

# HEATHER GAUDIO FINEART

66 Elm Street, New Canaan, CT 06840 p 203 801 9590 f 203 801 9580 heathergaudiofineart.com

## BETTY MERKEN (b. 1947)

Betty Merken's formal language may be rooted in geometric abstraction and minimalism, yet she manages to avoid a hard-edged industrial feel with a use of richly saturated colors and soft grounds and edges. Akin to Rothko paintings, her prints offer opportunities for contemplation and reverie. She brings mastery to a technique few printmakers can boast, creating monotypes that achieve the perfect balance of form and color within the first try. Merken has been the recipient of numerous awards and is a teacher and guest lecturer at many notable institutions. She has enjoyed a large roster of solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States, and her work is in many public and private collections, including Boeing Company, Chicago; Chubb, Inc., and Goldman Sachs & Co. in San Francisco; the Henry Ford III Collection in Detroit and the Industry Club in Japan.

## EDUCATION

Residency workshop in printmaking, Crown Point Press, San Francisco, CA  
B.A. Arts Education, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Graduate studies in art, University of California, Los Angeles, CA

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

### SOLO

- 2020 *Persuasive Geometry*, Russo Lee Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2017 *Continuum*, Russo Lee Gallery, Portland, Oregon  
Pinea-Linea de Costa Foundation, Rota, Spain
- 2016 *Illumination and Illusion*, The Laura Russo Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2014 *Gravity and Whispers*, Laura Russo Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2013 Gebert Contemporary, Scottsdale, AZ  
*In Italia*, The Laura Russo Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2011 *Interpretations*, Gebert Contemporary, Scottsdale AZ
- 2010 Melissa Morgan Fine Arts, Palm Desert, CA  
Sears Peyton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2009 Seattle Art Museum Gallery, Seattle, WA  
Argazzi Art, Lakeville, CT
- 2006 Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA
- 2005 Anne Reed Gallery, Ketchum, ID  
Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2003 Sears Peyton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2001 Margo Jacobsen Gallery, Portland, OR
- 1999 American Institute of Architects Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1997 Seattle Pacific University Gallery, Seattle, WA  
Takada Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1996 Ruth Bachofner Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1994 ACT Theatre Gallery, Seattle, WA

### GROUP

- 2020 *Holiday Group Exhibition*, Russo Lee Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2017 *A Necessary Festival*, Russo Lee Gallery, Portland, OR  
Alan Avery Art Company, Atlanta, GA  
Art On Paper Art Fair, Pier 36, New York, NY
- 2016 *Lasting Impressions*, Heather Gaudio Fine Art, New Canaan, CT

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- Nancy Tommey Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
Stewart Gallery, Boise, ID  
*30 Years: New Work by Gallery Artists*, Russo Lee Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2015 *Color: Untitled*, Heather Gaudio Fine Art, New Canaan, CT  
*ArtWorks ADL*, Chelsea Skylight Modern, New York, NY
- 2014 Gilman Contemporary, Ketchum, ID
- 2013 *Dolce Far Niente*, Sears Peyton Gallery, New York, NY  
Argazzi Art, Lakeville, CT  
Sears Peyton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2012 Gebert Contemporary, Scottsdale, AZ
- 2011 *25 Anniversary Gallery Group Show*, The Laura Russo Gallery, Portland, OR  
*Celebrating Ten Years on Main*, Gebert Contemporary, Scottsdale, AZ  
*Film and Paper*, Gebert Contemporary, Scottsdale, AZ  
*All Abstract: Six Gallery Artists*, Gebert Contemporary, Scottsdale, AZ
- 2010 *Paper*, Julie Nester Gallery, Park City, UT  
*New Prints 2010/ Spring*, International Print Center, New York, NY
- 2009 *Invitational Exhibitions*, Sears Peyton Gallery, New York, NY  
*Hospitality House 25<sup>th</sup> Invitational Art Auction*, Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art Invitational Art Auction, San Jose, CA
- 2008 *Invitational Exhibitions*, Seattle Art Museum Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2007 *Red Dot Art Fair*, Miami, FL
- 2006 *Works on Paper*, Shenzhen Institute, Shanzhen, China  
*Los Angeles International Art Exposition*, Los Angeles, CA  
*Miami International Art Fair*, Miami, FL
- 2005 Gerald Peters Gallery, Dallas, TX  
*Art Chicago in the Park*, Belloc Lowndes Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Art LA*, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, Santa Monica, CA  
*Henry Gallery Invitational Art Auction*, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
*San Francisco International Art Exposition*, San Francisco, CA  
*Affordable Art Fair*, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, New York, NY
- 2004 J. Johnson Gallery, Jacksonville, FL  
*Innovative Printmaking*, Seattle Art Museum Rental Sales Gallery, Seattle, WA  
*Pratt Fine Arts Instructors' Juried Exhibit*, Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*Affordable Art Fair*, Pier 51, New York, NY
- 2003 *Works on Paper*, Goya-Girl Press and Contemporary Art Gallery, Baltimore, MD  
*Los Angeles Printmaking Society 17<sup>th</sup> National Exhibition*, The Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA  
*Masters of the Print*, 416 West Gallery, Denison, TX
- 2002 *The Art of Monotype*, Rental Sales Gallery, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA  
*Art for AIDS*, Butterfield & Butterfield, San Francisco CA
- 2001 *Patina and Surfaces*, Anne Reed Gallery, Ketchum, ID  
*Seattle Art Museum Talent*, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA  
Margo Jacobsen Gallery, Portland, OR

## SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Boeing Company, Chicago, IL  
General Electric, Brussels, Belgium  
Charles Schwab, Boston, New York, San Francisco  
Chubb, Inc., San Francisco, CA

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Goldman Sachs & Co., San Francisco, CA  
Henry Ford III Collection, Detroit, MI  
Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA  
Paramount Studios, Los Angeles, CA  
Pfizer, Inc., New York, NY  
United States Embassy, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

## SELECTED AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

BAU Institute Painting Fellowships, Otranto, Italy, 2010, 2012  
Astra Zarina Fellowship, The Northwest Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, Italy  
In Civita di Bagnoregio, Italy 2011  
Crown Point Press, San Francisco  
Minora Roberts Fine Arts Scholarships, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Haystack Mountain School of Crafts Scholarships, Deer Isle, ME

## SELECTED ACADEMIC

Guest Lecturer, University of Washington School of Art, Seattle, WA  
Guest Lecturer, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA  
Guest Lecturer, Callison Architecture, Seattle, WA  
Guest Lecturer and Instructor, Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA  
Guest Lecturer, American Institute of Architects, Seattle, WA  
Instructor, Cornish College of the Arts  
Instructor, Seattle Art Museum Studio Art Program  
Instructor and Guest Lecturer, UCLA, Department of the Arts

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Speer, Richard. "Betty Merken: Gravity and Whispers", Solo Exhibition Review, *ArtLtd*, September 2014  
Leonard Lehrer and Lilly Wei. *Betty Merken: Paintings and Works on Paper, A Selection*. Marquand Books, Seattle, 2014  
*ArtLtd*, May/June 2014 issue  
Graham, Leon "A Sure Eye for Texture, Beauty and Tone", Lakeville Journal, June 6, 2013  
Adams, Anne, "First Thursday Picks," Portland Monthly, June 30, 2010  
"A Common Language" Catalogue Essay, Shenzhen University College of Art and Design, Shenzhen Fine Art Institute, Shenzhen, China, August 2007  
Koppman, Debra, "Mary Josephson and Betty Merken," Artweek, March 2006, p. 6