

BILLY AL BENGSTON

Born 1934, Dodge City, KS

Lives and works in Venice, CA

Education

- 1956 Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles, CA
- 1955 California College of Arts & Crafts, Oakland, CA
- 1952 Los Angeles City College, Los Angeles, CA

Select Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 *Billy Al Bengston*, Frieze New York, New York, NY
- 2017 *It is the Moon Doggie*, Various Small Fires, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 *My B.S.A. 350CC Gold Star & Blues for Aub (get it?)*, Venus Over Manhattan, New York, NY
Billy Al, Samuel Freeman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Hello Aloha, Franklin Parrasch Gallery, New York, NY
Warm California, Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York, NY
Bengston: Paintings from the 1980s, Neuendorf Projects, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 *TRANSCENDENTAL BENGSTON-TATION*, Franklin Parrasch Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013 *Craig Turned on the Light and California Art Bloomed: A Tribute to Craig Kauffman*, Honolulu Museum of Art, Honolulu, HI
- 2010 *Billy*, Samuel Freeman Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 2005 *Billy Al Bengston, the '60s*, Franklin Parrasch Gallery, New York, NY
- 2000 *The Good, The Bad and Nothing Heartless*, Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1997 *Billy Al Bengston: San Felipe to Puerto Escondido*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
- 1995 *Billy Al Bengston: Works from HI, Westfall Interior Systems*, Foundation Valley, CA
- 1993 *Billy Al Bengston*, Galerie Neuendorf Frankfurt, Germany (catalogue)
- 1992 *Billy Al Bengston*, Valerie Miller Fine Art Palm Desert, CA
- 1991 *It Is Not May Day And It Is Not A Holiday Sale*, James Corcoran Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1990 *Billy Al Bengston, Paintings for the '90's*, James Corcoran Gallery, Santa Monica, CA (catalogue)
- 1989 Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1988 *Billy Al Bengston, Paintings of Three Decades*, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX;
The Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA (catalogue)
30 Years of Work I Couldn't Sell..., James Corcoran Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1984 *Billy Al Bengston: Acrylic and Watercolor Paintings*, James Corcoran Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1981 *A Decade of Billy Al Bengston: The Seventies*, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA
- 1973 Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX
- 1972 Galerie Neuendorf, Hamburg, Germany
Felicity Samuel Gallery, London, England
- 1971 Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
La Jolla Museum of Art, La Jolla, CA
- 1970 Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, C
- 1969 *Motel Dracula*, Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena, CA
- 1968 *Billy Al Bengston*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA (catalogue)
Motel Dracula, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1963 Ferus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1962 Martha Jackson Gallery, New York, NY
Ferus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

- 1961 Ferus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
 1960 Ferus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
 1958 Ferus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

Select Group Exhibitions

- 2019 *With Pleasure: Pattern and Decoration in American Art 1972–1985*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
Billy Al Bengston & Ed Ruscha: Reunited, Various Small Fires, Seoul, South Korea
- 2018 *West by Midwest*, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL
Landskipping, Texas Gallery, Houston, TX
- 2017 *Sea Sick in Paradise* (curated by Amy Yao), Depart Foundation, Malibu, CA
California Dreaming: Ed Moses, Billy Al Bengston, & Ed Ruscha, New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, CT
- 2016 *Human Interest: Portraits from the Whitney's Collection*, New York, NY
Still Life with Fish: Photography from the Collection, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 *The Ceramic Presence in Modern Art*, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT
Drawing in L.A.: The 1960s and 1970s, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future: AMOCA's 10th Anniversary, American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, CA
California Printmakers, 1950–2000, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
In Barcelona: A Portfolio of Prints from Los Angeles Artists, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2014 *Surface to Air: Los Angeles Artists of the '60's*, Kayne Griffin Corcoran Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2013 *Everything Loose Will Land*, MAK Center for Art and Architecture at the Schindler House, West Hollywood, CA
- 2012 *Sinister Pop*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Serious Fun: Thurston Twigg-Smith + Contemporary Art, Honolulu Museum of Art, Honolulu, HI
- 2011 *Pacific Standard Time: Crosscurrents in L.A., Paintings and Sculpture 1950-1970*, J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles CA; Martin Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany
The Rise of Printmaking in Southern California, Norton Simon Museum of Art, Pasadena, CA
Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974-1981, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 2006 *Los Angeles: 1955-1985*, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France (catalogue)
- 2003 *Minimal L.A.*, Franklin Parrasch Gallery, New York, NY
- 2002 *Ferus*, Gagosian Gallery, New York, NY
- 2001 *A Room of Their Own: From Rothko to Rauschenberg / From Arbus to Gober*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 2000 *On Paper: Drawings, Paintings and Collages*, Skidmore Contemporary Art, Malibu, CA
Celebrating Modern Art: The Anderson Collection, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA
Made in California: Art, Image, and Identity, 1900-2000; Section 5: 1980-2000, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA (catalogue)
- 1994 *Too Cool: Assemblage and Finish Fetish in Los Angeles*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
- 1992 *Hand-Painted Pop: American Art in Transition 1955-1962*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 1991 *Retrospective/Prospective*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 1990 *Visions of the Volcano*, The Contemporary Museum, Honolulu, HI
- 1989 *L.A. Pop in the Sixties*, Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA (catalogue)

- 1987 *Made in the U.S.A.: An Americanization in Modern Art, the '50s and '60s*, University of California, Berkeley, CA (catalogue)
- 1986 *Individuals: A Selected History of Contemporary Art, 1945–1986*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA (catalogue)
- 1985 *Poly-Eclecticism*, Hamano Institute, Tokyo, Japan
- 1983 *The First Show*, The Museum of Contemporary Art / The Temporary Contemporary (now the Geffen Contemporary), Los Angeles, CA
- 1982 *Exhibition of Contemporary Los Angeles Artists*, Nagoya City Museum, Nagoya, Japan
- 1981 *Art in Los Angeles: Seventeen Artists the Sixties*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA (catalogue)
- Southern California Artists: 1940 - 1980*, Laguna Beach Museum of Art, CA
- 1979 *1979 Biennial Exhibition*, Whitney Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- The Decorative Impulse*, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, PA
- 1978 *The Change Inc., West Coast Exhibition*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
- Gold*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- 1977 *Watercolors and Related Media by Contemporary Californians*, Baxter Art Gallery, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA (catalogue)
- Contemporary Miniatures*, California State University, Los Angeles, CA
- Opening Exhibition*, Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA
- 1976 *Painting and Sculpture in California: The Modern Era*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- Los Angeles*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- 1975 *Collage and Assemblage in Southern California*, Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
- Recent Acquisitions*, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY
- 1974 *POP Art*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY (catalogue)
- 1973 *American Drawing 1970-73*, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT
- 1972 *USA/West Coast*, Kunstverein in Hamburg, Germany, Kolnischer Kunstverein, Germany; Wurttemberg Kunstverein Stuttgart, Germany (catalogue)
- Working in California*, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY
- 1970 *The Highway*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA (catalogue)
- A Decade of California Color 1960-1970*, Pace Gallery, New York, NY (catalogue)
- 1969 *Tamarind: Homage to Lithography*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (catalogue)
- Kompas IV: Westkus USA*, Stedelijk van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands (catalogue)
- West Coast: 1945 - 1969*, Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena CA; City Art Museum of St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri; Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada; Fort Worth Art Centre, Fort Worth TX (catalogue)
- Annual Exhibition of Painting*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1968 *Late Fifties at the Ferus*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA (catalogue)
- Mostra Biennale Internazionale Della Grafica*, Palazzo Strozzi, Firenze, Italy
- 1967 *Speed Sculpture*, Pomona College Art Gallery, Claremont, CA
- 1967 Annual Exhibition Contemporary American Painting*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1966 *Ten from Los Angeles*, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA (catalogue)
- Abstract Expressionist Ceramics*, University of California at Irvine Art Gallery, Irvine, CA
- 1965 *Pop Art and the American Tradition*, Milwaukee Art Center, Milwaukee, WI (catalogue)

- VIII Biennial of Museum of Modern Art*, Sao Paulo, Brazil (catalogue)
- 1964 *The Studs*, Ferus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Old Hundred, Larry Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield, CT
- 1963 *Six More*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA (catalogue)
Miroir et Memoire du Premier Salon International de Galeries Pilotes Lausanne, Musee National des Beaux Arts, Lausanne, Switzerland
Pop Art USA, Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, CA (catalogue)
Hard Edge and Emblem: New Work, Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena, CA
Pacific Coast Invitational, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1962 *Pacific Profile*, Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena, CA (catalogue)
Pacific Coast Invitational, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
Fifty California Artists, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY (catalogue)
- 1959 *Los Angeles Painting*, Bolles Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Edward Kienholz and Billy Al Bengston: Collages, Ferus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1957 *The First Annual Los Angeles Area Drawing Exhibition*, Exodus Gallery, San Pedro, CA
Los Angeles Annual, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 1956 *Drawings*, Six Gallery, San Francisco, CA

Grants and Awards

- 1987 Tamarind Fellow, Tamarind Lithography Workshop
Wilshire-Westwood Barricade, Los Angeles, CA
- 1985 Five fabric designs, Tokyo, Japan
- 1982 California Arts Council Maestro / Apprentice Program
Tamarind Fellow, Tamarind Lithography Workshop
- 1981 California Arts Council Art in Public Buildings Commission, Long Beach State Building
- 1975 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship
- 1968 Tamarind Fellow, Tamarind Lithography Workshop
- 1967 National Foundation for the Arts Grant

Public Collections

American Federation of Arts, CA
Art Institute of Chicago, IL
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX
Honolulu Academy of Arts, HI
Laguna Art Museum, CA
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA
Menil Collection, Houston, TX
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, CA
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena, CA
Oakland Museum, CA
Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA
Philadelphia Museum of Art, PA
Portland Museum of Art, OR
San Diego Museum of Art, CA

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA
Seattle Art Museum, WA
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY
The Contemporary Museum, Honolulu, HI
The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
The Frederick R. Weisman Foundation of Art, Los Angeles, CA
The Palm Springs Desert Museum, CA
The Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Yale University Art Museum, New Haven, CT