

Ethel Fisher

b. Galveston, Texas 1923 / d. Los Angeles, CA 2017

Education

University of Houston

Washington University, St. Louis

The University of Texas, Austin, studies with Everett Spruce (painting) and Howard Cook (fresco)

The Art Students League of New York, studies with Morris Kantor (painting), Will Barnet (printmaking)

Awards

1965 The Tiffany Award for Painting, Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation, NY

1963 The Kulicke Award, Westchester Art Association, White plains, NY

1959, 1960 The Four Arts Award, Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach, FL

1957 Harry Rich Exposition, painting award, Miami, FL

1953 Lowe Gallery, first prize in painting, Miami FL,

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2003 "Portraits," Platt Gallery, American Jewish University, Los Angeles

1986 Michael Ivey Gallery, Los Angeles

1975 Mitzi Landau Twentieth Century Art, Los Angeles

1961 Edward Dean Gallery, San Francisco

1960 Angeleski Gallery, New York

1958 The Riverside Museum, Atlanta

The Norton Gallery, West Palm Beach

The Gallery, Miami

Washington Federal Art Exhibit, Miami Beach, FL

1957 Instituto Nacional de Cultura, Palacio de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba

1954 Joe and Emily Lowe Gallery, University of Miami, Coral Gables

The Mirell Gallery, Coconut Grove, FL

Selected Group Exhibitions

2000 "Revealing and Concealing, Portraits and Identity," Skirball Museum, Los Angeles

1999 "Art Trends 1940s–1960s," Kendall Campus Art Gallery, Dade Community College, Miami, FL

1998 "Venice Art Walk," Exhibit, Venice, CA

1997 "Group Show, Paintings," Hooks Epstein Gallery, Houston, TX

1986 Michael Ivey Gallery, Los Angeles

1985 "AG Nature," Visuals for Performance Art by MAFISHCO, Dance Theater Workshop, New York

1983 "Facings," Downey Museum, Downey, CA

1979 "Portraits/79," Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles

1978 "Déjà vu," Masterpieces Updated, Downey Museum, CA

1977 "Shades of Grey," Drawing survey, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles

"Cityscapes," San Francisco Museum Association

"California Figurative Painters," Tortue Gallery, Los Angeles

1976 Video Interviews, Ron Feldman Gallery, New York

Hansen Fuller Gallery, San Francisco

"Westside Story," Tortue Gallery, Los Angeles

Broxton Gallery, Los Angeles

1975 "Current Concerns," curated by Walter Hopps, Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art

1974 "Painting, Color, Form, and Surface," Lang Gallery, Scripps College, Claremont, CA
 1973 "Women Choose Women," New York Cultural Center
 1972 "Small Images Exhibit," California State University, Los Angeles
 1971 "Figurative Show," Los Angeles County Museum (art rental)
 1968 "The 164th Annual," Pennsylvania Academy, Philadelphia
 Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles
 Waddell Gallery, New York
 1967 "The Contained Object," Collage, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
 Eugenia Butler Gallery, Los Angeles
 "Artists by Artists," Capricorn Gallery, New York
 The Silvermine Annual New England Exhibit, CT
 1965 Castagno Gallery, New York
 1961 "Cubism Now and Expressionism in the West," sponsored by the Ford Foundation at Stanford University and the De Young Museum, San Francisco
 1960 Staempfli Gallery, New York
 Survey Show, The Museum of Modern Art (art rental)
 The Boston Arts Festival
 Riverside Museum, New York
 Natalie Baskin Gallery, Coconut Grove
 1959–1960 Florida Artist Group on National Circuit
 1959 Tenth Annual Exhibition of the Florida Artist Group, Coconut Grove, FL
 "Recent Paintings," The Studio Craft Shop, Coconut Grove, 1959
 1958–1959 Florida Artist Group on National Circuit
 1958 Tenth Annual Exhibition of the Florida Artist Group, Tampa Art Institute
 The Gallery, Miami FL
 1957 Sarasota Art Association at Ringling Museum, Sarasota, FL
 1956 Lyceum Group Show
 Esposición Colectiva de pintura Norteamericana, Habana, Cuba
 1945 "Artists under 25," Jacques Seligmann Gallery, New York and Bennington College, VT
 The Philadelphia Print Club

Selected Public and Corporate Collections

Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego and La Jolla, CA
 Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, CA
 Special Collections, University of California (UCLA), Los Angeles, CA
 The Morgan Library and Museum, New York, NY
 The Museum of the City of New York, NY
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
 The Crocker Museum, Sacramento, CA
 The Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Oklahoma City, OK
 The Martha Alf Foundation, Los Angeles, CA
 The Archives of American Art, NY
 Peabody Museum, Nashville, TN
 Penticon Gallery, Penticon, BC, Canada
 Lowe Gallery, University of Miami, FL
 The Norton Gallery, West Palm Beach, FL
 The Eighties Co., Inc., Taft Entertainment (Showtime TV), Beverly Hills, CA

Williams and Ballas Law Firm, Los Angeles
The Jim Walters Collection, Miami and Atlanta
The Security Pacific Bank Collection (now Bank of America)
The First National Bank of Fort Lauderdale
The Ryder Collection
The Lennar Corporation
Richard Plummer Inc. A.I.D., Miami
Jay I. Kislak Corporation, Miami
Maurice, Inman and Fine Attorneys, Los Angeles
John Alexander, A.I.A., Santa Barbara, CA

Academic and Professional Affiliations and Activities

The San Francisco Academy of Art, Guest Lecturer
The University of Miami, Guest Lecturer
California State University at Northridge, Guest Lecturer
University of California at Los Angeles, Class visits to studio and lectures
University of Southern California, Class visits to studio, and lectures
Otis Art Institute, Class visits to studio and lectures
Brentwood Art Center, Staff Instructor, Advanced Painting, 1980–1982
Ethel Fisher Studio, private instruction
Member, Florida Arts Commission, appointed by The Hon. LeRoy Collins, Governor of Florida, 1960–61
President, Florida Chapter, Artists Equity Association, 1959

Bibliography

“Ethel Fisher,” in *L.A. Rising: SoCAL Artists Before 1980*, Betinsky and Lyn, Entry, Photos (California International Arts Foundation, 2010)
“Hometown Santa Monica, The Bay Cities Book, Cover, Article with Image (Prospect Park Books, 2007)
“At Home with Ethel Fisher,” by Nancy Smith, *Palisadian Post*, Feature Article, Photos, August 17, 2006
“Archives of American Art,” 1997
Art Week, Review, June 18, 1983
“Who’s Who in American Art” (American Federation of Art, 1959, 1982)
The Los Angeles Times, Review, April 29, 1979
Visual Dialogue, Magazine Article and Photos, Winter 1977–1978
“Ethel Fisher: Corbusier Chair in Front of Terrace, 1977,” Photo with caption, *Artweek*, Dec. 3, 1977
“Buildings Live on Canvas,” Charlene Ahern, *Palisadian Post*, Feature Article, July 15, 1976
Art Week, Review by Sandy Ballatore, April 10, 1976
“California Artists,” 30 minute Video Interview, produced by Gerry Rosen, 1975
“Buildings as Ikons,” *Art Week*, Article and Photo, March 15, 1975
L.A.I.C.A. Journal, mention in article, February 1975
“An Old House Gets Its Chance,” Dan MacMasters, *Los Angeles Times*, Article, Photos, March 3, 1974
“Expressive Drawings,” *Hidden Elements of Drawing*, J. Mugniani, Article, Photo (Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, 1974)
The San Francisco Examiner, Article and Photo, January 23, 1961
Pictures on Exhibit, NY, Review, February 1960
The New York Times, Review, February 20, 1960
ARTS, Reviews, February 1960–1973
“Archives of Venice Biennale,” 1960

ART News, Review, February 1960

"Our Town's New Shows," Doris Reno, Review, *The Miami Herald*, August 1958

"Gran Pintura Norteamericana," A. Martinez Bello, *Diario de La Mañana*, Preview, Habana, Cuba, Dec. 18, 1957

"Visitó el Presidente la Sala de Arquitectura en Bellas Artes," *Diario de la Marina*, News, Habana, Cuba, Dec. 10, 1957

"Vida Cultural y Artística," Rafael Marquina, Review, *La Informacion*, Dec. 5, 1957

"Cultural Activity, Mastery and Sensitivity in the work of the painter Ethel Fisher," Adele Jaume, Review, *Diario de la Mañana*, Dec. 3, 1957

"Activo el Instituto de Culture," *El Crisol*, Preview, Habana, Cuba, Nov. 27, 1957

"Próximos Actos del Instituto de Cultura," *El Mundo*, Preview, Nov. 27, 1957

"Abre el sábado Ethel Fisher su salón de pintura," *Diario de la Marina*, Preview, Habana Cuba, Nov. 27, 1957

"Four Art Exhibits Display," Review, *The Miami Herald*, Jan. 24, 1954

Television

1987 Paintings used in Showtime Movie, "Home Fires"

1986 Paintings used in NBC-TV film, "Family Ties"

Press Quotes

"Within this graceful beauty, witness how a dark theme assumes light, and how sacred solemnity explodes into movement."

Rafael Marquina, *La Información* (Dec. 5, 1957)

"We are familiar with the esthetics of musicality within painting, or likewise, of the pictorial sense of a musical works. Ethel Fisher gives us a living example of such an interesting co-relationship in her work."

A. Martinez Bello, *La Mañana*, Habana, Cuba, Dec. 18, 1957

... her work is characterized by a great mastery in the disposition of planes and in the employment of color. And also, by a very special grace of composition where, more intellectually and formally, she builds geometric forms in balanced assembly into a perfect whole.

Adele Jaume, *Diario de la Marina* Habana, Cuba, Dec. 3, 1957

"Ethel Fisher's paintings are full of light and love for rich surfaces, and of oriental feeling for color. Dynamic movements vitalize her forms and make her paintings flow from area to area until the surface is brimming with life. But beneath this dynamic flow is a basic structure that contains the movement and gives meaning to her form. Her paintings are filled with joy for living."

Will Barnet, New York City (Dec. 8, 1953)