

ELMER BISCHOFF

BORN:

Berkeley, California, 1916.

DIED:

Berkeley, California, 1991.

EDUCATION:

University of California, Berkeley, M. A. 1939.

University of California, Berkeley, B. A. 1938.

AWARDS/GRANTS:

Honorary Doctor of Fine Art degree from California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, 1989.

Honorary Doctor of Fine Art degree from San Francisco Art Institute, 1985.

Berkeley Citation for distinguished teaching career, 1985.

Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from the Otis Art Institute of Parsons School of Design, 1983.

Distinguished Teaching Award from the College Art Association, 1983.

Norman Wait Harris Bronze Metal and Prize, 1964.

National Institute of Arts and Letters Grant, 1963.

Ford Foundation Grant, 1959.

First Prize at Richmond Art Center Annual Exhibition, 1955.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

"Figurative Paintings and Drawings," Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco, CA, 2023.

"Elmer Bischoff/Tom Burckhardt: A Dialogue," George Adams Gallery, New York, 2022.

"Elmer Bischoff: A Survey of Paintings and Drawings, 1937-1972," Marin Museum of Contemporary Art, Marin, CA, 2020.

"Elmer Bischoff: Studies from Life," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2019.

"A New Gesture: Elmer Bischoff, 1946-50," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2018.

"Elmer Bischoff: Working From Life," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2015.

"Elmer Bischoff: Figurative Paintings," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2015.

"Figurative Paintings, 1953-1966," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2010.

"Figurative Drawings from the 1960s," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2009.

"Elmer Bischoff: Abstract Paintings, 1948 – 1952," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2008.

"Elmer Bischoff: The Late Abstractions," John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 2005.

"Grand Lyricist: The Art of Elmer Bischoff," The Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA; Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA; Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL, 2002.*

"The Drawings of Elmer Bischoff: from the Collections of Family and Friends," Wiegand Gallery, College of Notre Dame, Belmont, CA, 1993.*

"On Painting: The Work of Elmer Bischoff and Joan Brown." Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley, CA, 1992.*

"Drawings for a Dialogue: Elmer Bischoff." The Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA, 1991.

"Elmer Bischoff: Paintings," Salander-O'Reilly Gallery, New York, NY, 1991.

"Elmer Bischoff: Paintings from the Figurative Period, 1954-1970," John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1990.*

John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1989.

John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1988.

Hirschl and Adler Modern Gallery, New York, NY, 1985.*

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“Elmer Bischoff, 1947-1985,” San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, 1985.*
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, 1984.
John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1983.
“MATRIX/Berkeley 55: Elmer Bischoff,” University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley, CA, 1982.*
Grossmont College Gallery, El Cajon, CA, 1981.
E. B. Crocker Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA, 1981.
Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX, 1980.
Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 1980.*
John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1979.
San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA, 1979.
“Elmer Bischoff: Figurative Paintings, 1957-1972,” Oakland Museum of Art, Oakland, CA, 1975.*
“Elmer Bischoff,” San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA, 1975.*
University Art Museum, Berkeley, CA, 1975.
Charles Campbell Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1975.
Art Academy of Cincinnati, OH, 1975.
Galerie Smith-Andersen, Palo Alto, CA, 1972.
San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1971.
Richmond Art Center, Richmond, VA, 1969.
Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 1968.
“Paintings by Elmer Bischoff,” Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, MA, 1964.*
E. B. Crocker Art Gallery, Sacramento, CA, 1964.
M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, California, 1961.*
Staempfli Gallery, New York, New York, 1960,* 1962,* 1964,* 1969, 1970.*
“Figurative Drawings,” CSFA, San Francisco, CA, 1956.*
Paul Kantor Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 1955.
King Ubu Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1953.
California Place of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA, 1947.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

“Dancing with Charlie: Bay Area Art from the Campbell Collection,” Sonoma Valley Museum of Art, Sonoma, CA, 2022.
“The Incorrect Museum: Vignettes from the di Rosa Collection,” di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art, Napa, CA, 2021.
“David Park and His Circle: The Drawing Sessions,” San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, 2020-21.
“Happy Birthday,” b. sakata garo gallery, Sacramento, CA, 2020.
“Landscape Without Boundaries,” Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, Davis, CA, 2019.
“Wayne Thiebaud: Artist’s Choice,” San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, 2018-19.
“30 Years: Frumkin/Adams – George Adams Gallery,” George Adams Gallery, NY, 2018.
“A Century of American Art: 1866-1966,” Menconi & Schoelkopf, New York, NY, 2018.
“Decades In The Making,” Hackett Mill, San Francisco, CA, 2017-18.
“As Am I: Painting the Figure in Post-War San Francisco,” The New York Studio School, New York, NY, 2016.
“Closely Considered: Diebenkorn in Berkeley” Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA, 2014.
“Fertile Ground: Art and Community in California” Oakland Museum of Art (in conjunction with SFMOMA), Oakland, CA, 2014-15.
“Local Color,” San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA, 2012.
“Contemporary Painting, 1960 to the Present: Selections from the Collection,” SFMOMA, San Francisco, CA, 2012.
“New Art at UD,” Old College Gallery, University of Delaware, Newark, DE, 2012.

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- "Beyond Tradition: Art Legacies at the Richmond Art Center," Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA, 2011.
- "Bella Pacifica: Bay Area Abstraction 1946-1953," Nyehaus, New York, NY, 2011.
- "Summer Group Show: New and Classic," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2010.
- "Different Strokes: 20th Century Drawing," George Adams Gallery, New York, NY, 2010.
- "Bay Area to New York," Allan Stone Gallery, New York, NY, 2009.
- "Abstract and Figurative: Highlights of Bay Area Painting," John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 2009.
- "The Lighter Side of Bay Area Figurative," Kemper Museum of Art, Kansas City, MS, 2000.*
- "Important Bay Area Paintings, 1954-1960," John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1996.*
- "Bay Area Figurative Art, 1950-1965," San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, 1990.*
- "Painting from the San Francisco Bay Area," North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC, 1988.*
Gallery Paule Anglim, San Francisco, CA, 1988.
John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1988.
- "The Triumph of the Figure in the Bay Area, 1950-1968," 871 Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA, 1987.
- "Thirty-ninth Purchase Exhibition," Hassam and Speicher Fund, American Academy of Institute for Arts and Letters, New York, NY, 1987.
- "Ten Abstract Painters," John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1987.
- "Art in the San Francisco Bay Area, 1945-1980," Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA, 1985.
- "The Figurative Mode: Bay Area Painting 1959-1966," Grey Art Gallery and Study Center, New York University, New York, NY, 1984.*
- "Directions in Bay Area Painting: A Survey of Three Decades, 1940's-1960's," Richard L. Nelson Gallery, University of California, Davis, CA, 1983.*
- "Realism and Realities: The Other Side of American Painting, 1940-1960," Jane Vorhees Zimmerli Art Gallery, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 1981.
- "California: State of Landscape 1872-1981," Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA, 1981.
- "American Painting of the 1970s," Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo, NY, 1978.
- "The Modern Era: Bay Area Update," Quay Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1977.
- "Paintings and Sculpture in California: The Modern Era," San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco and Meredith Long Gallery, Houston, TX, 1976.
Boston University Art Gallery, Boston, MA, 1974.
- "Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture- 1974," Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL, 1974.
- "A Period of Exploration: San Francisco, 1945-1950," Oakland Museum of Art, Oakland, CA, 1973.*
- "Drawing from Life and Studio Set-ups," Oakland Museum of Art, Oakland, CA, 1973.
- "The MacAgy Years, 1945-1950." Oakland Museum of Art, Oakland, CA, 1973.
Charles Campbell Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1973
- "California Works on Paper: 1950-1971," University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley, CA, 1972.
- "Looking West 1970," Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE, 1970.
- "Expo '70," Osaka, Japan, 1970.
- "American Painting 1970," Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA, 1970.
- "The American Sense of Reality," Philbrook Art Center, Tulsa, OK, 1969.
- "1961-Growth-1965." San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1968
- "Selection of Paintings from James A. Michner Foundation Collection," Brooks Memorial Art Gallery, Memphis, TN, 1968.
- "Figurative Four: Elmer Bischoff, Joan Brown, David Park, and Roland Peterson," Heritage Gallery and Adele Bednarz Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 1968.*
- "International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture," Pittsburgh, PA, 1967.
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA, 1966.
Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 1966.
- "1966 Midyear Exhibition," Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH, 1966.
- "Three California Painters: Elmer Bischoff, Joan Brown, David Park," Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY, 1965.

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- “Selections from the Work of California Artists,” Witte Memorial Museum, San Antonio, Texas, 1965.*
- “Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture,” Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL, 1965.*
- “Twenty-ninth Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary Painting,” Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington DC, 1965.*
- “American Exhibition of American Painters,” Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, 1965.
- “A Decade of New Talent,” (travelling exhibition) American Federation of the Arts, New York, NY, 1964-65.
- “Man: Glory, Jest, and Riddle – A Survey of the Human Form through the Ages,” M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, CA; California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA; San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1964-65.*
- “The 1964 Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture,” Museum of Art, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, 1964-65.*
- “Four California Painters,” Obelisk Gallery, New York, NY, 1964.
- “Art Gallery’64,” Hall of Education, World’s Fair, New York, NY, 1964.
- “Current Painting and Sculpture in the Bay Area,” Stanford University Museum of Art, Stanford, CA, 1964.*
- “Between the Fairs: Twenty-Five Years of American Art, 1939-1963,” Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, 1964.*
- “Seven California Painters,” Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY, 1964.*
- Second Biennial of American Art, Cordoba, Argentina, 1964.
- “54-64: Painting and Sculpture of a Decade,” organized by the Gulbekian Foundation, The Tate Gallery, London, England, 1964.*
- “Sixty-Seventh Annual American Exhibition: Directions in Contemporary Painting and Sculpture,” The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 1964.*
- “Landscape in Recent American Painting,” The Art Center, New School for Social Research, New York, NY, 1963.
- “Drawings by Bischoff, Diebenkorn, Lobdell,” The Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA, 1963.
- “Annual Exhibition 1963: Contemporary American Painting,” Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY 1963.*
- “Eighty-Second Annual Exhibition of the San Francisco Art Institute,” San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1963.*
- “Twenty-Eighth Biennial Exhibition,” The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washinton D.C., 1962.
- “Art: USA: Now,” Touring Exhibition of the Johnson and Son, Inc Collection, 1963.
- “Recent Painting USA: The Figure,” The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, Columbus, OH; Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, CO; Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD; City Art Museum of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN, 1962-63.*
- “Fourth Winter Invitational,” California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA, 1962-63.*
- “Ford Foundation Grant Winners’ Exhibition,” Silvermine Guild of Artists, New Canaan, CT, 1962.
- “The Artists’ Environment: West Coast,” Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, TX, 1962.*
- “Some Points of View ’62: San Francisco Bay Area Painting and Sculpture,” Stanford University Art Gallery, Stanford, CA, 1962.*
- “Fifty California Artists,” San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA, 1962.*
- “Contemporary American Painting: Selections from the Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Roy R. Neuberger,” The University of Michigan Art Museum, Ann Arbor, MI, 1962.*
- “Recent Acquisitions,” Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY, 1962.*
- “One Hundred Fifty-Seventh Annual Exhibition of American Painting and Sculpture,” Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA, 1962.*
- “Annual Exhibition 1961: Contemporary American Painting,” Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, 1961.*
- “Painting and Sculpture from All Over,” Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 1961.

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"Painting from the Pacific: Japan, America, Australia, New Zealand," Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand, 1961.*

"Faculty Exhibition," San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA, 1961.

"Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture," Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL, 1961.*

"Second Winter Invitational," California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA, 1961.

"The Figure in Contemporary American Painting," (travelling exhibition) American Federation of the Arts, New York, NY, 1960.

"Elmer Bischoff, Richard Diebenkorn, David Park," Staempfli Gallery, New York, NY, 1960.

"Winter Invitational Exhibition," California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA, 1960.*

"1959 Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting," Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, 1960.*

"Sixty-Third American Exhibition: Paintings, Sculpture," The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 1959.*

"San Francisco Art Association Artist Members' Exhibition," M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, CA, 1959.*

"Contemporary Painting and Sculpture," Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL, 1959.*

"New Directions in Painting," Florida State University Gallery, Tallahassee, FL; John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL; Norton Gallery and School of Art, West Palm Beach, FL, 1959.*

"California Painters' Exhibition," Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, CA 1957, 58, 59.*

"Biennial," University of Illinois, Chicago, IL; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, 1958.

"New Talent, USA, '58," (travelling) American Federation of Arts, New York, NY, 1958.*

"Eighth Annual Oil and Sculpture Exhibition," Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA, 1958.*

"Artist Members' Exhibition," California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA, 1958.*

"Seventh Annual Oil and Sculpture Exhibition," Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA, 1957.*

"Contemporary Bay Area Figurative Painting," Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, CA; Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, CA; Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, OH, 1957.*

"Directions: Bay Area Painting, 1957," Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA, 1957.*

"American Paintings: 1945 to 1957," The Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, MN, 1957.*

"Painting and Sculpture Now," San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1957.

"California Painters' Exhibition," Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, CA, 1957.*

"California School- Yes or No?" Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, CA, 1956.

"Sixth Annual Oil and Sculpture Exhibition," Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA, 1956.*

Richmond Art Center Annual Exhibition, Richmond, VA, 1955.*

"Contemporary Painting in the United States," Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA, 1951.

"Large Scale Drawings by Modern Artists," California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA, 1950.*

San Francisco Art Association Annual, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1950,* 51,* 53,* 56,* 57,* 58,* 59.*

"Fifteen Paintings by Nine Artists in San Francisco," Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA, 1950.*

"New Bay Region Artists," San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1949.

Abstract Expressionism, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1948.

"California School of Fine Arts Faculty Exhibition," California Palace of the Legion on Honor, San Francisco, CA, 1946.*

"Annual Exhibition: Oil, Tempera, and Sculpture," San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, 1945, 46, 48.*

San Francisco Art Association Annual, San Francisco, CA, 1941.*

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS:

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY

Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas at Austin, TX

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Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford University, Stanford, CA
Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA
di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art, Napa, CA
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC
Honolulu Museum of Art, Honolulu, HI
JP Morgan Chase Bank Collection, New York, NY
Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, University of California, Davis, CA
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
Neuberger Museum, Purchase College, State University of New York, Purchase, NY
The New School, New York, NY
The Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Oklahoma City, OK
Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA
Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC
Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY
Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT
Weatherspoon Art Gallery, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, NC
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
University of Massachusetts Art Gallery, Amherst, MA
University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, WI
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT

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