

**ELMER BISCHOFF**

1916 - 1991 Born in Berkeley, CA

**Education**

1938 B.A., University of California, Berkeley, CA  
1939 M.A., University of California, Berkeley, CA

**Teaching**

1946 – 1952 California School of Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA (now San Francisco Art Institute), under MacAgy administration with Diebenkorn, Park, and Still  
1953 – 1956 Yuba College, Marysville, CA  
1956 – 1963 San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA, Chairman of Graduate Program  
1963 – 1965 Associate Professor, University of California, Berkeley, CA  
1965 – 1985 Professor. University of California, Berkeley, CA

**Selected solo exhibitions**

2009 *Elmer Bischoff: Figurative Drawings from the 1960s*, George Adams Gallery, New York, NY  
*Abstract and Figurative: Highlights of Bay Area Painting*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2008 *Elmer Bischoff: Abstract Paintings 1948-1952*, George Adams Gallery, New York, NY  
2005 *The Late Abstractions*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2003 *Elmer Bischoff*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2002 *The Art of Elmer Bischoff*, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL  
*Grand Lyricist: The Art of Elmer Bischoff*, Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA  
2001 *Grand Lyricist - The Art of Elmer Bischoff*, Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA  
1990 *Elmer Bischoff: Paintings from the Figurative Period, 1954 to 1970*, John

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- Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1989 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1988 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1985-1986 *Elmer Bischoff, 1947-85*, a retrospective, SFMoMA, San Francisco, CA; traveled to the Laguna Beach Museum of Art, Laguna Beach, CA; The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC; Hirschl and Adler Modern, New York, NY
- 1984 University of Arkansas, Little Rock, AR
- 1983 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1982 *Matrix 55: Elmer Bischoff*, University Art Museum, Berkeley, CA
- 1980 *Elmer Bischoff, Recent Paintings*, The Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1979 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
- 1975 San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA  
University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley, CA  
Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA  
Charles Campbell Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
- 1974 Boston University Art Gallery, with Richard Diebenkorn, Boston, MA
- 1971 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1969 Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY  
Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA
- 1968 Henry Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 1964 E.B. Crocker Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA  
Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY
- 1962 Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY
- 1961 M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, CA
- 1960 Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY

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- 1956 San Francisco Art Association Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1955 Paul Kantor Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1953 King Ubu Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1947 California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA

## Selected group exhibitions

- 2013 *Five West Coast Artists: Bischoff, Diebenkorn, Neri, Park, and Thiebaud*, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT
- 2010 *Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*Different Strokes: 20th Century Drawing*, George Adams Gallery, New York, NY
- 2009 *Juicy Paint*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA  
*Get with the Program*, George Adams Gallery, New York, NY  
*Pop to Present*, Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, Stanford, CA  
*Abstract and Figurative: Highlights of Bay Area Painting*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2008 *Culture of Spontaneity: San Francisco Abstract Expressionism from the Permanent Collection*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
- 2007 *Breaking the Mold: Selections from the Washington Gallery of Modern Art 1961-1968*, Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Oklahoma City, OK  
*A Culture in the Making*, Hackett Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2006 *Bay Area Painting*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*American Matrix: Contemporary Directions for the Harn Museum Collection Part II*, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville, FL  
*Bay Area Figurative 1950s and 1960s*, Bolinas Museum, Bolinas, CA
- 2005 *Villa America - American Moderns - 1900-1950*, Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA  
*Looking Back and Seeing Forward, A 90th Anniversary Exhibition*, Charles Campbell Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2004 *It's about Time - Celebrating 35 Years*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
- 2003 *Bay Area Revisited - Schick Art Gallery*, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY  
*The Pilot Hill Collection of Contemporary Art*, The Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX  
*Selected Acquisitions*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA

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- 2002 *The Pilot Hill Collection of Contemporary Art*, Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA
- 2000 *The Lighter Side of Bay Area Figuration*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA  
*The Lighter Side of Bay Area Figuration*, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO
- 1999 *Homage to the San Francisco Art Institute*, Hackett Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1998 *Views from the Bay Area: The Shift Toward Figuration*, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1997 *Important Bay Area Paintings, 1954-1960*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1996 *John Berggruen Gallery, Friesen Gallery Fine Art: A Collaboration*, Friesen Gallery, Sun Valley, ID
- 1995 *XXV Years*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1990 *Bay Area Figurative Art, 1950-1965*, SFMoMA, San Francisco, CA; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- 1989 *Artists of the California Landscape*, Natsoulas/Novdozo Gallery, Davis, CA
- 1988 *Elmer Bischoff, Sidney Gordin, Erle Loran; Drawings*, Gallery Paule Anglim, San Francisco, CA  
*Peter Selz Select's Show*, Berkeley Arts Festival, Berkeley, CA
- 1986 *Painting from the San Francisco Bay Area*, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC; Paine Art Center, Oshkosh, ME; Lakeview Museum of Arts and Science, Peoria, IL  
*California Light*, Carpenter Center for Visual Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA  
*Works on Paper*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*Breakfast Club*, College of Notre Dame, Belmont, CA  
*39th Annual Purchase Exhibition*, Hassam and Speicher Fund, American Academy of Institute for Arts and Letters, New York, NY  
*Ten Abstract Painters*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*The Triumphs of the Figure in Bay Area Arts, 1950-1965*, 871 Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 1986 *The Golden Land*, San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, CA

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- 1985 *Art in the San Francisco Bay Area: 1945-1980*, Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA
- 1984 *Drawings by Contemporary American Figurative Artists*, Institute and College of Arts, Baltimore, MD  
*The Figurative Mode: Bay Area Painting 1956-66*, Grey Art Gallery & Study Center, New York University, New York, NY; Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, ME  
*Twentieth Century Drawings: The Figure in Context*, International Exhibition Foundation, Washington, D.C.
- 1981 *California: State of Landscape 1872-1981*, Newport Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA; traveled to Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA  
*Realism and Realities: The Other Side of American Paintings: 1940-1960*, Rutgers University Art Gallery, New Brunswick, NJ; Montgomery Museum of Fine Art, Montgomery, AL; The Art Gallery, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- 1980 *The Human Force*, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.  
*The Figurative Tradition*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1979-78 *American Painting of the 1970's*, The Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY
- 1978 *Bay Area Painters*, Western Association of Art Museums, Oakland, CA  
*Art Faculty Resources Exhibition*, Worth Ryder Gallery, University of California, Berkeley, CA
- 1977 *The Modern Era: Bay Area Update*, Quay Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*California Figurative Painters*, Tortue Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1976 *20 Bay Area Painters*, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA  
*Paintings and Sculptures in California: The Modern Era*, SFMoMA, San Francisco, CA; traveled to Meredith Long Gallery, Houston, TX  
*Drawing Invitational*, Santa Rosa Junior College, Santa Rosa, CA
- 1975 *California Landscape*, Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA  
*Art Faculty Show*, Worth Ryder Gallery, University of California, Berkeley, CA  
*Staempfli in LA*, Ankrum Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Hansen-Fuller Pays Tribute to the San Francisco Art Institute, Hansen Fuller Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1974 Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL
- 1973 *Drawing Invitational*, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA  
*Drawing from Life and Studio Set-ups*, Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA

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*Now Drawings*, Charles Campbell Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*The MacAgy Years 1945-1950*, Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA  
*A Sense of Place: The Artist and the American Land*, Sheldon Art Gallery,  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE  
*Art on Paper 1973*, Weatherspoon Gallery, University of North Carolina,  
Greensboro, NC

- 1972 *California Works on Paper: 1950-1971*, University Art Museum, Berkeley, CA;  
Gallery Smith Andersen, Palo Alto, CA; NY Studio School, New York, NY
- 1971 *Drawings, USA 1971*, Minnesota Museum of Art, St. Paul, MN
- 1970 Expo'70, Osaka, Japan  
*American Painting 1970*, Virginia Museum, Richmond, VA  
*Looking West 1970*, Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE  
*Faculty Show*, University Art Museum, Berkeley, CA  
*Second National Invitational Exhibition of Drawings*, University of Wisconsin,  
Green Bay, WI
- 1969 *American Drawings of the Sixties*, New School Art Center, New York, NY  
*Art on Paper*, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture exhibition at Lee  
Nordness Gallery, New York, NY
- 1968 *Figurative Four*, Bernharz Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Selection of Paintings from James A. Michener Foundation Collection*, Brooks  
Memorial Art Gallery, Memphis, TN  
*An American Collection (Neuberger Collection)*, Rhode Island School of Design,  
Providence, RI; Brown University, Providence, RI; Smithsonian Institute,  
Washington, D.C.  
*1961-Growth-1965*, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA  
*On Looking Back: Bay Area 1945-1962*, Bolles Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*Skowhegan School Fourth Annual Exhibition and Sale*, National Academy of  
Design, New York, NY  
*Humanist Tradition in Contemporary American Painting*, New School Art  
Center, New York, NY
- 1967 *Faculty Show*, University of California, Berkeley, CA  
*International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture*, Pittsburgh, PA  
*Annual Exhibition and Sale*, Lenox Hill Hospital and Skowhegan School of  
Painting and Sculpture, New York, NY
- 1966 *American Art Masters*, Collector's Gallery, Miami, FL  
*American Painting, 1966*, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA  
*Drawing Exhibition*, Benefit of the Foundation of Contemporary Performance  
Arts, New York, NY

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*Contemporary Urban Visions*, New School Art Center, New York, NY  
*Seventh Annual Exhibition of Drawings*, California State College, Long Beach, CA

*1966 Midyear Exhibition*, Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH  
University of Texas Art Museum, Austin, TX  
Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

1965 *Drawing Exhibition*, Laguna Beach Art Association Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA  
*The Faculty*, University of California Art Department, Hollis Gallery, San Francisco, CA

University of California Art Gallery, Berkeley, CA  
*Contemporary Studies of the Nude*, Davis Gallery, New York, NY  
Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL  
Pittsburgh International, Pittsburgh, PA  
*29th Biennial Exhibition*, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.  
*Three California Painters*, Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY  
*Selections from the Work of California Artists*, San Antonio Art League, Witte Memorial Museum, San Antonio, TX  
*Annual Art Exhibition and Sale*, Lenox Hospital and Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, New York, NY  
*American Exhibition of American Painting*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

1964 Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Art Gallery '64, Hall of Education, World's Fair, New York, NY  
*'54-'64: Painting and Sculpture of a Decade*, Tate Gallery, London, UK  
*Seven California Painters*, Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY  
*Between the Fairs: 25 Years of American Art 1936-64*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
*The Friends Collect*, The Whitney Museum of Art, New York, NY  
*Contemporary Bay Area Painting and Sculpture*, Cantor Art Center, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA  
*Second Biennial of American Art*, Cordoba, Argentina  
*Four California Painters*, Obelisk Gallery, New York, NY  
*A Decade of New Talent*, American Federation of the Art, Washington, D.C.

1963 *28th Biennial Exhibition*, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; traveled to National Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY  
*Landscapes in Recent American Painting*, New School for Social Research, New York, NY; Salt Lake City Art Center, Salt Lake City, UT; Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, CA; Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA  
*Art of the Landscape*, New York, NY  
*Art: USA*, exhibition of the Johnson and Son, Inc. Collection, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

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- 1962 *Fifty California Artists*, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; Cantor Art Museum, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA  
*The Artist's Environment: The West Coast*, Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, TX  
*Ford Foundation Grant Winners' Exhibition*, Silvermine Guild of Artists, CT; Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- 1961 *Faculty Exhibition*, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA  
*Painting from the Pacific*, Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1960 *Bischoff, Diebenkorn, Park*, Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY; Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO; Bolles Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*9th Annual Mid-Year Show*, Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH  
*Winter Invitational*, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
*Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture*, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL
- 1958 American Federation of the Arts, New York, NY  
*Biennial*, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
*New Directions in Painting*, Florida State University, Miami, FL
- 1957 Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA  
*Art: USA*, New York, NY  
Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, Minneapolis, MN  
San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1956 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA  
Richmond Art Museum, Richmond, CA
- 1955 Richmond Art Museum, Richmond, CA
- 1952 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1951 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 1948 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA  
Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA
- 1947 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA  
The Whitney Museum of American Art at Champion, Stamford, CT



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- 1946 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA  
1944 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA  
1942 San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA

## Honors and awards

- 1989 Honorary Degree, Doctor of Fine Art, College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, CA  
1988 Member, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY  
1985 Member of National Academy of Design, New York, NY  
1985 Honorary Degree, Doctor of Fine Art, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA  
Berkeley Citation, University of California, Berkeley, CA
- 1983 College Art Association, Distinguished Teaching Award  
Honorary Degree, Doctor of Fine Arts, Otis Art Institute of Parson's School of Design, New York, NY
- 1973 Election of National Academy of Design, Washington, D.C.  
1967 Election to Board of Governors, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME
- 1966-67 Appointment to Institute for Creative Arts, University of California, Berkeley, CA  
1964 Norman Wait Harris Bronze Medal and Prize Art, Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1963 National Institution of Arts and Letters Grant, Washington, D.C.  
1959 Ford Foundation Grant  
1957 Oakland Art Museum Purchase Prize, Oakland, CA

## Public collections

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York, NY  
Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.  
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.  
Honolulu Academy of Arts, Honolulu, HI  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
National Museum of American Art, Washington, D.C.  
Neuberger Museum, State University of New York, Purchase, NY  
New School, New York, NY  
The Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA  
J. P. Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY  
University of Kansas Museum of Art, Lawrence, KS

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University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, WI  
Weatherspoon Art Gallery, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT

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