitions in Modern and Contemporary Art, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, Louisiana
2017 _Materialised Condition, Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore
2016 _Haptic, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, New York
2016 _Structures of Recollection, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
2016 _Continuum, VIGO, London, England
2015 _Black: Color, Material, Concept, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
2015 _Unsuspected Possibilities, SITE, Santa Fe, New Mexico
2015 _Showing Off: Recent Modern and Contemporary Acquisitions, Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado
2014 _Summer Group Show, Galerie Forsblom, Helsinki, Finland
2013 _Material World, Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado
2012 _San Antonio Collects Contemporary, San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, Texas
2012 _Against the Grain – Wood in Contemporary Art, Craft and Design, Mint Museum, Charlotte, North Carolina; Museum of Art and Design, New York
2011 _Toward the Third Dimension, David Floria Gallery, Aspen, Colorado
2011 _The Bearden Project, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
2010 _From then to Now: Masterworks of Contemporary African American Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, Ohio

2010 _Collected. Reflections on the Permanent Collection, Studio Museum of Harlem, New York
2010 _Lost and Found: Selections from the MCA Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
2009 _Your Golden Teeth II, Marianne Boesky Galley, New York, New York
2009 _30 Americans, Rubell Family Collection, Miami, FL; North Carolina Museum of Art
2009 _Raleigh, North Carolina; Corcoran Gallery of Art at the College of Art and Design, Washington, DC; Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, Virginia; Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
2007 _New Directions in American Drawing, Columbus Museum, Columbus, Georgia; Telfair Museum of Art, Savannah, Georgia; Knoxville Museum of Art, Knoxville, Tennessee
2007 _Repeat Performances: Seriality and Systems Art since 1960, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Ohio
2007 _Reverance, HVCCA – Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Peekskill, New York
2006 _Legacies: Contemporary Artists Reflect on Slavery, The New York Historical Society, New York
2006 _Black Alphabet: Contexts of Contemporary African American Art, Zacheta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, Poland
2005 _Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York
2005 _Leonardo Drew/Kara Walker, Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin, Germany
2005 _Between Image and Concept: Recent Acquisitions in African-American Art, Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, New Jersey
2004 _Material Pleasures, Green on Red Gallery, Dublin
2003 _Hands on, Hands down, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
2003 _From Modernism to the Contemporary, 1958-1999, The Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin, Ohio
2001 _Brooklyn!, Palm Beach Institute of Contemporary Art, Lake Worth, Florida
2001 _Vanitas: Meditations on Life and Death in Contemporary Art, Virginia
Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia
1998 _Passages: Contemporary Art in Transition, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
1998 _Bill Jenson/Leonardo Drew, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York
1997 _New Work: Words & Images, Miami Art Museum, Miami, Florida
1996 _Leonardo Drew/Mark Francis/Oliver Herring, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York
1995 _About Place: Recent Art of the Americas, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
1995 _Pace Roberts Foundation for Contemporary Art, San Antonio, Texas
1995 _Carnegie International, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
1994 _Promising Suspects, The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, Connecticut
1993 _Markets of Resistance, White Columns, New York, New York
1992 _Biennial Dakar, Senegal
1992 _Three Sculptors: Leonardo Drew, Lisa Hoke, Brad Kahlhamer, Thread Waxing Space, New York, New York
1991 _From the Studio: Artists in Residence, 1990-91, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Awards and Merits

2022 _National Academy of Design
2016 _GSA Design Award, Citation in Art
2014 _Augustus Saint-Gaudens Award, Cooper Union Alumni Association
2011 _Joyce Alexander Wein Artist Prize
1997 _Asian Cultural Council Grant
1994 _Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant
1993 _Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation Grant

Academic Record and Residencies

1995 _ArtPace Artist in Residence
1991 _The Studio Museum in Harlem, Artist-in-Residence
1990 _Vermont Studio School, Artist-in-Residence
1998 _Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Artist-in-Residence

Collections

Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Ohio
Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York, New York
Caldic Collectie, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami, Florida
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arizona
Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, Michigan
Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Hallmark Art Collection, Kansas City, Missouri
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC
Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Massachusetts
Linda Pace Foundation, San Antonio, Texas
McNay Museum of Art, San Antonio, Texas
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York
Mott-Warsh Collection, Flint, Michigan
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California
National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.
New Orleans Museum of Art, Louisiana
North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh
Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, Florida
Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa, Oklahoma
Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, New Jersey
Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, Ohio
Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation
Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Bloomington, Indiana

Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York
Sorigue Foundation Collection, Lérida, Spain
St Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York
Tate, London, England, United Kingdom
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Walton Arts Center, Fayetteville, Arkansas
Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina
West Collection, Oaks, Pennsylvania

Commissions

2023 _Leonardo Drew, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas (forthcoming)
2019 _City in the Grass, Madison Square Park, New York, New York
2019 _Number 69S, San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, California

Publications

Eden, Xandra, and Valerie Cassel Oliver. Leonardo Drew. Milan: Charta, 2012.
Schmuckli, Claudia. Existed: Leonardo Drew (Houston: Blaffer Gallery, 2009).
New Directions in American Drawing (Georgia: Columbus Museum, 2007).
Kanjo, Kathryn. Leonardo Drew (San Diego, California: Museum of Contemporary Art, 1995).
Krajewski, Sara. Leonardo Drew (Madison, Wisconsin: Madison Art Center, 1999).
Nye, Tim and Thomas McEvilley. Leonardo Drew (New York: Thread Waxing Space, 1992).
Bush, Teresia. Leonardo Drew (Washington, DC: Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, 2000)
Strick, Jeremy. Leonardo Drew (St. Louis, Missouri: Saint Louis Art Museum, 1996).
Als, Hilton. Leonardo Drew (New York: Thread Waxing Space, 1994).
Schwabsky, Barry. Leonardo Drew: Existing Everywhere (Prato: Gli Ori, 2006).