

# Leonardo Drew



## Biography

Leonardo Drew (b. 1961, Tallahassee, Florida, USA) is known for his significant installations and sculptures which explore the tension between order and chaos. Drew transforms accumulations of raw materials such as wood, scrap metal and cotton to create works that play upon a tension between order and chaos. His surfaces often approach a language of their own, embodying the laboured process of writing oneself into history.

Drew's work has been seen in major museums worldwide. He was commissioned for a new outdoor project City in the Grass for Madison Square Park in 2019, marking the Madison Square Park Conservancy's 38th public commission and the artist's first major public outdoor art project. City in the Grass was presented as a solo exhibition in three museums, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut (2021); Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson (2020); and North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh (2020). In 2022, Drew was elected as a National Academician by the National Academy of Design. Another major new commission featured at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, UK in 2023. Drew's mid-career survey, Existed, premiered at the Blaffer Gallery at the University of Houston in 2009 and travelled to the Weatherspoon Art Museum in Greensboro, North Carolina, and the DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Massachusetts.

Collections include: Tate, London; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; and Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD. Drew currently lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2023** \_Leonardo Drew, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, West Bretton, UK
- 2023** \_Leonardo Drew, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas
- 2023** \_Leonardo Drew: New Works, Talley Dunn Gallery, Dallas, Texas
- 2022** \_Leonardo Drew, Goodman Gallery, London, UK
- 2022** \_Leonardo Drew: Cycles, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer Foundation, Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw State University 19
- 2021** \_Leonardo Drew, Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, New York
- 2021** \_Leonardo Drew: Two Projects, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut
- 2021** \_Leonardo Drew, Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris
- 2021** \_Leonardo Drew: Cycles, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer Foundation, Eskenazi Museum of Art, University of Indiana; the Frost Art Museum, Florida International University
- 2020** \_Leonardo Drew: Making Chaos Legible, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 2020** \_Leonardo Drew: City in the Grass, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson
- 2020** \_Hammer Projects: Leonardo Drew, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California
- 2020** \_Leonardo Drew: New Works, Talley Dunn Gallery, Dallas, Texas (online)
- 2019** \_Leonardo Drew, Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco, California
- 2019** \_Leonardo Drew: Cycles, from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer Foundation, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, Massachusetts
- 2019** \_Leonardo Drew, Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, New York
- 2019** \_Leonardo Drew, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
- 2017** \_Leonardo Drew: Number 197, de Young Museum, San Francisco, California
- 2017** \_CAM Raleigh, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 2017** \_Talley Dunn Gallery, Dallas, Texas
- 2016** \_Leonardo Drew: Eleven Etchings, Crown Point Press, San Francisco, California
- 2016** \_Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York
- 2015** \_Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
- 2015** \_Pace Prints, New York, New York
- 2014** \_Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco, California
- 2013** \_Selected Works, SCAD Museum of Art at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Georgia
- 2013** \_Exhumation/Small Works, Canzani Center Gallery at Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus, Ohio
- 2013** \_Vigo, London, England
- 2012** \_Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York
- 2012** \_Pace Prints, New York, New York
- 2011** \_Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco, California
- 2011** \_Vigo, London, England
- 2011** \_Galleria Napolinobilissima, Naples, Italy
- 2010** \_Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York

**2010** \_Window Works: Leonardo Drew, Artpace, San Antonio, Texas  
**2009** \_Existed: Leonardo Drew, Blaffer Gallery, the Art Museum of the University of Houston, Texas; Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina; DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, Massachusetts  
**2009** \_Fine Art Society, London, England  
**2007** \_Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York  
**2006** \_Palazzo Delle Papesse, Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena, Italy  
**2005** \_Brent Sikkema, New York, New York  
**2002** \_The Fabric Workshop, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
**2001** \_Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York  
**2001** \_Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, Ireland  
**2000** \_Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC  
**2000** \_The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, New York  
**1999** \_Madison Art Center, Madison, Wisconsin  
**1998** \_Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York  
**1997** \_Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida  
**1996** \_University at Buffalo Art Gallery, Center for the Arts, State University of New York, Buffalo, New York  
**1996** \_Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York  
**1996** \_Currents: Leonardo Drew, Saint Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri  
**1995** \_Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, California  
**1995** \_The Pace Roberts Foundation for Contemporary Art, San Antonio, Texas  
**1995** \_Ground Level Overlay, Merce Cunningham Dance Company Collaboration, New York, New York  
**1994** \_San Francisco Art Institute, Walter/Mc Bean Gallery, San Francisco, California  
**1994** \_Thread Waxing Space, New York, New York  
**1994** \_Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York  
**1992** \_Thread Waxing Space, New York, New York

## Group Exhibitions

**2023** \_The Alchemists, Johnson Lowe Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia (forthcoming)  
**2022** \_What's Going On, Rubell Museum, Washington, DC  
**2022** \_A Celebration of Trees, Southampton Arts Center, Southampton, New York  
**2022** \_Strange Weather, Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History, University of California  
**2022** \_The Scene Changes: Sculpture from the Collection, Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, Nebraska  
**2022** \_Start Talking: Fischer/Shull Collection of Contemporary Art, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina  
**2021** \_New Prints and Editions, Galerie Lelong, New York, New York  
**2021** \_Hockney to Warhol: Contemporary Drawings from the Collection, The McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, Texas  
**2020** \_Waking Dream, Ruby City, San Antonio, Texas  
**2020** \_Polyphonic: Celebrating PAMM's Fund for African American Art, Perez Art Museum Miami, Miami, Florida  
**2020** \_Generations: A History of Black Abstract Art, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland  
**2020** \_Accidents (Part II), Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong  
**2020** \_Materials and Objects, Louise Nevelson and Leonardo Drew, Tate Modern, London United Kingdom  
**2019** \_Legends and Legacy: Revolutions in Hand Papermaking, Rosenwald Wolf Gallery, UArts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
**2019** \_Young, Gifted, and Black, OSilas Gallery, Concordia College, Bronxville, New York  
**2019** \_30 Americans, Nelson-Atkins Museum, Kansas City, Missouri  
**2019** \_Riffs and Relations: African American Artists and European Modernist Tradition, The Phillips Collection, Washington, DC  
**2019** \_Linda Pace Gallery Foundation, Ruby City, San Antonio, Texas  
**2019** \_Social Space: Mark Bradford, Leonardo Drew, Julie Mehretu, and Wangechi Mutu  
**2019** \_Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at WSU, Pullman, Washington  
**2019** \_Black Refractions: Selections from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, California  
**2019** \_Celestial, Pace Prints, New York, New York  
**2019** \_Solidary and Solitary: The Joyner/Giuffrida Collection, Smart Museum, Chicago, IL  
**2019** \_Sculptor's Prints, Pace Prints, New York, New York  
**2019** \_Legends and Legacy: Revolutions in Hand Papermaking, Rosenwald Wolf Gallery, **2019** \_UArts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
**2019** \_What You See is What You See, Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore  
**2018** \_Talisman In the Age of Difference, curated by Yinka Shonibare MBE, Stephan **2018 2018** \_Friedman Gallery, London, United Kingdom  
**2018** \_The Bleak and the Burgeoning, Walton Arts Center, Fayetteville, Arkansas  
**2018** \_AAM @ 60: The Diamond Exhibitions, Academy Art Museum, Easton, Maryland  
**2018** \_The Onrush of Scenery, Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York  
**2018** \_Vertically, Rosenfeld Porcini, London, United Kingdom  
**2018** \_30 Americans: The Rubell Family Collection, Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, Arizona  
**2018** \_The Next Decade, Galerie Maximillian, Aspen, Colorado  
**2018** \_Tree, Vigo Gallery, London, United Kingdom  
**2017** \_Solitary and Solidary: The Joyner/ Giuffrida Collection, Ogden Museum of Southern **2017** \_Art, New Orleans, Louisiana; Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, **2017** \_North Carolina; Snite Museum of Art at Notre Dame; David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art, Chicago, Illinois; Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland; Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, California; Pérez Art Museum, Miami, Florida  
**2017** \_New at NOMA: Recent Acquisitions in Modern and Contemporary Art, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, Louisiana  
**2017** \_Materialised Condition, Pearl Lam Galleries, Singapore  
**2016** \_Haptic, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, New York  
**2016** \_Structures of Recollection, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong  
**2016** \_Continuum, VIGO, London, England  
**2015** \_Black: Color, Material, Concept, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York  
**2015** \_Unsuspected Possibilities, SITE, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
**2015** \_Showing Off: Recent Modern and Contemporary Acquisitions, Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado  
**2014** \_Summer Group Show, Galerie Forsblom, Helsinki, Finland  
**2013** \_Material World, Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado  
**2012** \_San Antonio Collects Contemporary, San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, Texas  
**2012** \_Against the Grain – Wood in Contemporary Art, Craft and Design, Mint Museum, Charlotte, North Carolina; Museum of Art and Design, New York  
**2011** \_Toward the Third Dimension, David Floria Gallery, Aspen, Colorado  
**2011** \_The Bearden Project, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York  
**2010** \_From then to Now: Masterworks of Contemporary African American Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, Ohio

**2010** \_Collected. Reflections on the Permanent Collection, Studio Museum of Harlem, New York  
**2010** \_Lost and Found: Selections from the MCA Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois  
**2009** \_Your Golden Teeth II, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, New York  
**2009** \_30 Americans, Rubell Family Collection, Miami, FL; North Carolina Museum of Art  
**2009** \_Raleigh, North Carolina; Corcoran Gallery of Art at the College of Art and Design, Washington, DC; Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, Virginia; Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
**2007** \_New Directions in American Drawing, Columbus Museum, Columbus, Georgia; Telfair Museum of Art, Savannah, Georgia; Knoxville Museum of Art, Knoxville, Tennessee  
**2007** \_Repeat Performances: Seriality and Systems Art since 1960, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Ohio  
**2007** \_Reverance, HVCCA – Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Peekskill, New York  
**2006** \_Legacies: Contemporary Artists Reflect on Slavery, The New York Historical Society, New York  
**2006** \_Black Alphabet: Contexts of Contemporary African American Art, Zacheta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, Poland  
**2005** \_Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, New York  
**2005** \_Leonardo Drew/Kara Walker, Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin, Germany  
**2005** \_Between Image and Concept: Recent Acquisitions in African-American Art, Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, New Jersey  
**2004** \_Material Pleasures, Green on Red Gallery, Dublin  
**2003** \_Hands on, Hands down, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York  
**2003** \_From Modernism to the Contemporary, 1958-1999, The Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin, Ohio  
**2001** \_Brooklyn!, Palm Beach Institute of Contemporary Art, Lake Worth, Florida  
**2001** \_Vanitas: Meditations on Life and Death in Contemporary Art, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia  
**1998** \_Passages: Contemporary Art in Transition, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York  
**1998** \_Bill Jenson/Leonardo Drew, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York  
**1997** \_New Work: Words & Images, Miami Art Museum, Miami, Florida  
**1996** \_Leonardo Drew/Mark Francis/Oliver Herring, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, New York  
**1995** \_About Place: Recent Art of the Americas, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois  
**1995** \_Pace Roberts Foundation for Contemporary Art, San Antonio, Texas  
**1995** \_Carnegie International, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
**1994** \_Promising Suspects, The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, Connecticut  
**1993** \_Markets of Resistance, White Columns, New York, New York  
**1992** \_Biennial Dakar, Senegal  
**1992** \_Three Sculptors: Leonardo Drew, Lisa Hoke, Brad Kahlhamer, Thread Waxing Space, New York, New York  
**1991** \_From the Studio: Artists in Residence, 1990-91, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

## Awards and Merits

**2022** \_National Academy of Design  
**2016** \_GSA Design Award, Citation in Art  
**2014** \_Augustus Saint-Gaudens Award, Cooper Union Alumni Association  
**2011** \_Joyce Alexander Wein Artist Prize  
**1997** \_Asian Cultural Council Grant  
**1994** \_Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant  
**1993** \_Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation Grant

## Academic Record and Residencies

**1995** \_ArtPace Artist in Residence  
**1991** \_The Studio Museum in Harlem, Artist-in-Residence  
**1990** \_Vermont Studio School, Artist-in-Residence  
**1998** \_Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Artist-in-Residence

## Collections

Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Ohio  
Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York, New York  
Caldic Collectie, Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami, Florida  
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arizona  
Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado  
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, Michigan  
Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Hallmark Art Collection, Kansas City, Missouri  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC  
Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Massachusetts  
Linda Pace Foundation, San Antonio, Texas  
McNay Museum of Art, San Antonio, Texas  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York  
Mott-Warsh Collection, Flint, Michigan  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California  
National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.  
New Orleans Museum of Art, Louisiana  
North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh  
Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, Florida  
Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa, Oklahoma  
Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, New Jersey  
Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, Ohio  
Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation  
Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Bloomington, Indiana

Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York  
Sorigue Foundation Collection, Lérida, Spain  
St Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri  
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York  
Tate, London, England, United Kingdom  
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut  
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Walton Arts Center, Fayetteville, Arkansas  
Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina  
West Collection, Oaks, Pennsylvania

## Commissions

**2023** \_Leonardo Drew, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas (forthcoming)  
**2019** \_City in the Grass, Madison Square Park, New York, New York  
**2019** \_Number 69S, San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, California

## Publications

Eden, Xandra, and Valerie Cassel Oliver. Leonardo Drew. Milan: Charta, 2012.  
Schmuckli, Claudia. Existed: Leonardo Drew (Houston: Blaffer Gallery, 2009).  
New Directions in American Drawing (Georgia: Columbus Museum, 2007).  
Kanjo, Kathryn. Leonardo Drew (San Diego, California: Museum of Contemporary Art, 1995).  
Krajewski, Sara. Leonardo Drew (Madison, Wisconsin: Madison Art Center, 1999).  
Nye, Tim and Thomas McEvilley. Leonardo Drew (New York: Thread Waxing Space, 1992).  
Bush, Teresia. Leonardo Drew (Washington, DC: Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, 2000).  
Strick, Jeremy. Leonardo Drew (St. Louis, Missouri: Saint Louis Art Museum, 1996).  
Als, Hilton. Leonardo Drew (New York: Thread Waxing Space, 1994).  
Schwabsky, Barry. Leonardo Drew: Existing Everywhere (Prato: Gli Ori, 2006).