

July, 2000

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

The means and materials of painting have constituted a language that is distinct and separate from the language of words and of rational discourse. One has only to open one's heart and eyes to read this language. It is capable of carrying the broadest and deepest of aspirations

Mac Wells

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2006 Art Sites, Riverhead, New York
- 2002 Art Sites, Greenport, New York
- 2001 Ann Kolb Gallery, East Hampton, New York
- 2000 Art Sites, Greenport, New York
- 2000 Mitchell Albus Gallery, New York
- 1996 "Light Into Being," Hunter Times Square Gallery, New York
- 1993 Rothko Foundation Award Show, Artists Space, New York
- 1992 Dwight Frederick Boyden Gallery, St. Mary's College, St. Mary's City, Maryland
- 1981 55 Mercer Gallery, New York
- 1979 Landmark Gallery, New York
- 1979 St. Stephen Art Centre, St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada
- 1975 Susan Caldwell Gallery, New York
- 1972 Max Hutchinson Gallery, New York
- 1971 Max Hutchinson Gallery, New York
- 1967 A.M. Sachs Gallery, New York
- 1966 Purdue University, west Lafayette, Indiana
- 1965 A.M. Sachs Gallery, New York
- 1963 Aegis Gallery, New York

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1993 *Hunter College MFA Faculty Artists, 1981-1993*, Hunter College Art Gallery, New York
- 1992 *Persistence of Abstraction*, Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas
- 1991 *Physicality*, Hunter College Art Gallery, New York
- 1989 55 Mercer Gallery, New York
- 1988 *A Living Tradition*, American Abstract Artists Show, Europe and Canada, 1988-1991
- 1987 Condeso-Lawler Gallery, New York
- 1986 *Art from CUNY; Approaches to Abstraction*, University of Shanghai, China
- 1986 *50th Anniversary of American Abstract Artists*, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York
- 1985 Kenkeleba House, New York
- 1985 *Works on Paper*, Arbitrage Gallery, New York
- 1983 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- 1982 *American Abstract Artists*, New York City Gallery, New York
- 1981 Summit Art Center, New Jersey
- 1979 Betty Parsons Gallery, New York
- 1977 Susan Caldwell Gallery, New York
- 1977 Maine Coast Artists Gallery, Rockport, Maine
- 1976 Landmark Gallery, New York
- 1976 Maine State Museum, Augusta, Maine
- 1974 Betty Parsons Gallery, New York
- 1972 FAR Gallery, New York
- 1972 *Paintings on Paper*, Bard College, New York
- 1972 Benefit Show, New York Civil Liberties Union, Leo Castelli Gallery, New York
- 1972 *Eight from New York*, Festival of Perth, Australia
- 1971 The Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, Columbus, Ohio
- 1971 Moore College of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1970 *Small Works*, Bard College, New York
- 1970 *Drawings, Multiple Editions, Sculpture*, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York
- 1969 *Drawings*, Heiner Friedrich Gallery, Munich, Germany
- 1969 *American Abstract Artists*, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 1968 Park Place Gallery, New York
- 1968 Smith College Museum, Northhampton, Massachusetts, Virgil Thompson Collection
- 1968 *American Abstract Artists*, Riverside Museum, New York
- 1965 *Recent Acquisitions*, Larry Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield, Connecticut
- 1964 *American Landscapes*, Byron Gallery, New York
- 1963 *Twelve Small Paintings*, Kornblee Gallery, New York
- 1962 *Out of Doors*, Kornblee Gallery, New York
- 1962 *Young Artists of Prom/se*, Mortimer Brandt Gallery, New York

Public Collections

Academy for Educational Development, Washington, D.C.
Columbus Museum of Fine Art, Columbus, Ohio
Denver Museum of Art, Denver, Colorado
Fort Wright College, Spokane, Washington
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, American Abstract Artists Portfolio, New York
Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, Indiana
Larry Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield, Connecticut
Michener Collection, University of Texas, Austin, Texas
MOMA – AAA Print Portfolio
New York Public Library, Print Collection, New York
Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana
St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Mary's City, Maryland
Santa Fe Museum, Santa Fe, NM
State Museum of New Jersey, Trenton, New Jersey
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts
Wadsworth Athenaeum, Lewitt Drawing Collection, Hartford, Connecticut
Whitney Museum, New York

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- Young, Mahonri Sharp and Schooled/, Barbara. *Beaux Arts 25th Anniversary Exhibition*. Columbus, Ohio: The Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, 1971.

Education

- 1948 B.A., Philosophy, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio
1948-49 Cooper Union, New York

Biography

- 1925 Born in Cleveland, Ohio, the youngest of three children. Father, a journalist; mother, a teacher. Early memories of sunsets over Lake Erie. Spends summers with grandparents at Turkeyfoot Lake, near Akron, Ohio, until 1943.
- 1931 Depression Era begins. Family relocates to New Jersey. Both parents are working, but facing tough times.
- 1935 Father separates from family.
- 1938 Spends half a year in small manufacturing town of Massillon, Ohio with grandparents.
- 1939 Father dies. Moves to New Brunswick, New Jersey.
- 1942 Begins to paint.
- 1944 Graduates first in class from Rutgers Preparatory School. Enters Oberlin College. Studies Art History, German, Psychology. Paints throughout college. Discovers and independently reads Charles Sanders Peirce.
- 1947 Summer: studies with Dong Kingman and Harry Carnahan at Columbia University.
- 1948 Graduates from Oberlin as a Philosophy major. Summer: studies with Yasuo Kuniyoshi at Woodstock. Moves to New York City. Enters Cooper Union, stays until 1949.
- 1949 Meets Nahum Tschachbasov at Woodstock. Studies until 1953. Shares a studio in New York City. Concentrates on painting.
- 1951 Moves to his own studio at 93 Avenue B, remains there until 1965.
- 1953 Marries Eileen Gorman. Continues etching and printmaking with Tschachbasov.
- 1958 Begins Stipple Painting series.
- 1959 Travels for six months through Italy, France, and England with Eileen. His interest shifts from post-cubist fragmentation; paints small works. Begins work on Vertical Board series.
- 1960 Works on "Vertically Split Discs" series, which evolves into Planetary Images and Small Landscapes.
- 1962 First group show: *Young Artists of Promise* at Mortimer Brandt Gallery, New York. Begins to work in watercolor.
- 1963 First solo show at Aegis Gallery, New York. Begins "Graded Value" series.
- 1964 Awarded summer Fellowship at Yaddo. Major breakthrough to large-scale work.
- 1965 Repeats fellowship at Yaddo. Teaches at Purdue University. First show at A.M. Sachs, New York. Begins Meander series.
- 1965 Commissioned by MOMA for 3-D Card. Begins teaching at Hunter College, where he remains until 1995. Works on 3-D Constructed Painting series.
- 1967 Joins American Abstract Artists. Becomes friendly with the Park Place group. Begins Meander series and large triptych works (stimulated by work of Sol LeWitt since the early sixties).
- 1968 His son Neill is born. Moves to new loft at 64 Grand Street.
- 1969 Concentration shifts to "Pale Grids" and, later, "Pale Fields" series. Use of raw or slightly stained, large-scale canvases predominate.
- 1971 Buys a farmhouse in Robbinston, Maine. During summers there he creates works on paper.
- 1974 Begins "Bright Horizontals Into Pale Fields" series.
- 1975 Expands ongoing series to "Solid Colors Against Pale Fields."
- 1984 Begins to join older and newer works in diptych arrangement.
- 1987 September 14: Neill, a freshman at Bard College, dies alone in his dormitory room of an unattended intestinal infection.
- 1995 Retires from teaching at Hunter College as Full Professor. Lives and works in Orient, Long Island.