

HEATHERGAUDIOFINEART

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.

EDUCATION

- 1979 M.F.A., Painting, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 1976 M.S., Printmaking, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 1973 B.F.A., Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL

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
- 1997 The College of Saint Rose, Albany, NY

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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 Zlotsky, 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 *Intervoven*, 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
Stories and Histories. Falconer Gallery, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA

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- 2004 *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

RESIDENCIES

- 2024 Mildred Thompson Legacy Project, Atlanta, GA
- 2021 Goetemann Distinguished Artist and Teacher Residency, Rocky Neck Art Colony, Gloucester, MA
- 2007 Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Banff, Canada
- 2006 Studio Residency Grant, Women's Studio Workshop, Kingston, NY
- 2005 Center for Contemporary Printmaking, Norwalk, CT
- 2001 Visual Studies Workshop, Rochester, NY
- 1985 Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, NY

SELECTED GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2006 Outstanding Faculty Award, University of Connecticut School of Fine Arts, Storrs, CT
- 2002 The University of Connecticut Chancellor's Research Fellowship
William Randolph Hearst Artist and Writers Creative Arts Fellowship
American Antiquarian Society
- 2001 Artist Book Project Residency Award, Nexus Press
Louise Comfort Tiffany Foundation Nominee
- 1997 The John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship
- 1996 Individual Artist Grant, New England Foundation for the Arts
Individual Artist Grant, National Endowment for the Arts
Joan Mitchell Foundation Nominee
Juror's Merit Award, New American Talent, Laguna Gloria Museum (The Contemporary Austin – Laguna Gloria), Austin, TX
- 1995 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Fellowship Nominee
- 1991 Individual Artist Grant, Connecticut Commission on the Arts
- 1988 Visiting Faculty Fellow, Yale University, New Haven, CT

SELECTED PRESS

- 2022 "A Sketchbook for Analytic Action," ROOM, June 2022
Fox, Catherine, "Multifacted Black artist Deborah Dancy delivers powerful sucker punch," ArtsATL, May 9, 2022
Reyes, Noah, "Body of Evidence," Burnaway, June 29, 2022
- 2021 Zeek, Emily, "Deborah Dancy, A Faint Light," DARIA ART MAGAZINE, 2021
- 2019 Gleisner, Jacquelyn, "Deborah Dancy: The Weight of the World at Five Points Gallery," *Art New England*, July/August 2019
- 2017 Mobilio, Albert, "The Bookness of Not-Books," *The Paris Review*, June 22, 2017
- 2015 Edwards, Jeff, "Deborah Dancy: Between Abstraction and Representation," *ARTPULSE Magazine Vol. 7*, 2015

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- 2013 Danza, Emmie, Review: "Deborah Dancy: Chasing the Light" at Sears-Peyton Gallery, *The Drawing Center*, June 26, 2013
- 2008 Karmel, Terese, "A Convergence of Art and Music," *The Willimantic Chronicle*, November 2008
- 2005 Farnell, Cynthia, Review: "Speaking Volumes" at the University of Rhode Island, *Art New England*, October/November 2005
- 2004 "Small Vistas, The 10-Year Show at 100 Pearl," *Hartford Advocate*, July 15, 2004
Rosoff, Patricia, "Finding One's Self," *Hartford Advocate*, July 5, 2004
- 2000 Holleley, Douglas. *Digital Book, Design and Publishing*, Cary Graphic Arts Press, Rochester Institute of Technology, 2000
"The Practical Speller," *Connecticut Review*, Fall 2000
Rosoff, Pat. "Abstraction," Central Connecticut State University, *Art New England*, June/July 2000
- 1997 Tarlow, Lois, "Deborah Muirhead's Ghostly Vision," *Art New England*, October/November 1997
Rosoff, Patricia, "Variety is the Spice of Life," *Hartford Advocate*, October 9, 1997
Chen, Joyce, review at Fuller Craft Museum, *Art New England*, February/March 1997
Perrott, Jeff, "The Eighth Triennial Exhibition," *ArtsMedia*, January/February 1997
- 1996 Hugot, Francois, "Muirhead, Reddicliffe: Paintings," at Lenore Gray Gallery, *Art New England*, June/July 1996
Kahn, Robin, ed., *Time Capsule: A Concise Encyclopedia By Women Artists*, S.O.S International, New York, NY
Rush, Michael, "Connecticut Invitational," *Art New England*, April/May 1996
Zimmer, William, *The New York Times*, April 28, 1996
- 1995 *Gumbo Ya Ya: Anthology of Contemporary African American Women Artists*, Midmarch Publication, NY, 1995
Rush, Michael, "3 Connecticut Artists Transform the Ordinary," *Art New England*, August/September 1995
Zimmer, William, "Three in Search of the Spiritual," *The New York Times*, April 16, 1995
- 1994 McNally, Owen, "Painter Muirhead Peers Through A History, Darkly," *The Hartford Courant*, 1994
Fisher, Mary Pat and Zelanski, Paul, *Color*, Calmann & King Limited, London, 1994
- 1993 Fisher, Mary Pat and Zelanski, Paul, *The Art of Seeing, 3rd Edition*, Calmann & King Limited, London, 1993
- 1992 Wadsworth, Susan, "Hooked: Deborah Muirhead at Trinity," *Hartford Advocate*, September 24, 1992
- 1991 Temin, Christine, "DeCordova has 9 Artists," *The Boston Globe*, Friday, June 28, 1991
Zimmer, William, "Connecticut Biennial Displays Diversity," *The New York Times*, Sunday, April 14, 1991
Wadsworth, Susan, "Spirit Calls," *Art New England*, February 1991
- 1989 Raynor, Vivian, "ART; In Stamford Museum, Art Imitates Life," *The New York Times*, Sunday, May 2, 1989
Schwendenwein, Jude, Review "Spirit in the Wood/Paint," *Art New England*, May 1989
Raynor, Vivian, Review "Spirit in the Wood/Paint," *The New York Times*, Sunday, February 26, 1989
- 1988 Bonetti, David, "Boston: A Baker's Dozen," *Art News*, Summer 1988
Temin, Christina, "Deborah Muirhead Solo Exhibit at Liz Harris Gallery," *The Boston Globe*, Thursday March 31, 1988
- 1987 "Artista Americana Estuda as Manifestacoes Baianas," *A Tarde*, Bahia, Brazil June 8, 1987
Spears, Dorothy, "Connecticut Now Abstract Painting," *New Britain Herald Review*, December 1987
Damsker, Matt, "Three Artists Open the Gap Between Mystery and Reality," *Hartford Courant*, December 1987
- 1986 Zimmer, William, "ART; Aetna's Eclectic Collection on View in Hartford," *The New York Times*, Sunday August 10, 1986

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

21c Museum Hotels

Aetna Life Insurance Company, Middletown, CT

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Allen Memorial Museum of Art, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH
Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
Bellagio Hotel, Las Vegas, NV
Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, AL
Caesars Palace Hotel, Las Vegas, NV
Chemical Bank, New York, NY Pepsi Co, Rye Brook, NY
The Coca-Cola Company, Atlanta, GA
Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC
Davison Art Collection, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI
Figge Museum of Art, Davenport, IA
General Electric Company, Fairfield, CT
Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA
Hallmark Cards, Inc. Kansas City, MO
The High Museum, Atlanta, GA
Hunter Museum of American Art, Chattanooga, TN
The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO
Mead Art Museum, Amherst College, Amherst, MA
Meditech Corporation, Cambridge, MA
Montgomery Museum of Art, Montgomery, AL
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, IA
Salmon River Corporation, Glastonbury, CT
Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell, University, Bucknell, PA
Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN
Southern New England Telephone, New Haven, CT
Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
U.S. Embassy in Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe
Vanderbilt University Museum of Art, Nashville, TN
Western Carolina University Fine Art Museum, Cullowhee, NC