

TWO PALMS

MICKALENE THOMAS

Born in 1971, Camden, New Jersey
Works and lives in Brooklyn, New York

EDUCATION

2002 MFA in Painting, Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT
2000 BFA in Painting, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
1998 Southern Cross University, Lismore Australia

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Mickalene Thomas: All About Love*, Les Abattoirs, Toulouse, France
Mickalene Thomas: All About Love, Hayward Gallery, London, UK
2024 *Mickalene Thomas: All About Love*, The Broad, Los Angeles, CA
Mickalene Thomas: All About Love, The Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia, PA
2023 *je t'adore*, Yancey Richardson Gallery, New York, NY
2022 *Mickalene Thomas*, Musée de l'Orangerie, Paris, France
2021 *Beyond the Pleasure Principal*, Levy Gorvy, Hong Kong, London, New York and Paris, and Nathalie Obadia, Paris
2019 *Mickalene Thomas: A Moment's Pleasure*, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
Mickalene Thomas: Better Nights, The Bass Museum, Miami, FL
Mickalene Thomas: Femmes Noires, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA
Mickalene Thomas: Jet: beautés du mois, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, France
2018 *Mickalene Thomas: Femmes Noires*, AGO, Toronto, Canada
Mickalene Thomas: I Can't See You Without Me, Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH
Muse: Mickalene Thomas Photographs and Tête-à-Tête, Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont, CA
Muse: Mickalene Thomas, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA
Muse: Mickalene Thomas, The Dayton Art Institute, OH*
Do I Look Like a Lady?, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC
2017 *Waiting on a Prime-Time Star*, Moody Center for the Arts, Houston, TX
Waiting on a Prime-Time Star, Newcomb Art Museum, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
Muse: Mickalene Thomas, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD
Muse: Mickalene Thomas, Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, GA
Mickalene Thomas: the desire of the other, Lehmann Maupin, NY
Mickalene Thomas: Mentors, Muses, and Celebrities, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
Unlimited, Art Basel, Basel, Switzerland
Muse: Mickalene Thomas, MOCA Virginia, Virginia Beach, VA
2016 *tête-à-tête*, David Castillo Gallery, Miami, FL
Muse: Mickalene Thomas, Aperture Foundation, New York
Mickalene Thomas: Do I Look Like a Lady?, MoCA Grand, Los Angeles, CA
Mickalene Thomas: MUSE, American University, Washington, D.C.
Mickalene Thomas: the desire of the other, Lehmann Maupin, Hong Kong, China
Mickalene Thomas: : Mentors, Muses and Celebrities, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO
2015 *Mickalene Thomas: TBD*, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Brussels, Belgium
Mickalene Thomas: MUSE, Rivington Place, London
2014 *I Was Born To Do Great Things*, Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago, IL

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- Femme au divan I*, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, France
Femme au divan II, l'Ecole des Beaux Art, Monaco
Tête de Femme, Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York, NY
Mickalene Thomas: Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman, George Eastman House, Rochester, NY
- 2012 *How to Organize a Room Around A Striking Piece of Art*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY
Mickalene Thomas, The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
Origin of the Universe, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Santa Monica, CA; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
- 2011 *More Than Everything*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY
Mickalene Thomas – Mama Bush: One of a Kind Two, Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan
- 2010 *Put A Little Sugar In My Bowl*, Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, CA
- 2009 *Mickalene Thomas*, Alumni Achievement Award Exhibition, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
Something You Can Feel, La Conservera Contemporary Art Space, Ceuti, Spain
She's Come UnDone!, Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York
- 2008 *Girlfriends, Lovers, Still Lives and Landscape*, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL *What's Love Got To Do With It?*, Bloom Projects, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, CA
- 2007 *An Imitation of Love, Brawlin Spitfire Two*, Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, CA 2006
Something About You., Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL
Brawlin Spitfire, Special Project, Dust Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 *Celebrating 30 Years*, Yancey Richardson Gallery, New York, NY
A field of bloom and hum, Tang Museum, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 2024 *Edges of Ailey*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Pop Forever, Tom Wesselmann &..., Foundation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France
- 2023 *Singular Views: 25 Artists*, Rubell Museum, Washington, DC
Intimate Strangers, Yancey Richardson Gallery, New York, NY
Multiplicity: Blackness in Contemporary American Collage, Frist Art Museum, Nashville, TN
- 2019 Newark Museum, Newark, NJ
IncarNations, African Art as Philosophy, BOZAR, Brussels, Belgium
Your mirror: Portraits from the ICP, International Center of Photography Collection, New York, NY
She Persists: A Century of Women Artists in New York City, Gracie Mansion, New York, NY
Posing Modernity: The Black Model from Manet to Matisse, Musee D'Orsay, Paris, France; Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston South Carolina; Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI; Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA; Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA; Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, UT
Selections from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Museum of African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA
- 2018 *In Context / this past was waiting for me*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
Half the Picture: A Feminist Look at the Collection, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
Kinship, Jessica Silverman, San Francisco, CA
Interventions, Yancey Richardson Gallery, New York, NY
Rise Up! Social Justice in Art from the Collection of J. Michael Bewley, San José Museum of Art, San José, CA
Cast of Characters, BGSQD, New York, NY
Talisman in the Age of Difference, Stephen Friedman Gallery, New York, NY
Multiply, Identify, Her, International Center of Photography, New York, NY
Everyday Muse, LTD Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
Black Blooded, The New Gallery of Modern Art, Charlotte, NC
Music for the Eyes (Musica Per Gli Occhi), University of Siena, Siena, Italy

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- I continue to shape*, University of Toronto Art Centre, Toronto, ON
Motherhood, Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects, New York, NY
Witness: Themes of Social Justice in Contemporary Printmaking and Photography from the Collections, Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Salem, OR
Shifting Gaze: A Reconstruction of the Black & Hispanic Body in Contemporary Art, The Mennello Museum of American Art, Orlando, FL
Boss Lady, Girls' Club, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Posing Modernity: The Black Model from Manet to Matisse, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, New York, NY
Multiply, Identify, Her, International Center of Photography, New York, NY
You Are Here, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC
Reclamation! Pan-African Works from the Beth DeWoody Collection, Taubman Museum of Art, Roanoke, VA
Dangerous Women, Patricia & Philip Frost Art Museum, Florida International University, Miami, FL
Muse: Mickalene Thomas Photographs and Tête-à-Tête, Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont, CA
Muse: Mickalene Thomas, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA
Muse: Mickalene Thomas, The Dayton Art Institute, OH*
Figuring History: Robert Colescott, Kerry James Marshall, Mickalene Thomas, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
New Feelings, Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, OR
Portraits of Who We Are, The David C. Driskell Center, College Park, MD
2017 *Historias da Sexualidade*, Museu de Arte de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
2017 Canadian Biennial, National Gallery of Canada, Ontario, Canada
About Face, Southampton Arts Center, Southampton, NY
Trigger: Gender as a Tool and a Weapon, New Museum of Contemporary Art, NY
Created by Light, Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, NC
Polaroids: The Disappearing, Nathalie Gallery, New York, NY
Repeat Pressure Until, Angela Meleca Gallery, Columbus, OH
Sonic Rebellion: Music As Resistance, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit, MI
Muse: Mickalene Thomas Photographs and Tête-à-Tête, Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, GA
Face to Face: Los Angeles Collects Portraiture, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, California
The Coffins of Paa Joe and the Pursuit of Happiness, The School, Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, NY
Complex Uncertainties: Artists in Postwar America, Jepson Center, Telfair Museum, Savannah, GA
Gray Matters, Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH
THE CARPET KARTELL, Tanja Grunert Gallery, New York, NY
Woman With a Camera, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL
Part I: Figuration, University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, MI
Third Space / Shifting Conversations About Contemporary Art, Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, AL
Sharp Tongued Figuration, Stedman Gallery, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Constructing Identity: Petrucci Family Foundation Collection of African-American Art, Portland Art Museum, Portland, ME
2016 *The Color Line*, Musée du quai Branly, Paris, France
Shifting Coordinates, 21c Museum Hotel, Cincinnati, OH
First Light: A Decade of Collecting at the ICA, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Boston MA
SHE: International Women Artists Exhibition, Long Museum, Shanghai, China
Fifty Years After: Gordon Parks, Carrie Mae Weems, Mickalene Thomas, LaToya Ruby Frazier, James Barron Art, Kent, CT
Repossession, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY

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- Modern Heroics: 75 Years of African-American Expressionism*, Newark Museum, Newark, NJ
Declaration, Robischon Gallery, Denver, CO
Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival, Toronto, ON, Canada
On Paper: Picturing Painting, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
Everybody is crazy, but me, Maison Particulière, Brussels, Belgium
In Living Color: Andy Warhol and Contemporary Printmaking from the Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation, Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL
Unsuspending Disbelief, Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
REMIX: Themes and Variations in African-American Art, Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC
30 Americans, Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH
Be My Guest: The Art of Interiors, No Longer Empty, New York, NY
A Decade of Collecting Prints, Drawings, and Photographs, Saint Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
2015 *HAUTE HIP-HOP*, projects + gallery, St. Louis, MO
30 Americans, Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI
No Man's Land: Women Artists from the Rubell Family Collection, Rubell Family Collection, Miami, FL
Self-Proliferation, Girls' Club Collection, Fort Lauderdale, FL
Pratt Institute Alumni Exhibition 2015, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
A Room of One's Own, Yancey Richardson Gallery, New York, NY
Speaking Back | Curated by Natasha Becker, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
As We See It: Selected Works from the Danny Simmons Collection, African American Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA
Future Seasons Past, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY
Piece by Piece: Building a Collection, a Selection of Works From the Collection of Christy and William C. Gautreaux, The Kemper Museum, Kansas City, MO
Us is Them, Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH
ReSignifications, curated by Awam Ampka, Florence, Italy
Eye Pop: The Celebrity Gaze, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC
Portraits and Other Likenesses from SFMOMA, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA
2014 *Fusion: Art of the 21st Century*, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA
History, Bill Hodges Gallery, New York, NY
The Pathology of Glamour, William Shearburn Gallery, St. Louis, MO
Speaking of People: Ebony, Jet and Contemporary Art, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
Post Pop: East Meets West, Saatchi Gallery, London, England
Rauschenburg: Collecting & Connecting, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC
Pop Departures, Seattle Museum of Art, Seattle, WA
Alijira at 30, Dream and Reality, New Jersey State Museum, Trenton, NJ
30 Americans, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA
Domestic Unrest, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London, England
2013 *Amor Fati*, Pioneer Works Center for Art and Innovation, Brooklyn, NY
Expanding the Field of Painting, The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
Body Language, Studio Museum Harlem, New York, NY
Desire, Yancey Richardson Gallery, New York, NY
30 Americans, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI; Frist Center for Visual Arts, Nashville, TN
2012 *Look Now: Modern and Contemporary Work from Private Collections*, Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, NJ
Posing Beauty, Everhart Museum, Scranton, PA

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- 2011 *28 Days*, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON
EAT ME!, Goodman Gallery, Woodstock, Cape Town, South Africa
Beyond Bling, Ringling Museum, Sarasota, FL
Building the Contemporary Collection: Five Years of Acquisitions, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC
Elizabeth Catlett: Call and Response, Bronx Museum, Bronx, NY
Seeing Now: Photography Since 1960, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD
The Way We Are Now: Selections from the 21c Collection, Cincinnati Museum of Art, Cincinnati, OH
- 2010 *XX-XY/Gender Representation in Art*, Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, FL
Now WHAT?, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL
ART in Embassies Exhibition, United States Mission to the United Nations, New York, NY
Global Africa Project, Museum of Art and Design, New York, NY
"Americans Now" National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC
- 2009 *Landscape Revisited*, Park Avenue Armory, New York, NY
Extended Family: Contemporary Connections, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
The Female Gaze: Women Looking At Women, Cheim and Read, New York, NY
The Glamour Project, Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York, NY
- 2008 *21: Selections of Contemporary Art from the Brooklyn Museum*, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
As Others See Us: The Contemporary Portrait, Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, Brattleboro, VT
Becoming: Photographs from the Wedge Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, MI
- 2007 *Sweet SweetBack's Baadasssss Song*, Von Lintel Gallery, New York, NY
Commemorating 30 Years 1976-2007, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2006 *The Pulse of New Brooklyn*, MoCADA Museum, Brooklyn, NY
- 2005 *Frequency*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
Greater New York 2005, P.S.1/MoMA, Long Island City, NY
African Queen, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

SELECTED SCREENINGS

- 2018 *Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman*, International Center of Photography and Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY
Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman, MoAD," Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL
- 2015 *Speaking Back, Curated by Natasha Becker*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
Portraits and Other Likenesses from SFMOMA, MoAD, San Francisco, CA
- 2014 *Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman*, Kabinet, Art Basel Miami, FL
I was born to do great things, Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL
Mickalene Thomas: Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman, George Eastman House, Rochester, NY
Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman, New Orleans Film Society, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA
Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman HBO Premiere HBO Theater, New York, NY
Atlanta Television Festival, Savannah College of Art & Design, Atlanta, GA
- 2013 *The Poetics of Unforgetting*, Hackney Picturehouse, London, UK
Happy Birthday to a Beautiful Woman, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA

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AWARDS

- 2018 ICP Spotlights Award
LGBT Pride, New York City Council Proclamation
23rd Annual Tribeca Ball Honorary Doctorate, New York Academy of Art
- 2017 6th Annual Tumblr Art Basel Brunch Honoree
The Smithsonian Hirshhorn Museum Gala Honoree
- 2016 Induction Ceremony, The National Academy of Design
- 2015 USA Francie Bishop Good & David Horvitz Fellow
MoAD: Distinguished Contemporary Artist Award, San Francisco, CA
MoMA PS1 Honoree, New York, NY
AICA-USA Award: Best Show in a Commercial Space Nationally, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL
Bomb Magazine Honor
MoCADA Artistic Advocacy Award
- 2013 Audience Award: Favorite Short, 2nd Annual Black Star Film Festival
Anonymous Was A Woman Grant
- 2012 Asher B. Duran Award, Brooklyn Museum of Art
- 2010 Timerhi Award for Leadership in the Arts
- 2009 Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant
Pratt Institute Alumni Achievement Award

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

21c Museum
The Akron Art Museum
Allentown Art Museum
The Art Institute of Chicago
Baltimore Museum of Art
Bowdoin College Museum of Art
Brooklyn Museum
Buffalo AKG Art Museum
Carnegie Museum of Art
Detroit Institute of Arts
Everson Museum of Art
George Eastman House
Girls Club
The Guggenheim Museum
Hammer Museum
Hara Museum of Contemporary Art
Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Cornell University
High Museum of Art
Honolulu Museum of Art
The International Center of Photography
Kalamazoo Institute of Arts
Leslie Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art
Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester
Milwaukee Art Museum
Minneapolis Institute of Art
Montclair Art Museum
Musée des beaux-arts de Montréal

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Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
The Museum of Modern Art
MoMA PS1
Montclair Art Museum
Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University
National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art
The Newark Museum
New York Public Library
North Carolina Museum of Art
Norton Museum of Art
NSU Art Museum
Philadelphia Academy of Fine Art
Pizzuti Collection
Portland Art Museum
The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art
The Rubell Family Collection
Saint Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
The Seattle Museum of Art
Sender Collection
Sheldon Museum of Art
The Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC
The Studio Museum of Harlem
Taschen Collection
Telfair Museums
The Mikki and Stanley Weithorn Collection
Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC
West Collection
Westmoreland Museum of Art, Greensburg, PA
Whitney Museum of American Art
Worcester Art Museum
Yale University