

DAVID NOVAK

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Biography

Born: Cedar Rapids, Iowa 1941
Residence/Studio: Matthews, North Carolina

Aesthetic Biography

- 2010 - Present:** Started making sculpture. All media in use at this time.
- 2008 - Present:** Added digital photography; computer manipulated photographic reimagining.
- 2007 - Present:** Return to minimalistic AE; focus on simplification; added encaustic media.
- 2004 - 2006:** Neo-Geo abstractions on computer, paper, and canvas.
- 2002 - 2003 :** Progress toward simplifying the structure; add minimalism to AE.
- 1997 - 2001:** Painting from easel to flat; return to gesture; fast one session painting.
- 1995 - 1997; 2004-2006:** Digital abstractions on computer, paper, and canvas.
- 1992:** Closed 22-year program in seascape abstractions.
- 1991:** Began computerized subjective abstractions using image structuring started in late 1987.
- 1988:** By searching through early paintings of the '60's to find Roads not Taken, discovered an opening covering color, mass, texture, and paint as subjects. Small work on paper and canvas include wax and egg yoke as part of the oil medium. Larger pieces on canvas are executed in acrylic polymer with added materials.
- Late 1987:** Began working again with painting and techniques related to automatism and subjective esthetics in oil on paper and canvas.
- 1979 - 1988:** Sabbatical from pure abstraction; concentration on abstract seascape themes using watercolor techniques in acrylic polymer on paper and canvas.
- 1973:** Abandoned figure painting and returned to abstraction working from an interest in Cy Twombly, Antoni Tapies, and John Cage. Work is conceptually related to Automatism and non-objective esthetics using linear structures .
- 1967:** Became interested in working with the human figure using oil and airbrush techniques in addition to traditional techniques. Francis Bacon and Paul Wunderlich influences.
- 1960's:** Influenced by Abstract Expressionism; H. Hofmann, J. Pollock, M. Rothko, A. Gottlieb and P. Guston; European artists Nicholas De Stael and Asgar Jorn. Themes: Iowa landscape and Cape Cod land/seascape.

Statement

Art is about what the artist sees and about what he or she can make other people see. I try through my abstractions to create an encapsulation of a private moment of seeing-feeling. This presentation takes on the action of a mirror. The audience — which includes the artist once a piece becomes public — manipulates this issue to locate a private connection to the art; to catch a glimpse of a confidentiality of self. This, at times, can be an uneasy experience. Herein lies the truth in art — its purpose regardless of medium or style.

Selected Group Exhibitions

Center for Fine Art Photography/Fort Collins, CO '10
Campbell House Galleries, Arts Council of Moore County/Southern Pines, NC '09, '10, '11
Edge Gallery/Philadelphia/PA '08, '09
Monkdogz Urban Art Inc/NYC '06, '07—
Modern Eye Gallery/Charlotte, NC '05 & '06
Hart Witzen Gallery/Charlotte, NC '04-'05
Berkshire Artisans Gallery/Pittsfield, MA '78, '82, '83, '91, '02, '03 & '04

Kothe Howard/Charlotte, NC '97-'98
Fovea Gallery/Blowing Rock, NC '93-'95
Arlene McDaniels Gallery/Simsbury, CT '90-'91
Munson Gallery (Chatham, MA & Vero Beach, FL) (annually) '83-'93
Atria Architects Gallery/Hartford '86-'88
Temple Beth Tikvah, Madison, CT '87
Artists Signature Gallery/New Haven (annually) '80-'86
Mattatuck Museum/Waterbury '89

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Museum of Art, Science & Industry/Bridgeport '89
Shoreline Alliance for the Arts (Choices '85)
Art at the Governor's Residence/Hartford,
CT '81 & '82
New haven Paint & Clay Club '81
Guilford Handcraft Center '81, '82, '83 & '84
Stamford Museum '80
Milford Public Library/Milford, CT '80-'81
Slater Memorial Mus./Norwich CT (CT Annuals)
'80-'87/'89, '90 & '91
Terrain Gallery/NYC '77 & '78
Viridian Gallery/NYC '76, '77 & '85
Peter M. David Gallery/Minneapolis (annually)
'76-'80
Second Story Spring Street Gallery/NYC '76 & '77
Illinois U./Carbondale (drawing invitational) '75
Backus Gallery II/Stowe, VT '74
Backus Gallery/E. Montpelier, VT '73
Goddard College '73 & '75
Fleming Museum, U. of VT/ Burlington '72
Norwich University/Northfield, VT '71

Loft Gallery/Lenox, MA '68, '69 & '70
Artists Outlet Gallery/Hinsdale, MA - Annually
'69-'73
Berkshire Museum/Pittsfield, MA '68, '69 & '70
Berkshire Art Assoc (Annuals)/Pittsfield, MA '67,
'68, '69 & '70
Sioux City Art Center (Iowa Annuals), '63, '66 & '67
Maka Gallery/Rock Island, IL '67
SUNY New Paltz-NY, '66
Mercyhurst College/Erie, PA '65
Sophia Art Center, Tokyo, Japan '64
Guild Gallery/Iowa City '62, '63 & '64
Cedar Rapids Art Assoc. '63
Rourke Art Gallery/Fargo, ND (Red River Annuals)
'63, & '64
Des Moines Art Center '63, '65 & '66
The University of Iowa '62, '63, '64, '65, '66 & '67'
Walker Art Center/Minneapolis, '62
All Iowa fair/Cedar Rapids '62, '63 & '64
El Camino College/CA '61
Palos Verdis Invitational/CA '61

Selected Solo Exhibitions

Kothe-Howard/Charlotte, NC '97
Fovea Gallery/Blowing Rock, NC '95
Slater Memorial Museum/Norwich, CT- Dec 2,
1990-1/20/1991
Artists Signature Gallery/New haven '81, '82, '83, '84
& '85
Acton Public Library/Old Saybrook '79, '80 & '83
Union Trust Bank/Old Saybrook '82
Berkshire Artisans Gallery/Pittsfield, MA '78, '82,
'83, '91, '03 & '04
Terrain Gallery/NYC '77
Backus Gallery II/Stowe, VT '74

The Moscow Gallery/ Stowe, VT '74
Franconia College/Franconia, NH, '73
Springfield College/ Springfield, MA '71
Goddard College/Plainfield, VT '71 & '75
Graphic Arts Gallery/Springfield, MA '69
The Berkshire Museum/Pittsfield, MA '68 & '71
Western Kentucky University/Bowling Green '68
Maka Gallery/Rock Island, Il '67
The Mayflower Gallery/Iowa City '67
University of Iowa '65
University Athletic Club-Iowa City '65
Guild Gallery/Iowa City '64

Fellowships/Awards

Honorable Mention: Center for Fine Art Photography/Elements of Water, Fort Collins CO 2010 (*Juror John Paul Caponigro*).
Solo Exhibition Award- 47th Annual CT Artists Exhibition/Slater Memorial Museum/Norwich, CT 1990-'91.
Berkshire Artisans /Pittsfield, MA 1991 (*Juror Renato Danese, Dir. Pace Gallery/NYC*).
CT. Com. on the Arts/Art in Sen. Dodd's Offices/Hartford, 1986.
CT. Com. on the Arts/Art in the Governor's Residence/Hartford 1981 & 82
Grant for Painting/The Goddard Foundation/Goddard College, VT 1973.
Judges Award in Painting- 3rd Annual/Littleton, NH '1972.
Honorable Mention in Painting- Vermont Annual/Norwich U./Northfield, VT 1971.
Purchase Prize in Painting- 30th Iowa Annual/Sioux City Art Center 1967.
Commendation Award in Painting- SUNY New Paltz/1st New Paltz Intercollegiate Exhibition 1966

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(Juror Clement Greenberg).

Purchase Prize in Painting- 1962 Biennial of Painting and Sculpture/Walker Art Center/Minneapolis 1962.

Selected Collections

Public collections (partial list):

Center for Fine Art Photography, Fort Collins, CO
American Assoc. of University Women,
Minneapolis Chapter
Walker Art Center/Minneapolis
El Camino College/Los Angeles
Sunrise Motel, Inc./Madison, WI
Holiday Inn/Los Angeles & Iowa City
Los Angeles Airport Village
The University of Iowa
Sioux City Art Center
Woodmen of the World Office Center/Chicago
University of Cincinnati/Ohio
Tachonic High School/Pittsfield, MA
The Berkshire Museum/Pittsfield, MA

Berkshire County Savings Bank/Pittsfield, MA
Berkshire Community College/Pittsfield, MA
Mount Mansfield Co./Stowe, VT.
Northfield Dental Group/Northfield, VT.
H. T. Hillard Oil Co./Menlo Park, CA
Peter M. David Gallery/Minneapolis
Echlin Mfg. Co./Branford, CT
Union Trust Co./New Haven
Colonial National Bank/New Haven
Beth el Temple/Hartford
Southern New England Telephone/New Haven
Ensign Bickford Co./Simsbury, CT

Additional private collections throughout the
United States, Canada, Mexico and Japan.

Gallery Affiliations

Monkdogz Urban Art Inc/NYC '06—
Edge Gallery/Philadelphia/PA '08—'09
Modern Eye Gallery/Charlotte, NC '05 - '06
Hartwitzen Gallery/Charlotte, NC '04-'05
Darius Gallery/Atlanta, GA '02
Fovea Gallery/Blowing Rock, NC '93 - '99
Munson Gallery (Chatham, MA & Vero Beach, FL)
'83-'93
Arlene McDaniels Gallery/Simsbury, CT '90-'91
Atria Architects Gallery/Hartford '86-'88
Spectrum Galleries Ltd./Brewster, MA '82
Artists Signature Gallery/New Haven '79-'86

Peter M. David Gallery/Minneapolis '76-'79
Gombinski Gallery/NYC '76-'78
Terrain Gallery/NYC '76-'78
Second Story Spring Street Gallery/NYC '76
Viridian Gallery/NYC '76
The Grist Mill Gallery/Reading, VT '75
Backus Gallery II/Stowe, VT '74
Backus Gallery/East Montpelier, VT '73-'74
Loft Gallery/Lenox, MA '69
Artists Outlet Gallery/Hinsdale, MA. '69-'75
Maka gallery/Rock Island IL '66 - '79
Guild Gallery/Iowa City '62-'65

Education

The University of Iowa/Iowa City:
MFA (painting/drawing), August '67
MA (painting), Feb '66
BA (art & art education, '64
El Camino College/El Camino, CA '61, graphic
design and drawing.
Northrop Institute of Technology/Inglewood, CA
'60-'61, engineering.

Teaching

Guilford Handcraft Center/Guilford, CT C'79-'83
Adult Education Program/Old Saybrook, CT C'82
Johnson State College/ Johnson, VT, C'77
Goddard College/Plainfield, VT C'70-'75
Berkshire Community College/Pittsfield, MA
C'67-'70
The University of Iowa C'64-'67
Courses taught: painting, drawing, design, figure
drawing & figure painting. Undergraduate and
Graduate Levels.