

HEATHER GAUDIO FINE ART

382 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830

p. 203.801.9590

heathergaudiofineart.com

DEBORAH DANCY (b. 1949)

Deborah Dancy is a multi-media artist, whose work includes paintings, drawings, photography, and small sculptures. Her work is an investigation of abstraction's capacity to engage beauty and tension without justification or narrative. Within her paintings and works on paper, references are suggested, not identified; meaning is organic since images mingle, shift, and position themselves within a field of agitated or flat color. Within these works, her inspiration springs from diverse sources sponsored, in part, from the views of gnarled and jagged trees and bark from the woodlands surrounding her home, discarded shards of construction debris, and constant encounters with the internal and external world. In this odd combination of elements, the initial mark prompts Dancy's starting point. Hesitation and agitation of brush strokes within the gesture is revealed as content. Incompleteness- the unfinished fragment of what - "almost was" and "might become" amplifies meaning. In this orbit, painting explores what Dancy considers as embracing the unpredictable and accidental. Accepting this means assumptions are suspended and discoveries may emerge. This edge of conflict and sequence of processes, including scraping and repainting, fresh forms, and constructed imagery, becomes the elemental act of painting.

"I like to deal with fragments. Because no matter what the thought would be if it were fully worked out, it wouldn't be as good as the suggestion of a thought that the space gives you. Nothing fully worked out could be so arresting, spooky." -- Anne Carson

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

SOLO

- 2024 *SHIFT*, Private Public Gallery, Hudson NY
And All is Always Now, Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, New York, NY
- 2022 *Body of Evidence*, Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, GA
A Glitch in the Membrane, Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, New York, NY
Circling Time, Zillman Art Museum, University of Maine, Bangor MA
- 2021 *A Faint Light*, Robischon Gallery, Denver, CO
- 2020 *Collision*, Marketview Gallery, York College of PA, York PA
- 2019 *The Weight of the World*, Five Points Gallery, Torrington, CT
The Edge of Time, Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2018 *Un/Natural Occurrence*, Gray Contemporary Gallery, Houston TX
Turbulence, Robischon Gallery, Denver, CO
Counter Clockwise, K. Imperial Fine Art, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 *Pernicious Beauty*, K. Imperial Fine Art, San Francisco, CA
- 2015 *Lush Life* N'Namdi, Contemporary Miami, Miami, FL
- 2013 *Chasing the Light* - Sears Peyton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2012 SACI Gallery Florence, Italy
- 2009 G.R.N'Namdi Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2007 Stewart Gallery, Purdue University
Wright State University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2005 Sears Peyton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2004 G.R.N'Namdi Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2001 G.R.N'Namdi Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1999 ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1999 Housatonic Museum of Art, Bridgeport, CT
- 1998 Diggs Gallery, Winston-Salem, NC

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1997 The College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY

GROUP

2024 *The Space We Exist In*, Curated by Larry Ossei-Mensah, Heather Gaudio Fine Art, Greenwich, CT

2024 All Tomorrow's Parties, M. David & Co. Brooklyn, NY

2023 The Thin Film of Living, Private Public Gallery, Hudson New York

45 + Anniversary Exhibition, Part 1 and Part 2, Robischon Gallery, Denver, CO

Artists Talking, Conversations in Paper and Paint, Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, GA

A Boat Made Out of Ocean, M. David & Co. Brooklyn, NY

2022 GAA Gallery; A Celebration. Provincetown, MA

Confuse the Issues: Art, Text, and Identity, Schmucker Gallery, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA

Double Consciousness: Deborah Dancy and Karen Revis, Mueller Gallery

Caldwell University, Caldwell, NJ

Artists and Language. Suffolk University, Boston, MA

Castle Hill 50th Anniversary GAA Gallery, Provincetown, MA

A Call to Question, Cooley Gallery, Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA

Stolen Goods, Marketview Art Gallery, York College, York PA

Female Abstractionists, Melissa Morgan Fine Art, Palm Desert, CA

2021 *Odd Couple*, Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, NYC

ONCE IN A LIFETIME, M. David & Co. Brooklyn

Summer Show, Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, NYC

Deborah Dancy- Deborah Zlotzky, Kathryn Markel Bridgehampton, NY

2020 MATTER, Gray Contemporary, Houston, TX

Founding Narratives, Mead Museum of Art, Amherst, MA

2019 *Selfish*, K.Imperial Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2018 State of Abstraction, Washington Art Association & Gallery, Washington Depot, CT

Parallel Practices, The Visual and Performing Arts Center, Western CT State University, Danbury, CT

MONSTERS -Among/Within, Hans Weiss NewSpace Gallery, Manchester Community College,
Manchester CT

Magnetic Fields: Expanding American Abstraction 1960's to Today, Museum of Fine Arts St. Petersburg, FL

2017 Decades of Change, Art Space, New Haven, CT

Stacked, Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, NYC

Magnetic Fields: Expanding American Abstraction 1960's to Today, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art,
Kansas City, MO

Magnetic Fields, Expanding American Abstraction 1960's to Today, The National Museum of Women in the
Arts, Washington, DC

2016 *Surface Work*, Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT, curated by David Borawski

The Tide Is High, Governors Island NY

2015 *Interwoven*, Mead Museum, Amherst College, Amherst, MA

2014 Art in the Embassies, American Embassy, Paris, France

ART FUSION/ Art Basel. N'Namdi, Miami, FL

Window Seat N'Namdi, Miami, FL

2013 Abstraction, N'Namdi Contemporary, Miami, FL

2012 *Float*- Sears Peyton Gallery, NY, NY

Hidden Essence G.R.N'Namdi Gallery Chicago, IL

N'Namdi Contemporary Miami, FL

2008 Connecticut Biennale Mattatuck Museum, Bridgeport, CT

Contemporary Printmaking. The Rye Text Messages: Words and Letters Arts Center Rye, NY

Abstraction Updated, G.A.S.P Gallery, Brookline, MA

More Than One: Prints and Multiples, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

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- 2004 *Stories and Histories*, Faulconer Gallery, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA
Conflicting Memories, Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence, KS
- 2002 *The Belles of Amherst: Contemporary Women Artists in the Collection*
Mead Art Museum, Amherst, MA
Words of Vision/ Vision of Words CT Commission on the Arts, Hartford, CT
- 2000 *Revisiting Abstraction*, LewAllen Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
- 1996 The Eighth Triennial, Fuller Museum of Art, Brockton, MA
Translucency, Mary Porter Sesnon Gallery, University of CA., Santa Cruz, CA
- 1995 *New American Talent*, Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi
Alabama Impact: Contemporary Artists with Alabama Ties, Mobile Museum of Art, Mobile, AL, and The Huntsville Museum of Art, Huntsville, AL
- 1991 *9 Artists/9 Visions*: DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2021 Goetemann Residency Distinguished Artist and Teacher, Gloucester, MA
- 2007 Banff Creative Residency Program Grant
- 2006 Women's Studio Workshop Residency Grant
University of Connecticut School of Fine Arts Outstanding Faculty Award
- 2005 Center for Contemporary Printmaking Residency Fellowship
- 2002 The University of Connecticut Chancellor's Research Fellowship
William Randolph Hearst Artist and Writers Creative Arts Fellowship,
American Antiquarian Society
- 2001 Nexus Press Artist Book Project Residency Award
Visual Studies Press Artist in Residence Award
Louise Comfort Tiffany Foundation Nominee
- 1997 The John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship
- 1996 New England Foundation for the Arts Regional National Endowment for the Arts,
Individual Artist Grant
Joan Mitchell Foundation Nominee
Juror's Merit Award, New American Talent: Laguna Gloria Museum
- 1995 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Fellowship Nominee
- 1991 Connecticut Commission on the Arts Individual Artist Grant
- 1988 Yale University Visiting Faculty Fellow
- 1985 YADDO Fellow Artist-In-Residence

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

- The High Museum, Atlanta, GA
- 21C Museum
- The Museum of the Fine Arts, Houston, TX
- The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- The Coca-Cola Company
- United States Embassy, Harare, Zimbabwe West Africa
- Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, AL
- Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN
- Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI
- Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell, University, Bucknell, PA
- Allen Memorial Museum of Art, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH
- Fine Art Museum Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC

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Hallmark Cards, Inc. Kansas City, MO
Hunter Museum of American Art, Chattanooga, TN
Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
Figge Museum of Art, Davenport, IA Cedar
Davison Art Center, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, IA
Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC
Vanderbilt University Museum, Nashville, TN
Montgomery Museum of Art, Montgomery, AL
Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA
Mead Art Museum, Amherst College, Amherst, MA
Caesars Palace Hotel, Las Vegas, NV
Bellagio Hotel, Las Vegas, NV.
General Electric Company, Fairfield, CT
Chemical Bank, New York, NY Pepsi Co, Ryebrook, NY
Meditech Corporation, Cambridge, MA
Southern New England Telephone, New Haven, CT
Aetna Life Insurance Company, Middletown, CT
Salmon River Corporation, Glastonbury, CT
Culbro Land Resources, Windsor, CT

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

ROOM, A Sketchbook for Analytic Action 6.22
ArtsATL. Multifacted Black artist Deborah Dancy delivers powerful sucker punch.
Catherine Fox May 9, 2022
Burnaway. Body of Evidence, June 29, 2022, Noah Reyes
DARIA ART MAGAZINE, 2021, Deborah Dancy, A Faint Light- Emily Zeek
Art New England, The Weight of the World, Jacquelyn Gleisner. Five Points Gallery
The Paris Review, June 22, 2017, The Bookness of Not-Books, Albert Mobilio
ARTPULSE Magazine Vol. 7 2015, Deborah Dancy: Between Abstraction and Representation, Jeff Edwards
The Drawing Center, Emmie Danza, June 26, 2013, Deborah Dancy, Chasing the Light, SearsPeyton Gallery
The Willimantic Chronicle, Terese Karmel, November 2008, A Convergence of Art and Music
Art New England, Cynthia Farnell, October/November 2005, Speaking Volumes Univ. RI
Hartford Advocate, Patricia Rosoff, July 15, 2004, Small Vistas, The 10-Year Show at 100 Pearl
Hartford Advocate, Patricia Rosoff, July 5, 2004, Finding One's Self
Holleley, Douglas. *Digital Book, Design and Publishing*, Cary Graphic Arts Press, Rochester Institute of Technology, 2000
Connecticut Review, Fall 2000, The Practical Speller
Art New England, June/July 2000, Pat Rosoff, Abstraction, Central Connecticut State University
Art New England, October/November 1997, Lois Tarlow, Deborah Muirhead's Ghostly Vision
Hartford Advocate, October 9, 1997, Patricia Rosoff, Variety is the Spice of Life
Art New England, Joyce Chen, February/March 1997, Fuller Museum of Art
ArtsMedia, Jeff Perrott, January/February 1997, The Eighth Triennial Exhibition
Art New England, Francois Hugot, June/July 1996, Lenore Gray Gallery, Muirhead, Reddicliffe: Paintings
Time Capsule: A Concise Encyclopedia By Women Artists, S.O.S International, edited by Robin Kahn, NY
Art New England, Michael Rush, April/May 1996, Connecticut Invitational

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The New York Times, William Zimmer, April 28, 1996

Gumbo Ya Ya: Anthology of Contemporary African American Women Artists, 1995, Midmarch Publication, NY

Art New England, Michael Rush, August/September 1995, 3 Connecticut Artists Transform the Ordinary

The New York Times, William Zimmer, April 16, 1995, Three in Search of the Spiritual

The Art of Seeing, 3rd Edition, 1993 Mary Pat Fisher, Paul Zelanski, Calmann & King Limited, London

The Hartford Courant, Owen McNally, Painter Muirhead Peers Through A History, Darkly

Color, 1994, Mary Pat Fisher, Paul Zelanski, Calmann & King Limited, London

Hartford Advocate, September 24, 1992, Susan Wadsworth, Hooked: Deborah Muirhead at Trinity

The Boston Globe, Friday, June 28, 1991, Christine Temin, DeCordova has 9 Artists

The New York Times, Sunday, April 14, 1991, William Zimmer, Connecticut Biennial

Art New England, February 1991, Susan Wadsworth, Spirit Calls

The New York Times, Sunday, May 2, 1989, Vivian Raynor, Stamford Museum

Art New England, May 1989, Jude Schwendenwein, Spirit in the Wood/Paint

The New York Times, Sunday, February 26, 1989, Vivian Raynor, Spirit in the Wood/Paint

Art News, Summer 1988, David Bonetti, Boston: A Baker's Dozen

The Boston Globe, Thursday March 31, 1988, Christina Temin, Deborah Muirhead Solo Exhibit Liz Harris Gallery

A Tarde, Bahia, Brazil June 8, 1987, Artista Americana Estuda as Manifestacoes Baianas

New Britain Herald Review, December 1987, Dorothy Spears, Connecticut Now Abstract Painting

Hartford Courant, December 1987, Matt Damsker, Three Artists Open the Gap Between Mystery and Reality

The New York Times, Sunday August 10, 1986, William Zimmer, The Aetna Collection