

PAUL WONNER

BORN:

1920 Tucson, AZ

DIED: 2008

EDUCATION:

1955 M.L.S., (library science), University of California, Berkeley

1953 M.A., University of California, Berkeley

1952 B.A., University of California, Berkeley

1941 B.A., California College of Arts and Crafts

ONE PERSON EXHIBITIONS:

2024 Breaking the Rules, (two-person retrospective exhibition with William Theophilus Brown), Dixon Gallery Museum, Memphis, TN (catalog)

2023 Breaking the Rules, (two-person retrospective exhibition with William Theophilus Brown), Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA (catalog)

2004 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2000 Interiors, The Gallery on the Hudson, Irvington, NY

1999 The Painted Canvas, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
DC Moore Gallery, New York, NY

1998 Paul Wonner: Still Lives, Art Institute of Southern California Laguna Beach, CA

1996 Paul Wonner: Small Format Paintings and Watercolors – 1958-1965, John Berggruen Gallery San Francisco, CA

1994 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA

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- 1992 Coe Kerr Gallery, New York, NY
- 1991 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1990 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1988 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1987 Hirschl and Adler Modern New York, NY
John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1985 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1983 Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York, NY
- 1981 The Art Museum Galleries, California State University, Long Beach, CA
John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Paul Wonner: Abstract Realist, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1979 James Corcoran Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1978 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1974 Charles Campbell Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1973 Jodi Scully Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1972 Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
Fresno State University, (with William Theophilus Brown) Fresno, CA
Charles Campbell Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1971 Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Poindexter Gallery, New York, NY
- 1968 Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

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- 1967 Landau-Alan Gallery, New York, NY
- 1958–1965 John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Marion Koogler McNay Art Institute, San Antonio, CA
Waddington Galleries, London, UK
- 1964 Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Poindexter Gallery, New York, NY
Esther Bear Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA
- 1963 Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1962 Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Poindexter Gallery, New York, NY
- 1960 Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
- 1959 Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1956 San Francisco Art Association Gallery, California School of Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 1999 Views from the Bay Area: The Shift Towards Figuration, Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington Seattle, WA
- 1997 Important Bay Area Paintings, 1954-1960, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1995 A Bay Area Connection: Works from the Anderson Collection, 1954-1984, Triton Museum of Art, Santa Clara, CA
- 1993 Still Life, 1963-1993, Gerald Peters Gallery Santa Fe, NM

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| 1991 | American Realism and Figurative Art, 1952-1990, Miyagi Museum, Sendai, Japan |
| 1982 | Realism and Realities: The Other Side of American painting, 1940-1960, Rutgers University Art Gallery, New Brunswick, NJ |
| 1981–1982 | Contemporary American Realism since 1960, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA |
| 1976–1977 | Painting and Sculpture in California: The Modern Era, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and National Collection of Fine Arts, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC |
| 1975 | The Art Museum Galleries, California State University, Long Beach, CA |
| 1964 | Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, PA |
| 1962–1963 | Recent Paintings USA: The Figure, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY |
| 1962 | California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA |
| 1957–1958 | Contemporary Bay Area Figurative Painting, Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, CA |
| 1956 | M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, CA |
| 1955 | III Bienal, Museu de Arte Moderna, Sao Paulo, Brazil |
| 1954 | Younger American Painters, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY |

PUBLICATIONS:

"Breaking the Rules: Paul Wonner and Theophilus Brown", Fine Art Today Newsletter, *Fine Art Connoisseur*, 2023.

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Brokl, Robert, "Breaking the Rules: Paul Wonner and William Theophilus Brown", *Square Cylinder*, May 30, 2023.

Gonzalez, Matt, "Paul Wonner and the 'Femme au Coq' Paintings of the 1950s", *The Matt Gonzalez Reader*, Nov 5, 2016.

Wei, Lilly, "Making the Rules", *Art and Antiques*, April 2023.

Wilson, Emily, "'Breaking the Rules'" The Artists Who Abandoned Abstraction and Helped Reinvent the Still Life", *California*, Cal Alumni Association, June 28, 2023.

Wilson, Emily, "Two Lovers Who Bloomed in the Bay Area Figurative Movement Come Together Again", *48 Hills*, Mar 10, 2025.

TEACHING:

1960s University of California, Santa Barbara

1960s Otis Art Institute

IMPORTANT COLLECTIONS:

Cantor Arts Center, Stanford University, CA

Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA

Davis Art Center, Davis, CA

Guggenheim Museum, New York City

Honolulu Museum of Art

Hunter Museum of American Art, Chattanooga, TN

Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO

Kresge Art Museum

Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Marion Koogler McNay Art Museum

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McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, TX

Museum of Modern Art, New York City

Museum of Northern California Art

Oakland Museum of California

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE

Smithsonian American Art Museum