

Joe Novak

Artist's Statement

Joe Novak has been a painter for over 33 years, exploring the interaction of color and light in an abstract idiom. The works on canvas of previous decades, many on a large scale and now mostly in public and private collections, tend toward the monochromatic, with tonal gradations that infuse them with a meditative quality. When illuminated they become glowing surfaces of color and light. The art critic Peter Frank has written... "One step beyond Rothko's, Novak's paintings gently force the eye to breathe color".

Novak's focus on color and light led to a major project during the nineties, "Light Emanations", in which he created computerized programs of changing light levels and configurations on a selection of his large paintings. It dramatically illustrated the effect of light changes on color perception.

His body of work is extensive and includes paintings on canvas, paper and panel as well as monotypes, drawings, assemblages, mixed media and prints. In some of his smaller pieces he has often worked in series, focusing on a particular medium for several years. Among these are "Meditations" (color pencil drawings), "Voices" and "Voices 2" (color aquatint etchings), "Echoes" (painting assemblages with minerals) and "Colors" (miniature panel paintings).

In recent years his approach to painting has become more gestural with an emphasis on the interaction of multiple colors. There is a rhythmic quality in some of the recent paintings that has musical allusions.

Novak has stated: "Creating art is a journey into the unknown that is challenging, fulfilling and sometimes magical. For me it is about having a vision, doing the work, being open, taking risks, respecting the materials and listening to the eye."

Joe Novak

Resumé

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2012

"Joe Novak: Selections from the UNM Collections", University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

2011

Zane Bennett Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2010

Zane Bennett Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2008

Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, California

2006

Buschlen Mowatt Gallery, Palm Desert, California

2005

Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, California

2004

EVO Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Etherton Gallery, Tucson, Arizona

2003

Circle Elephant Art, Los Angeles, California

2002

"Joe Novak: Paintings, 1993-1999, " Hood Museum of Art , Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire

EVO Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2001

EVO Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Circle Elephant Art, Los Angeles, California

1998

McKesson Plaza, San Francisco, California

1997

Davidson & Daughters Contemporary Art, Portland, Maine

1996

The Bank of Santa Fe, Santa Fe, New Mexico

1995

Olaf Clasen Gallery, Cologne, Germany

Santa Fe Council for the Arts, Santa Fe, New Mexico – " Light Emanations" installation

1989

Milari, Ltd., New York, New York

1988

Vered Gallery, East Hampton, New York

1987

Vered Gallery, East Hampton, New York

1985

Vered Gallery, East Hampton, New York

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2012

"Joe Novak/Huck Lewis-Bennett: A Collaboration", Stephen Archdeacon Gallery, Palm Springs, California

2011

Melissa Morgan Fine Art, Palm Desert, California

"Case Studies from the Bureau of Contemporary Art", New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2010

"Survey of ZBCA Artists", Zane Bennett Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2009

"Trouble in Paradise: Examining Discord Between Nature and Society", Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, Arizona

"Cutting Edge", Zane Bennett Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2007

"Recent Acquisitions", Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, Arizona

2006

"Mergers & Acquisitions", Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Palm Springs Art Museum Juried Exhibition (V. J. Jacobs Abstract Award), Palm Springs, California

"NonObjectivity", Pharmaka Gallery, Los Angeles, California

Farrell Fischhoff Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2005

Eagle Gallery, London, England

2004

"Contemporary Works on Paper from the Collection", Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, New Mexico

EVO Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Jill George Gallery, London, England

Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, California

"Site Unseen 3", James Kelly Contemporary, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Lew Allen Contemporary, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2003

EVO Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico

"New Mexico Printmakers, " Santa Fe Art Institute, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2002

EVO Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Circle Elephant Art, Los Angeles, California

2001

Anderson Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2000

Anderson Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Circle Elephant Art, Los Angeles, California

Lew Allen Contemporary, Santa Fe, New Mexico

1999

Lew Allen Contemporary, Santa Fe, New Mexico

1998

Davidson & Daughters Contemporary Art, Portland, Maine

1995

Davidson & Daughters Contemporary Art, Portland, Maine

1991

"Anonymous Bosch" Invitational Exhibition, Santa Fe, New Mexico

1990

Milari, Ltd., New York, New York

Springs Annual Invitational Exhibition, East Hampton, New York

Vered Gallery, East Hampton, New York

1989

Vered Gallery, East Hampton, New York

1988

Springs Annual Invitational Exhibition, East Hampton, New York

1987

"New Faces/New Spaces" Invitational Exhibition, Guild Hall Museum, East Hampton, New York

Benton Gallery, Southampton, New York

Vered Gallery, East Hampton, New York

1985

Springs Annual Invitational Exhibition, East Hampton, New York

1984

30th Juried Exhibition, Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, New York

SELECTED CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

Michael Abatemarco, "Joe Novak", *Art News*, Summer, 2010

Kathryn M Davis, "Joe Novak: Color Dimensions", *Art Ltd.*, May-June 2010; *Visual Art Source*, April 2, 2010

Julie Sasse and Emily Handlin, "Trouble in Paradise", exhibition catalog, Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, Arizona, February, 2009

Peter Frank, "Joe Novak:'Colors' ", exhibition catalog, Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA , September, 2008

Peter Frank, "Art Pick of the Week", *Los Angeles Weekly*, November 18-24, 2005

Christopher Knight, "Possibilities at play in fields of color", *Los Angeles Times*, September 30, 2005

Dottie Indyke, "Joe Novak", *Art News*, February 2005

Margaret Regan, "Variations on Light & Site", *Tucson Weekly*, February 26, 2004

Mokha Laget, "Pyro: Burned, Melted, Smoked", *THE Magazine*, December, 2003

Jan Adlmann, "Joe Novak: Paintings 1993-2002", *THE Magazine*, October, 2002

Lynne Cline, "Excursion into color and light", *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, August 9, 2002

Phyllis Braff, "Joe Novak: Paintings, 1993-1999", exhibition catalogue, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, May, 2002

Jane Hart, "Meditative Art Soothes the Soul", *Art Business News*, February, 2001

Denise Kusel, "Artist channels meditation chapel", *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, July 28, 2000

Dennis Jarrett, "True Colors", *Santa Fe Reporter*, July 28, 1999

Bob Graham, Arts Editor, *Datebook*, "Joe Novak: Color & Light", *San Francisco Chronicle*, March 22, 1998

Emily Van Cleve, "Key to Joe Novak's Painting", *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, June 7, 1996

Philip Isaacson, "Works by Joe Novak", *Portland Telegram*, December 17, 1995

Diane Armitage, "Joe Novak, Light Emanations", *THE Magazine*, October, 1995

Daniel Vaillancourt, "Light Emanations", *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, August 11, 1995

Gussie Fauntleroy, "Time and movement add dimension to Novak's art", *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, July 15, 1994

Dean Balsamo, "Novak gets back to the light with his 'Light Emanations' ", *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, July 31, 1992

David Staton, "Inter-Dimensional Art: Paintings Come To Life Through Lighting, Music", *Albuquerque Journal*, July 26, 1992

Simone Ellis, *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, May 10, 1991

Rose C.S. Slivka, "From the Studio", *The East Hampton Star*, March 22, 1990, March 30, 1989, June 16, 1988, March 31, 1988, October 22, 1987, July 16, 1987

Robert Long, "Guild Hall Picks 9 Painters, 3 Sculptors", *The Southampton Press*, July 30, 1987

Phyllis Braff, "Guild Hall Features New Faces", *The New York Times*, July 26, 1987

Helen A. Harrison and Rae Ferren, "New Spaces /New Faces", exhibition catalogue, Guild Hall Museum, East Hampton, New York, 1987

Robert Long, "40 Area Artists Start Season at Vered", *The Southampton Press*, April 30, 1987

Robert Long, "Three at Vered", *The East Hampton Star*, May 9, 1985

Helen A. Harrison, "Winners in Parrish Biennial", *The New York Times*, December 28, 1984

Phyllis Braff, "From the Studio", *The East Hampton Star*, October 4, 1984

EDUCATION

The New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture, New York, New York
New York University, New York, New York, Intaglio print workshop
Parsons School of Design, New York, New York, Studio art courses
Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, J.D.
Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, B.A

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
California Pacific Medical Center Foundation, San Francisco, California
Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio
Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center Foundation, Lebanon, New Hampshire
Eisenhower Medical Center Foundation, Rancho Mirage, California
Frost Art Museum, Florida International University, Miami, Florida
Guild Hall Museum, East Hampton, New York
Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire
Museum of Art, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico
New Mexico State Capitol Art Foundation, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, California
HSBC Bank USA, New York, New York
Riverside Art Museum, Riverside, California
St. Vincent Hospital Foundation, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Springfield Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, Massachusetts
Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, Arizona
UC Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, California
University of New Mexico Foundation - Health Sciences Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico
University of Texas - Pan American, Edinburg, Texas