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Mickalene Thomas Biography

1971 Born in New Jersey
Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY
2000-2002 MFA Painting, Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT
1995-2000 BFA Painting, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
1998 Southern Cross University, Lismore, Australia

Solo Exhibitions

2010

"Put A Little Sugar In My Bowl", Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, Los Angeles, CA

2009

"Something you can feel", La Conservera: Centro de arte Contemporaneo, Murcia, Spain

"She's Come UnDone!", Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York, NY

2008

"Girlfriends, Lovers, Still Lives and Landscape", Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL

"What's Love Got To Do With It?", Bloom Projects, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, CA

2007

"The Unseen", Indianapolis Museum of Contemporary Art, Indianapolis, IN

"An Imitation of Love, Brawlin' Spitfire Two", Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects (Project Space)

2006

"Something About You..." Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL

"Brawlin' Spitfire", Special Project, Dust Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

Group Exhibitions

2011

"XX-XY/Gender Representation in Art", Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, FL

"Posing Beauty" Newark Museum, Newark, NJ, and University of Southern California's Fisher Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA

2010

"The Global Africa Project", The Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY

"4 Eccentrics", The Proposition, New York, NY

"Sharon Stone in Abuja", Location One, New York, NY

"Now What?", Norton Museum of Art, Miami, FL

"Americans Now", National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C.

"Collected. Reflections on the Permanent Collection", The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

"Shrew'd: The Smart & Sassy Survey of American Women Artists" Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE

"Pattern ID", Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH, curated by Ellen Rudolph

"Posing Beauty" Art Gallery of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Williams College Museum of Art,

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Williamstown, MA

“Searching for the Heart of Black Identity: Art and the Contemporary African American Experience” Kentucky

Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY

“Versus” Hous Projects, New York, NY

2009

“Landscape Revisited” Park Avenue Armory, New York, NY

“Extended Family: Contemporary Connections” Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY

“Posing Beauty” New York University Tisch School of the Arts, New York, NY

“Dress Codes”, The Third ICP Triennial of Photography and Video, International Center of Photography, New York, NY

“Creating Identity: Portraits Today” 21C Museum, Louisville, KY

“Black Is, Black Ain’t” The Artspace at the Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO

“Undercover: Performing and Transforming Black Female Identities” The Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, GA

“First Look”, House of Campari, curated by Simon Watson, Los Angeles, CA

“Remix” Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, CA

“The Female Gaze: Women Looking At Women” Cheim and Read, New York, NY

“Crash Proof” The Scholar and Feminist Online, Barnard Center for Research on Women, online exhibition

“Elsewhere” Saltworks, Atlanta, GA

“The Glamour Project” Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York, NY

“CAN & DID - Graphics, Art, and Photography from the Obama Campaign” Danziger Projects, New York, N

2008

“30 Americans”, Rubell Family Collection, Miami, FL

“Group Show”, Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Stockholm, Sweden

“Belle du Jour”, Collette Blanchard Gallery, New York, NY

“As Others See Us: The Contemporary Portrait”, Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, Brattleboro, VT

“The Other Mainstream II: Selections from the Collection of Mikki and Stanley Weithorn”, Arizona State

University Art Museum, Tempe, AZ

“Becoming: Photographs from the Wedge Collection”, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, MI

“City Stage”, New Orleans Contemporary Art Center, New Orleans, LA

“Black Is, Black Ain’t”, The Renaissance Society, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL and traveling to:

Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, MI, (February 13 – May 3, 2009)

H&R Block Artspace at the Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO

Temple Gallery At the Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA

2007

“Sweet SweetBack’s Baadasssss Song”, Von Lintel Gallery, New York, NY

“Commemorating 30 Years 1976-2007, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL

“Distinctive Messenger”, House of Campari, New York, NY

“Sex in the City”, Dumbo Arts Center, Brooklyn, NY

“Some Kind of Portrait”, Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA

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“Taking Aim: Selections from the Elliot L. Perry Collection”, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN
“Flava”, Wedge Curatorial Projects, Toronto, Canada
“Prime Time”, Caren Golden Fine Art Gallery, New York
“My Love is a 187”, Luggage Store Gallery, San Francisco, CA
“Inspired in New York”, Echo Gallery, New York, NY

2006

“Not an Ocean Between Us: Voices of Women from Africa and the African Diaspora”, Winston Salem State University, Winston Salem, NC
“Lag Time Line Up”, Mumbo Jumbo Gallery, New York, NY
“Materiality”, Kravets/Wehby Gallery, New York, NY
“Wild Girls”, Exit Art, New York
“The Pulse of New Brooklyn”, MoCADA Museum, Brooklyn, NY
“Armory Art Fair” with Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Pier 90, New York
“Do You Think I’m Disco”, Longwood Art Gallery, Bronx, NY 2005
“Tete-a-Tete”, Greenberg Van Doren Gallery, New York, NY
“NeoVernacular”, Steve Turner Gallery, Los Angeles
“Five Artists, Five Projects”, Greenberg Van Doren Gallery, New York
“Frequency”, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
“Maximum Flavor”, Atlanta College of Art Gallery, Atlanta, GA
“Greater New York 2005”, P.S.1/MoMA, Long Island City, NY

“African Queen”, Studio Museum in Harlem, NY 2004
“Me, Myself and I”, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL
“Glamour, Glory and Gold”, The Proposition Gallery, New York
“Seeds and Roots”, Studio Museum in Harlem, NY
“It’s About Memory”, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL

2003

“Beauty”, Kravets/Wehby Gallery, New York
“Pantone”, Massimo Audiello Gallery, New York
“Because I’m Worth It”, Chelsea Art Museum, New York
“Hands on Hands Down”, Studio Museum in Harlem, NY

2002

“Why Don’t We Do It In the Road”, Ambrosino Gallery, Miami, FL

1999

Corridor Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Elizabeth Stockel Battel Gallery, Norfolk, CT

1997

“Brush”, The Yellow Door Gallery, New York
The Knitting Factory, New York
Downtown Community Television Center, New York

Bibliography

2010

Wagley, Catherine, “Bright and Polished”, Daily Serving, May 28

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Blasberg, Derek, "Happy Birthday, Naomi!", V Magazine, Issue 65, p.38
Smith, Roberta, "Print Fair 2010", The New York Times, November 5
Casagrande, Reggie, "Feature: Mickalene Thomas: A Complex Vision," Lipsticktracez
"Collected. Reflections on the Permanent Collection," Studio, Winter, p.13
Gaines, Carl, "The Cleopatra Jones of the Brooklyn Art Scene," Brooklyn Based, April 8
Laster, Paul, "A Window on Art," The New York Observer, April 21
Rudolph, Ellen, Pattern ID, Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH
Thompson, Haven, "Creative Chic," W Magazine, April, p. 92
"In The Flesh," V Magazine, Issue 63, Spring, p. 46-47
"Versus," Faction Magazine, Issue 11, January

2009

Kazanjian, Dodie, "Dreaming the Landscape", Vogue, November
Oates, Leah, "Bedazzled: Fall 2009 Conversations with Mickalene Thomas", NY Arts, Fall
Cregan, Lisa, "Cabin Fever!", CS Interiors, Fall 2009, p. 78-83
Miranda, Carolina, "Features: Art Basel Miami: Sales May Be Soft, But the Party Goes On," WNYC, December 4 radio feature
Solway, Diane. "Let Them Eat Cake," W Magazine Gallery Go-Round, November 4
Russeth, Andrew. "Let Them Eat Cake," ARTINFO November 5
Yablonsky, Linda. "The Moment: Sugar High at Haunch of Venison," T: New YorkTimes Style Magazine, November 5
Gensler, Andy. "The Moment: Rock on the Block, The Phillips de Pury Music Sale," T: New York Times Style Magazine November 19
Cox, Johanna, "ArtWalk NY Turns 15, Honors Pat Steir," ELLE News Blog, November 18
Lunn, Natasha. "The Moment: In Focus, Dressing Up at the ICP," T: New York Times Style Magazine October 15
Smith, Roberta, "Dress Codes: Beyond a Simple Fashion Statement", New York Times, October 8
Portfolio: Mickalene Thomas," Fantom: Photographic Quarterly Issue 01, Autumn: pp. 3-11
"Mickalene Thomas: Odalisesques," ARTCO October 8: online.
Muscionico, Daniele. "Ein Sommer mit Donna," Die Weltwoche No. 40, October: pp. 60-61
Edelson, Sharon. "ICP Year of Fashion Culminates with 'Dress Codes,'" Women's Wear Daily, Sept. 16, p. 26
Egan, Maura. "The Moment: Boogie Down Productions at MoMA," T: New York Times Style Magazine, Sept. 25
Medwick, Cathleen. "Arthouse," O: The Oprah Magazine Vol. 10, No. 8, August, p. 134-41
Egan, Maura. "The Moment: The Girlie Show," T: New York Times Style Magazine June 30
Brielmaier, Isolde and Ivan Lopez Munuera, "Something You Can Feel", Exhibition catalogue, La Conservera, Murcia, Spain

Adam, Georgina, "Buoyant Basel Contrasts With Russian Reluctance," The Financial Times, June 13-14, p. 12
Douglas, Sarah, "Basel Grins and Bears Pre-Boom Prices", ArtInfo, June 11
Lamm, Kimberly. "Mickalene Thomas, 'She's Come UnDone!'" The Brooklyn Rail May
Smith, Roberta, "Mickalene Thomas 'She's Come Undone!'", The New York Times, May 1
Kerr, Merrily. "Mickalene Thomas, 'She's Come UnDone!'" Time Out New York April 23-29: p. 53.
Shaw, Cameron, "Mickalene Thomas at Lehmann Maupin", Art Forum, April 21
Kino, Carol, "A Confidence Highlighted in Rhinestones", New York Times, April 7

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"What Does Glamour Mean to You?" *Glamour* April: pp. 260-7.
Leive, Cindi, *The Glamour Project*, New York: Lehmann Maupin Gallery
Crisell, Luke. "Body and Soul," *NYLON* April: p. 148.
Alexander, Lily, "Mickalene Thomas: She's Come UnDone!", *Whitewall*, April 2
Wright, Jeffrey Cyphers. "Illusion, mystique, and plain beauty in sparkling paintings," *The Villager*
Vol. 78, No. 43: April 1-7.
"Go See: Mickalene Thomas's 'She's Come UnDone!' at Lehmann Maupin in New York though May
2, 2009," *AO Art Observed*, March 31
Walker, Kara, "Artists on Artists: Mickalene Thomas", *Bomb Magazine*, No. 107, p 72, Spring
Cotter, Holland, "On the Piers, Testing the Waters in a Down Art Market", *The New York Times*,
March 5
Dailey, Meghan, "In the Studio: Mickalene Thomas", *Art + Auction*, March
Jackson, Brian Keith, "American Vision", *Giant Magazine*, December/January
Hobbs, Robert, Franklin Sirmans and Michele Wallace, "30 Americans", exhibition catalogue,
Rubell Family Collection
Bedolla, Myrtis. "Rubell Show, A Stand Out," *The International Review of African American Art*
Vol. 22, No 3: pp. 45-46.
Bonin, Claudia, "Radar," *Art Das Kunstmagazin*, March 23
Cutler, Jody B. "A Lineage is Not a Category," *The International Review of African American Art*
Vol. 22, No. 4, pp. 38-42.
Ditner, Judy, Ed. *Dress Codes: The Third ICP Triennial of Photography and Video*. New York: The
International Center of Photography/Steidl
Haber, John. "Post-Post-Black," *Haber's Art Reviews* (www.haberarts.com) March
Finch, Charlie. "Another Country," *Artnet* March 30.
Frank, Alex. "NYC Armory Show: Sour Times, Bright Colors," *FADER*, March 13
Laster, Paul. "The Armory Show, Two Piers of Peerless Entertainment," *ArtKrush* February 26
"Goings On About Town: Art: 'The Brand New Heavies,'" *The New Yorker* February 23: p. 10.
Grabner, Michelle. "Reviews," *ArtForum* February: pp. 197-8.
Finch, Charlie. "Having a Rave Up!" *Artnet* January 29.
Holzwarth, Hans Werner, Ed. *100 Contemporary Artists: L-Z*. Los Angeles: Taschen.
Leive, Cindi. *The Glamour Project*. New York: Lehmann Maupin Gallery.
Robinett, Rae Anne. "Mickalene Thomas," *Beautiful Decay* Issue Z: pp. 74-81.
TWO x TWO for AIDS and Art. Dallas: amfAR and The Dallas Museum of Art and Sotheby's.
"What's Up: Collected. Propositions on the Permanent Collection," *Studio* Spring 2009: p. 5.
Willis, Deborah. *Posing Beauty: African American Images: 1890's to the Present*. New York:
Norton.

2008

Ewing, John, "New York: Perverted by Theater at Apexart", *Art Lies*, No. 60, Winter
Tonchi, Stefano, "Now Shopping: The Art Basel Miami Wish List", *The Moment*, NY Times Blog,
December 5
Weinberg, Lauren, "Jet Set: Black History Shines in Mickalene Thomas' show at Rhona Hoffman",
Time Out Chicago, Issue 195, November 20-26
Holzwarth, Hans Werner, "Art Now, Vol. 3", Taschen, essay by Vivian Rehberg
Copeland, Huey, "The Blackness of Blackness", *ArtForum*, October
Salsbury, Britany, "Critic's Picks: Black Is, Black Ain't", *ArtForum*, May
Psylos, Steven. "USA Today: A Visual Mixtape", *TRACE*, issue 81

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Pratt, Ken. "Material Stealth", Wound, Fall, issue 4
Evans, Ali, "A Portrait of an Artist by an Artist", Studio Museum Harlem Magazine, Spring
Watson, Simon. "Mickalene Thomas: Lush Life", Whitewall, no. 8, Winter

2007

Rosenberg, Karen, "At Fairs by the Beach, the Sands of Creativity", New York Times, December 8
Allan, Stacey, "Mickalene Thomas at Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects", Modern Painters, December 2007—January 2008

Douglas, Sarah, "'Intimately Scaled' Pulse Looks Promising", Artinfo, October 11
"Goings On About Town: Shinique Smith / Mickalene Thomas", The New Yorker, May 7
Rosenberg, Karen, "An Afternoon in Chelsea", New York Magazine, May 7
Cotter, Holland, "Prime Time: Mickalene Thomas and Shinique Smith", New York Times, May 4
ES, "Prime Time", Artkrush, May 2
Swartz, Anne, "Sex Privilege and Power: The Paintings of Mickalene Thomas", NY Arts, May/June
Wiley, Kehinde, "The Sexiest Image I've Seen", GQ, April
Miller, Leigh Anne, "Scope", Art in America, April
Hunt, Kenya, "Rhinestones and Oprah", Metro, March 30
Miller, Rebecca, Shotgun Review, "MyLove is a 187", March 18
Viafora Kress, Althea, "Shaken, Not Deterred: Interview with Curator Brian Keith Jackson and artists Mickalene Thomas, Shinique Amie Smith, and Navin June Norling", vernissage-tv.com, February 25
Trends, "Mickalene Thomas", Muse Magazine, January 10

2006

Thorncroft, Anthony, "Basel Comes to the Beach", Financial Times, December 2
Lynn, Sue, "One Gal's Opinion of Art Basel", Entertainment and News, December
"You'll have to stand in Line for the work of these hot, young Yale artists", American Art Collector, December
Camper, Fred, "Desire in the Abstract", Chicago Reader, November 17
Peterson, Kristen, "The Look is a Blast from the Past", Las Vegas Sun, October 27
Ross, Susan, "More, More, More", NYArts, May/June
Valdez, Sarah, "Frequency Bling and Beyond", Art in America, April
Gronlund, Melissa, "Frequency", Frieze, March
Spence, Rebecca, "How Street it is", ArtNews, February
"Maximum Flavor", Bare & Bitter Sleep
Haber, John, "Haber's Art Reviews: Frequency", February
Genocchio, Benjamin, "Exploring the Effects of Disco's Beat", The New York Times, February
Cotter, Holland, "Do You Think I'm Disco", The New York Times, February
Stillman, Nick, "Frequency", Brooklyn Rail, February
Oppenheim, Phil, "5X5 Five Artist/Five Perspectives", Art Papers, January/February
Ribas, Jose, "Emerging Collectors: A Profile of John Morrissey", ArtInfo, January
Kastner, Jeffrey, "Frequency", Art Forum, January

2005

Frank, Peter, "Neovernacular, Good Clean Fun", LA Weekly, December
Sirmans, Franklin, "This Woman's Work", Essence, November
Smith, Roberta, "Where Issues of Black Identity Meet the Concerns of Every Artist", The New

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York Times, November 18

Feaster, Felicia, "Five works by five artists 5X5 takes a mostly critical look at our media-drenched culture", Creative Loafing, October

Feaster, Felicia, "Buy and Large exhibit explores our devouring desire for more stuff", Creative Loafing, June

Rimanelli, David, "Greater New York 2005", Artforum, May

Wiley, Kehinde, "Top Ten", Art Forum, April

Gardner, James, "They're Unknown Under 30..", New York Post, March 23

"New and Noteworthy: Queen Scene", Museums New York

2004

Weinberg, Michelle, "It's All About Me", Miami Newtimes.com, November 25

Mills, Michael, "Through A Fractured Lens", Newtimes bpb.com, November 18

Laster, Paul, "Back-to-back at SMH: interviews with Mickalene Thomas and Dave McKenzie", wburg, Vol. 4 No. 2, August

Nichols, Matthew Guy, "Hands on Hands Down", Art in America, February

Smith, Roberta, "Art in Review", The New York Times, January 23

"Goings On", The New Yorker, August 27

Kim, Christine, Hands on, Hands Down (brochure), Studio Museum in Harlem, NY

Catalogues

2008

30 Americans, Rubell Family Collection

Art Now, Vol. 3, Taschen

The Other Mainstream II: Selections from the Mikki and Stanley Weithorn Collection, Arizona State University Art Museum.

Becoming: Photographs from the Wedge Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art

Art Now: Taschen Calendar

2007

FLAVA: WEDGE CURATORIAL PROJECTS (1997-2007) by Wedge

2006

Palm Beach Collects: The John Morrissey Collection

2005

Frequency: Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

P.S.1 Greater New York

Grants/Awards/Residencies

2009

The Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant

2007

Rema Hort Mann Grant

2002

Barry Cohen Scholarship, Yale University

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2001

Paul Harper Fellowship, Yale University

2000

Presidential Merit Scholarship

1999

Elizabeth Stokel Battell Fellowship

Student Activities Graduate Assistant Award

1998

Pratt Institute Student Leadership Award

1995-1997

Pratt Institute Black Alumni Scholarship

Residencies

2002-2003

Studio Museum in Harlem, NY

2001

Vermont Studios Center, Johnson, VT

1999

Yale Norfolk Summer of Music and Art, Norfolk, CT

Curating

2009

"The Brand New Heavies" Collette Blanchard Gallery, New York, NY

Lectures

2010

Artist's Lecture, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Artist's Lecture, Columbia College, Chicago, IL

2009

Generation Next: Mickalene Thomas and the Legacy, Santa Monica Museum, CA

Artist's Talk, Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT

2008

ReIGNITE: Making Art in the World, Panel Discussion, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

2007

MICA Senior Thesis Seminar, Brown Center Falvey Hall, Baltimore, MD

2006

The Stoop Series, Bric's Rotunda Gallery & NY Magazine, New York, NY

2005

"Conversations with the Artists", MoMA, New York

2004

"Artist's Voice", Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI

2003

Fine Arts Seminar, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

"Artist's Voice", Studio Museum in Harlem, NY

Panel Discussion, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

"Two Years", Pratt Panel, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

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2002

Artist's Talk, Exploration Senior Summer Program, New Haven, CT

Performances

2009

Oh Mickey! Kreemart and the American Patrons of Tate, Haunch of Venison, New York, NY

Professor of Music and DJ Dean of Admissions, MoMixx at Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Collections

The Art Institute of Chicago

Brooklyn Museum

Art National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

Nerman Museum of Contemporary

The Mikki and Stanley Weithorn Collection

The Rubell Family Collection

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

The Studio Museum in Harlem, NY

The Sender Collection

West Collection