

MICHAEL RICH

The painter and printmaker, Michael Rich has for decades, explored the landscapes of his experience in intensely colored, gestural abstractions; lively, inventive drawings and unique monoprints. In large-scale, works in oil, Rich trowels, scrapes and brushes together marks of color to suggest deep and illuminated spaces reminiscent of the sky and sea of his island home, Nantucket. The critic Donald Kuspit once wrote: "For Rich sensitivity to paint is inseparable from sensitivity to landscape, and the fluid density of landscape is best conveyed by the fluid density of paint".

A Professor of Art, Rich approaches the landscape as a wellspring for spiritual investigation and meditation. Observations from his garden or travels through Italy, often become invented forms recalling the automatic drawing that is the basis of much of his painting. In recent years, the graphic mediums of intaglio and woodcut have offered a bridge between linear drawing and color-based painting; between abstraction and representation.

Recent featured museum exhibitions include The Bristol Art Museum (2014), The Newport Art Museum (2008) and the Walton Arts Center, Fayetteville Arkansas (2007). Rich is the recipient of the Basil H. Alkazzi Award (USA) and was included in Sotheby's auction series, International Young Art. His work is featured in private and public collections nationally including, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, NY; Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, LA and the Springfield Museum of Art, Springfield, OH.

Michael Rich lives and works in Providence, RI and Nantucket MA and is a Professor of Art at Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island.

EDUCATION

- 1997 Masters of Fine Arts, Painting, Savannah College of Art & Design
- 1995 University of Georgia Studies Abroad Program, Cortona, Italy
- 1991 Bachelors of Fine Arts, Illustration, Rhode Island School of Design

TEACHING

- 2000-2016 Professor of Art: Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI
- 1997-2000 Professor of Painting: Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, GA

MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 Bristol Art Museum, Bristol, RI
- 2008 *To the Sea*, Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI
- 2007 *Nantucket Walkabouts*, Walton Arts Center, Fayetteville, AR

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *All the Dawns of Summer*, Old Spouter Gallery, Nantucket, MA
2016 *New and Large Scale Paintings*, Atrium Gallery, One Financial Plaza, Providence, RI
2015 *Large Scale*, Candita Clayton Gallery, Pawtucket, RI
2015 *One Not Like the Other*, Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI
2015 *To Paint a Flower*, Old Spouter Gallery
2014 *A Season's Journey, Not Far From Home*, Old Spouter Gallery
2013 *The Garden*, Old Spouter Gallery
2012 *Traveler*, Chace-Randall Gallery, Andes, NY
2012 *Restoration*, Old Spouter Gallery
2011 *Before Summer Rain*, Old Spouter Gallery
2010 *The Sea and Tulips*, Old Spouter Gallery
2010 *Intimate Landscapes*, Patricia Carega Gallery, Center Sandwich, NH
2010 *Sea, Sky and Land: Abstractions of Nantucket*, ARC Fine Art, Fairfield, CT
2009 *Taking Refuge*, Old Spouter Gallery
2008 *New Paintings*, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY
2007 *New Paintings*, Adler & Co. Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2007 *New Paintings*, Old Spouter Gallery
2007 *New Paintings*, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2006 *A Season by the Sea*, Old Spouter Gallery
2006 *New Paintings*, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY
2005 *Sea, Sky and Stone*, Old Spouter Gallery
2004 *Meditations*, Old Spouter Gallery
2002 *New Paintings*, South Wharf Gallery, Nantucket, MA
2000 *Cool Waters*, South Wharf Gallery
1997 *Compositions*, South Wharf Gallery
1997 *Elements of Place*, Gallerie Lumière
1996 *My Places*, South Wharf Gallery
1995 *The X Gallery*, Nantucket, MA
1995 *The Artists Association of Nantucket*, Nantucket, MA
1991 *Sun Gallery*

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

The Artists Association of Nantucket, Permanent Collection
The Bronx Museum of the Arts
The Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, LA
The Savannah College of Art and Design Permanent Collection
Springfield Museum of Art, Springfield, OH
Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2015 Artist's Association of Nantucket, Award for Painting
2015 Edward Bannister Award, Providence Art Club
1996 The Basil H. Alkazzi Award (USA)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Singular Repetitions*, UMASS Dartmouth, New Bedford, MA
2016 Trevisan International Art, Salon Prado, Ateneo de Madrid, Madrid, Spain
2015 *EnergyColorLight: Theresa Girard, Michael Rich and Roberta Segal*, Providence Art Club
2013 *Nantucket Moderns, Contemporary Art 1945-2013*, Artist's Association of Nantucket
2013 *Small Treasures*, Galeria de Marchi, Bologna, Italy (curated by Paola Trevisan) 2013
No Boundaries: Three Views of Contemporary Art • Birnam Wood Gallery, New York, NY
2011 *Biennale*, Chianciano Art Museum, Chianciano, Italy
2010 Adler & Co. at the LA Art Show
2009 *Imaginary Journeys*, Trevisan Art International, Ferrara, Italy
Adler & Co, San Francisco • Obsessions
2004 *New Works by Four Painters*, Virginia Lynch Gallery, Tiverton, RI
2003 *Michael Rich Yasuhide Kagii, New Paintings*, Caelum Gallery, New York, NY
2002 *Summer Selections*, Denise Bibro Fine Art, New York, NY
2000 Artlink International Young Art 2000, Sotheby's: Chicago, Tel Aviv, Vienna
1997 *The Abstract Show*, Sylvia Schmidt Gallery, New Orleans LA
An Exhibition of Drawings, Main Street Gallery, Nantucket, MA
Jewels of the South, Sarah Bain Gallery, Fullerton, CA

PUBLICATIONS

- Paradis, Justine; "Abstract Artist Shifts Attention to the Natural World," *Nantucket Inquirer and Mirror*, August 1, 2013
Wolberg Weiss, Marion; "Cover Artist: Michael Rich," (interview) *Dan's Papers*, April 19, 2013
Norris, Doug; "Michael Rich: To The Sea," (review) *Art New England*, August / September 2008
Kuspit, Donald; "Abstraction and Nature in the Paintings of Michael Rich" (Exhibition Catalog Essay), Basil Alkazzi Publications, 2005
Neville, Beth; "New Work by Four Painters" (review), Virginia Lynch Gallery, *Art New England*, December 2004 / January 2005
Sherry, Reema; "Creative Juices: Michael Rich, Painter," *N Magazine*, August 2004
Craven, Robert; "Michael Rich: Work on Paper" (review), *Art New England*, December 2003 / January 2004