



Ann Leda Shapiro

Ann Leda Shapiro (°New York, 1946)

American artist Ann Leda Shapiro depicts life's intricate systems and landscapes of mind and body. She deconstructs human figures, then reconstructs bodies as landscapes imbued with the elements of nature. Her landscape is in constant motion, mutating in response to situations and phenomena, representing the flow of Qi, a life force that flows through meridians channeling through the body. Her artistic endeavors persist in investigating cosmic states of being, underscoring the symbiotic relationship between mind, body, and nature. In the 1980s, she was active in the Guerrilla Girls, an avant-garde and radical group formed by female artists and activists fighting against inequality and imbalance in society and the art scene. Through her complex yet gentle watercolor works, she aims to act as a healer of society. After five decades, her works have been reevaluated. They are now held by internationally notable museums, including The Museum of Modern Art, New York, and the Seattle Museum in Washington. In 2024, she participated in group exhibitions at The Museum of Modern Art, New York, and Tai Kwun, Hong Kong, showcasing her historic works from the 1970s, as well as recent works.

“What I’m trying to do in my work is really bring it from the inside out. And it’s awkward. It’s handmade. You could feel the hand in the work. The forms are fluid. There’s very little straight lines. It’s all cellular - it’s a microcosm, macrocosm.”

- Ann Leda Shapiro

Exhibition history - selected solo exhibitions

2025

Interconnected Worlds, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium

2024

Diagnosing Disturbances, Francois Ghebaly Gallery, New York, NY, USA

Light Within Darkness, Francois Ghebaly Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA

2023

Aviary, Estuary Salon, Salon, Seattle, WA, USA

2022

Bodies of Land, ArtX Contemporary, Seattle, WA, USA

2020

Inner Cosmologies, Olympic Sculpture Park, SAM, Seattle, WA, USA

New Works, Credit Union, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2019

Diagnosing Disasters, 4Culture Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA

2015

My Natural History, Aljoya Place, Seattle, WA, USA

2014

Natural History Memories, Credit Union, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2013

Healing Scrolls, Vashon Healing Arts, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2012

My Island, My Home, Credit Union, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2011

Island Tour, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2010

My Island, King County Library, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2009

My Island, Elliott Bay Books, Seattle, WA, USA

2008

My Island, Vashon Bookshop, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2007

Vashon Views, Vashon Tea Shop, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2006

Visual Case Studies, Two Walls Gallery, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2005

Narrative Paintings, Heron's Nest Gallery, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2004

Acupuncture Drawings, Open Studio, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2003

Balance/Imbalance, Cancer Lifeline Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA

2002

Body As Landscape, Banff Art Center, Banff, Canada

2001

Disharmonies, Pioneer Square Healing Arts Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA

2000

Watercolors, Za Zen Gallery, Vashon Island, WA, USA

1999

Syndromes, Pioneer Square Healing Arts Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA

1998

Hérons, Blue Heron Art Center, Vashon Island, WA, USA

1995

Body, Spirit, Energy, Kirkland Arts Center, Kirkland, WA, USA

1994

Paintings, Blue Heron Art Center, Vashon Island, WA, USA

1993

Energy References, Seattle Pacific University Art Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA

1990

Art and Healing, NIAOM Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA

1989

Bodies, Quan Yin Clinic, San Francisco, CA, USA

1988

New Works, Arts Warehouse, Austin, TX, USA

1986

Works on Paper, Women & Their Work Gallery, Austin, TX, USA

1984

Paintings, Rancho Linda Vista Gallery, Oracle, AZ, USA

1982

Dark Works, Visual Arts Gallery, SUNY, Purchase, NY, USA

1980

Transformations, Spark Gallery, Denver, CO, USA

1979

Watercolors, Institute for Shipboard Education, SS Universe

1978

Paintings, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

1974

Paintings, Candy Store Gallery, Folsom, CA, USA

1973

Recent Paintings, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA

Exhibition history - selected group exhibitions

2024

Vital Signs, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA

2023

Green Snakes, Tai Kwun Contemporary, Hong Kong

Group Show, Francois Ghebaly Gallery, Rome, Italy

A Living Legacy, Recent Acquisitions, Frye Museum, Seattle, WA, USA

Reproductive Agents, Madre Museum, Naples, Italy

2022

Resilient Trees, Café Vinolio, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2021

Stories We Tell, Confluence Gallery, Twisp, WA, USA

Candy Store, Manetti Shrem Museum, UC Davis, Davis, CA, USA

Animal Instincts, Steven Zevitas Gallery, Boston, MA, USA

2020

Girlfriends of the Guerrilla Girls, Gallery One, Ellensburg, WA, USA

2019

Girlfriends of the Guerrilla Girls, CoCa, Seattle, WA, USA

2018

Group Therapy, Frye Museum, Seattle, WA, USA

I Say Radical You Say Feminist, Archer Gallery, Clark College, Vancouver, WA, USA

Catch Us, O Space Gallery, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2017

Out of Sight, Seattle, WA, USA

Drawing Practice, Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA, USA

2016

American Painting, REI, Seattle, WA, USA

Magical Worlds, Ida Culver House, Seattle, WA, USA

2015

Rebel, Rebel, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA, USA

Cut-Outs, ArtXchange Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA

2014

Who Did She Think She Was, Toshiro Kaplan Arts, Seattle, WA, USA

Expressions, International Women Arts Exhibition, Gwangju, South Korea

2012

Lights of Women, Women Arts Exhibition, Gwangju, South Korea

2010

Homelands, Autry Museum, Los Angeles, CA, USA

2009

Open Studio, Vashon Island, WA, USA

2008

Reunion, Gallery Rancho Linda Vista, Oracle, AZ, USA

2007

Nests, Silverwood Gallery, Vashon, VA, USA

2005

Art of Resistance, Capital Hill Arts Center, Seattle, WA, USA

2004

Art of Resistance, Rainer Brewery, Seattle, WA, USA

2003

Helen, La Mama, New York, NY, USA

2000

Elbows & Tea Leaves, Boulder Museum of Art, Boulder, CO, USA

Likeness of Being, DC Moore Gallery, New York, NY, USA

1999

Art and Healing, Blue Heron Art Center, Vashon Island, WA, USA

Heart of the Matter, Silverwood Gallery, Vashon Island, WA, USA

1998

Healing Art, Museum of Fine Art, Missoula, MT, USA

Implosions and Essence, Sunspace Gallery, Duvall, WA, USA

1997

Barnworks, Vashon Island, WA, USA

1996

Blue Heron Art Center, Vashon Island, WA, USA

1995

Agents of Change, Convention Center, Seattle, WA, USA

1994

Body and Soul, De Cordova Museum, Lincoln, MA, USA

Visual Case Studies, Two Walls Gallery, Vashon Island, WA, USA

1993

Flyways, Women's Art Center, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

Crossing, Wonderful World of Art, Seattle, WA, USA

1992

Plum Tree, 911 Media Arts Center, Seattle, WA, USA

1991

Heart to Art, Seattle, WA, USA

1990

Homeless, Alternative Museum, New York, NY, USA

1989

Expressions, Oregon Art Institute, Portland, OR, USA

1987

Faculty Show, University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA

1986

Day of the Dead, Arts Warehouse, Austin, TX, USA

Faculty Show, University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA

Selected Public Collections

4Culture, Seattle, WA, USA

Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA, USA

Manetti Shrem Museum, University of California, Davis, CA, USA

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA

Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA, USA

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA

University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

Awards

2019

MAC Fellowship McMillen Foundation

Pollock-Krasner Grant

2017

Twining Humber Award

2010

Farrington Foundation Conservation award for Books That Matter

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