

BERGGRUEN
GALLERY

WILLIAM J. O'BRIEN

1975 Born in Eastlake, Ohio

Present Lives and works in Chicago

Education

2005 MFA, Fiber and Material Studies, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

1997 BA, Studio Art, Loyola University Chicago

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2017 Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY (upcoming)

2015 *William O'Brien*, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
William O'Brien, Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI

2014 *William J. O'Brien: Water Sounds*, Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo
Six Circles : Four Squares, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
Chicago, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
The Lovers, Almine Rech Gallery, Paris, France

2013 *Wet 'N Wild*, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, NY

2012 The Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS

2011 *Works on Paper*, SHAHEEN Modern and Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH
The Renaissance Society at The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2010 *William O'Brien*, Shane Campbell Gallery, Oak Park, IL

2009 Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, NY
Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Detroit, MI

2008 *Death Rattle*, World Class Boxing, Miami, FL

2007 *the axis mundi*, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL

2006 *When Your Heart Is on Fire, Smoke Gets in Your Eyes*, Locust Projects, Miami, FL

2005 *A Fairy Tale*, curated by Jose Diaz and Nina Arias, Ingalls and Associates, Miami, FL
New Artists, New Work, Museum of Contemporary Art 12 x 12, Chicago, IL

Selected Group Exhibitions

2016 *Wild Style: Exhibition of Figurative Art*, Peres Projects, Berlin, Germany
Pattern and Process, curated by Nina Rizzo and Steven Ciampaglia, DeKalb, IL

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- 2015 *THIRTY NINE YEARS / Memorial for Susan Feld Hilberry*, Susan Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI
I Can't Wait To Get Off Work, curated by Austin Eddy, Bannerette Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Surrealism: The Conjured Life, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Try Again. Fail Again. Fail Better. Cherry and Martin, Los Angeles, CA
Defying Gravity: Interventions in Clay, Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Sun Valley, ID
SOFT CORE, Invisible Exports, New York, NY
Organic Sculpture, Alison Jacques Gallery, London, UK
- 2014 *KILN*, Leila Heller, New York, NY
U.S. Blues, Brooklyn, NY
Art on Paper 2014: The 43rd Exhibition, Weathersoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC
New Image Painting, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
Platform, Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Thread Lines, The Drawing Center, New York, NY
Iconoclasts: Art out of the Mainstream, Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
Objectified: Sculpture Today, Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2013 *DNA: Strands of Abstraction*, Loretta Howard Gallery, New York
- 2012 *The Magic Flute*, Golden Gallery, New York, NY
All Good Things Become Wild and Free, curated by Danny Orendorff, The H.F. Johnson Gallery of Art at Carthage College, Kenosha, WI
Phantom Limb: Approaches to Painting Today, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL
Someone Puts a Pineapple Together, Acme, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 *Painted*, curated by Tyson Reeder, The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
Painting...Expanded, Espacio 1414, Santurce, Puerto Rico
Works on Paper, SHAHEEN Modern and Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH
Josh Faught and William J. O'Brien, Lisa Cooley Gallery, New York, NY
Making is Thinking, Witte de With, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 2010 *The Maginot Line*, David Castillo Gallery, Miami, FL
Drawing, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
New Icon, Loyola University Museum of Art, Chicago, IL
Mystic Visage, World Class Boxing space of the Debra and Dennis Scholl Collection, Miami, FL
At Home/Not at Home: Works from the Collection of Martin and Rebecca Eisenberg, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
L'AUR'AMARA, curated by Bustos Domenech, MC Gallery, New York, NY; traveled to Générale en Manufacture, Paris, France; Centro Ricerche Accademia di Brera ex Chiesa di S. Carpoforo, Milan, Italy
- 2009 *In Stitches*, Leila Taghinia-Milani Heller Gallery, New York, NY
Selected Works from the MCA Collection, Museum of Contemporary

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- Art, Chicago, IL
An Expanded Field of Possibilities, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2008 *Now You See It*, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO
Base: Object, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, NY
Andy Coolquitt, Frank Haines, William J. O'Brien, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria
Jesuvian Process, Elizabeth Dee Gallery, New York, NY
- 2007 *William O'Brien / Anthony Pearson*, Project Space, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, NY
Makers And Modelers, Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York, NY
Sonotube ® Forms: Contemporary Art and Transport, Santa Barbara, CA Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA
Jesse Chapman, Aliza Nisenbaum, William J. O'Brien, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
So Wrong, I'm Right, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, CA
Stuff: International Contemporary Art from the Collection of Burt Aaron, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, MI
- 2006 *Modern Primitivism*, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
Josh Mannis, Eric Lebofsky, William J. O'Brien, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
MIXART, The James Hotel, Chicago, IL
Pathetize, Open End Gallery, Chicago, IL
Champagne, Nina Menocal Projects, Mexico City
Cluster, Participant Inc., New York, NY
- 2005 *Certain People I Know*, Margaret Thatcher Projects, New York, NY
We Created a Monster, Nina Menocal Projects for Art Basel, Miami, FL
CoDependent, The Living Room for Art Basel, Miami, FL
Winter Group Show, Booster and Seven, Chicago, IL
Eagle Hand's Moon and The Orange Savior, The Church of the Friendly Ghost, Austin, TX
Summer Group Show, Contemporary Art Workshop, Chicago, IL
Bilingual, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, IL
Drawn Out, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, IL
In Print2, Diamonds on Archer, Chicago, IL
Macerate, Around the Coyote Gallery, Chicago, IL
M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition, Gallery 2, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Stygine's Creek, Three-Walls Gallery, Chicago, IL
Take My Hand, Nina Menocal Gallery, Mexico City
Appropriating Feminist Strategies, Gallery 1926, Chicago, IL
Take My Hand, Three-Walls Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2004 *Night of 1,000 Drawings*, Artist Space, New York, NY
Click Formation, Open End Gallery, Chicago, IL
The Pilot Conference, Symbology Bathroom, Chicago, IL
The Affair, The Fresh-Up Club, Jupiter Hotel, Portland, OR
Identity Crisis, Marshall Arts @ Delta Axis, Memphis, TN

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Art Poster Show, Objex Artspace, Miami, FL
G2 Group Show, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Abracadabra, Rocket Projects, Miami, FL
3 on 3, Higher Gallery, Chicago, IL
Eric Lebofsky, Josh Mannis, William O'Brien, 1/Quarterly Space, Chicago, IL
Art Mule, The Stray Show, Chicago, IL
Small Victories, Modest Contemporary Art Projects, Chicago, IL

- 2003 *La Superrette*, Deitch Projects, Participant, Inc., New York, NY
100% Cotton, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow, Scotland
White Haute, Shaff Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2001 *Annual Members Show*, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
Out and About, Benefit Invitation Group Show, SPACES Gallery, Cleveland, OH
- 1997 *Undergraduate Thesis Show*, Crown Center Gallery, Loyola University
Chicago, Chicago, IL

Awards

Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award, 2011
Artadia: The Fund for Art & Dialogue, 2007 Chicago Finalist, Grand Recipient
Vermont Studio Center, Full Fellowship Residency
Mellon Award, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL

Selected Collections

The Art Institute of Chicago
Cleveland Clinic, Ohio
Hammer Museum, Los Angeles
Hara Museum of Art, Japan
Miami Art Museum
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
New York Presbyterian Hospital
Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami

Selected Bibliography

At Home/Not at Home: Works from the Collection of Martin and Rebecca Eisenberg, curated by Matthew Higgs, New York: CCS Bard Hessel Museum, June 26 – December 19, 2010.

Bryant, Eric. "Artist William J. O'Brien on His Brilliant, Multifaceted Career," *Artspace*, January 15, 2014.

Cembalest, Robin. "12 Trends Defining This Season's Art-Museum Shows," *ArtNews*, January 9, 2014.

Chauvel-Lévy, Léa. "William J. O'Brien, The Lovers – Galerie Almine Rech," *Slash-Paris*, January 15, 2014.

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Dluzen, Robin and James, Damien. "We Went To Chicago: The Horrors of Parenthood, The Strength of Drawings," *ArtFCity*, May 19, 2014.

Eichinger, Elle, "Chicago's William J. O'Brien Shows Multimedia Pieces at the MCA", *Michigan Avenue Magazine*, January 15, 2014.

Fry, Naomi. "Critics' Picks," *Artforum*, October 2, 2007.

Grabner, Michelle. "William J. O'Brien, Curated by Naomi Beckwith – Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago," *ArtForum*, January 2014.

Lacy, Jamilee Polson. "The Maker: William J. O'Brien," *Art in America*, January 24, 2014.

Malooley, Jake. "10 best things to do this week: January 20-26, 2014," *Time Out Chicago*, January 20, 2014.

Mercurio, Frank, "William J. O'Brien at the MCA", *Chicago Gallery News*, January 2014.

Moreno, Gean. "William J. O'Brien," *Art Papers*, March/April 2006.

Myers, Terry R. "William J. O'Brien," *The Brooklyn Rail*, April 2, 2014.

Rondeau, James. "Emerging Artists," *Frieze*, January 2010.

Smith, Roberta. "It's Just Clay, but How About a Little Respect?," *The New York Times*, September 7, 2007.

Smith, Roberta. "Make Room for Video Performance and Paint," *The New York Times*, December 31, 2009.

"Things We Like – Hitlist", *Blouinartinfo.com/Modern Painters*, May 2013, p. 39.

Tucker, Elizabeth, "William J. O'Brien," *Artforum*, May 2011, p. 138.

Vogel, Sabine B. "Picks: Vienna; Andy Coolquitt, Frank Haines, William J. O'Brien at Krinzinger Projekte," *Artforum*. May, 2008.

Waxman, Lori, "Compare and Contrast: Ceramics at the MCA," *Chicago Tribune*, February 7, 2014.

Yood, James. "William J. O'Brien: Shane Campbell Gallery," *Artforum* XLVI, No.4, 2007, p. 360.

Yood, James, "William J. O'Brien Transforms Artisanal Crafts into Abstract Art," *Architectural Digest*, January 2014.