

William J. O'Brien

Biography

Born in 1975

Lives and works in Chicago

Education

2005

MFA, Fiber and Material Studies, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

1997

BA, Studio Art, Loyola University Chicago

Solo Exhibitions

2015

Shane Campbell Gallery, Lincoln Park, Chicago, IL

Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI

2014

water sounds, Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

Six Circles : Four Squares, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL

MCA, Chicago

Almine Rech Gallery, Paris, France

2013

'Wet 'N Wild', Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York

2012

The Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS

2011

'Works on paper', SHAHEEN Modern and Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH

The Renaissance Society at The University of Chicago, Chicago

2010

Shane Campbell Gallery, Oak Park, IL

2009

Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York

Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Detroit

2008

World Class Boxing, Death Rattle, Miami

2007

‘the axis mundi’, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago

2006

‘When Your Heart Is on Fire, Smoke Gets in Your Eyes’, Locust Projects, Miami

2005

‘A Fairy Tale’, Ingalls and Associates, Miami

‘New Artists, New Work’, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

Group Exhibitions

2016

Chicago & Vicinity, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL

2015

Surrealism: The Conjured Life, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL

Try again. Fail again. Fail better., Cherry and Martin, Los Angeles, CA

Defying Gravity: Interventions in Clay, Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Sun Valley, ID

Soft Core, Invisible-Exports, New York, NY

Organic Sculpture, Alison Jacques Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Small Sculpture, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL

2014

Platform, curated by Nicolas Trembley, Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

New Image Painting, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL

‘Iconoclasts: Art out of the Mainstream’, Saatchi Gallery, London

The Drawing Center, New York

‘Objectified: Sculpture Today’, Saatchi Gallery, London

Art on Paper 2014: The 43rd Exhibition, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC

Kayla Guthrie, William J. O’Brien, Mckeever Donovan, Annabeth Marks, U.S. BLUES, Brooklyn, NY

KILN, curated by Tiffany Zabłudowicz, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

2013

DNA: Strands of Abstraction, curated by Paul Sinclair, Loretta Howard Gallery, New York, NY

2012

‘All Good Things Become Wild and Free’, The H.F. Johnson Gallery of Art at Carthage College, Kenosha, WI

‘Phantom Limb: Approaches to Painting Today’, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago

‘Someone Puts a Pineapple Together’, Acme, Los Angeles

2011

‘Painted’, The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, WI

Painting...Expanded, Espacio 1414, Santurce, Puerto Rico

‘Works on paper’, SHAHEEN Modern and Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH

‘Josh Faught and William J. O’Brien’, Lisa Cooley Gallery, New York Witte de With, Rotterdam

2010

'The Maginot Line', David Castillo Gallery, Miami

'New Icon', Loyola University Museum of Art, Chicago

'Mystic Visage', World Class Boxing space of the Debra and Dennis Scholl Collection, Miami

'At Home/Not at Home: Works from the Collection of Martin and Rebecca

Eisenberg', Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY

'L'AUR'AMARA', Gallery MC, New York; Travels to Paris, Générale en Manufacture; Milan, Centro Ricerche Accademia di Brera ex Chiesa di S.Carpoforo (CRAB)

2009

'In Stitches', Leila Taghinia-Milani Heller Gallery, New York

'Selected Works from the MCA Collection', Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

'An Expanded Field of Possibilities', Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA

2008

'Now You See It', Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO

'Base:Object', Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York

'Andy Coolquitt, Frank Haines, William J. O'Brien', Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna

'Jesuvian Process', Elizabeth Dee Gallery, New York

2007

'Project Space, William O'Brien / Anthony Pearson', Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York

'Makers And Modelers', Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York

'Sonotube ® Forms: Contemporary Art and Transport', Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA

'Jesse Chapman, Aliza Nisenbaum, William J. O'Brien', Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago

'So Wrong, I'm Right', Blum & Poe, Los Angeles

'Stuff: International Contemporary Art from the Collection of Burt Aaron', Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit

2006

'Modern Primitivism', Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago

'Josh Mannis, Eric Lebofsky, William J. O'Brien', Western Exhibitions, Chicago

'MIXART', The James Hotel, Chicago

'Pathetisize', Open End Gallery, Chicago

'Champagne', Nina Menocal Projects, Mexico City

'Cluster', Participant Inc, New York

2005

‘Certain People I Know’, Margaret Thatcher Projects, New York
‘We Created a Monster’, Nina Menocal Projects for Art Basel, New York
‘CoDependent’, The Living Room for Art Basel, Miami
‘Winter Group Show’, Booster and Seven, Chicago
‘Eagle Hand’s Moon and The Orange Savior’, The Church of the Friendly Ghost, Austin
‘Summer Group Show’, Contemporary Art Workshop, Chicago
‘Bilingual’, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago
‘Drawn Out’, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago
‘In Print2’, Diamonds on Archer, Chicago
‘Macerate’, Around the Coyote Gallery, Chicago
‘M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition’, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago
‘Stygine’s Creek’, Video Screening, Three-Walls Gallery, Chicago
‘Take My Hand’, Nina Menocal Gallery, Mexico City
‘Appropriating Feminist Strategies’, Gallery 1926, Chicago
‘Take My Hand’, Three-Walls Gallery, Chicago

2004

‘Night of 1,000 Drawings’, Artist Space, New York
‘Click Formation’, Open End Gallery, Chicago
‘The Pilot Conference’, Symbology Bathroom, Chicago
‘The Affair’, Jupiter Hotel, The Fresh-Up Club, Portland
‘Identity Crisis’, Marshall Arts @ Delta Axis, Memphis
‘Art Poster Show’, Objex Artspace, Miami
‘G2’, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago
‘Abracadabra’, Rocket Projects, Miami
‘3 on 3, Straight Artists Curate 3 Gay Artists’, Higher Gallery, Chicago
‘Eric Lebofsky, Josh Mannis, William O’Brien’, 1/Quarterly Space, Chicago
‘Art Mule’, The Stray Show, Chicago
‘Small Victories’, Modest Contemporary Art Projects, Chicago

2003

‘La Superrette’, Deitch Projects, Participant, Inc., New York
‘100% Cotton’, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow
‘White Haute’, Shaff Gallery, Chicago

2001

‘Annual Members Show’, Greenwich House Pottery, New York
‘Out and About’, Benefit Invitation Group Show, SPACES Gallery, Cleveland

1997

‘Undergraduate Thesis Show’, Crown Center Gallery, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago

Public Collections

Cleveland Clinic, Ohio
New York Presbyterian Hospital
Miami Art Museum
Hara Museum of Art, Japan

Awards

Recipient of Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award, 2011

Artadia: The Fund for Art & Dialogue, 2007 Chicago Finalist, Grant Recipient

Vermont Studio Center, Full Fellowship Residency

Mellon Award, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL