

BRENNA YOUNGBLOOD

American, b.1979

"Youngblood applies a poet's touch to the surface, crafting sparse mixed-media collages that ripple with the material detritus we encounter daily, but may easily forget. These details, much like the citrusy splatters and geometric shapes they come in contact with, offer an alternative to the Mondrian ideal, where the textures of reality enhance the spiritual dimensions of the work."

- Allison Conner

BIOGRAPHY

Brenna Youngblood is often classified as an assemblage artist among the ranks of Noah Purifoy, George Herms, John Outterbridge and Betye Saar, though Youngblood's practice defies one specific categorization. Her ability to strip the art-historical canon of assemblage of any ambiguity further bolsters her dedicated practice of collecting society's discarded fragments to spin them into highly charged cultural critique. Originally trained as a photographer, Brenna Youngblood borrows photomontage and collage techniques to build the surfaces of her paintings, to address the aesthetics and politics of abstraction. Additionally, Youngblood acknowledges the tradition of assemblage in her use of these objects "to make something new out of something old." Later pieces show her version of abstraction with a slight nod to reality in painterly, gestural work, grounded by architectural and social cues and referred to her as "landscapes."

Her work at times deals with political subjects and social issues as she explores Black American identity and representation, referencing historical moments in Black history. Youngblood received her BFA from California State University, Long Beach in 2002 and her MFA from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2006 where she studied with artists John Baldessari, Catherine Opie and James Welling. She has exhibited widely and her work has been included in museum exhibitions including Made in L.A., the Los Angeles Biennial organized by the Hammer Museum and Fore at the Studio Museum in Harlem, NY (2012); the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA (2013 and 2016-2017); the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, TX (2014); Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, GA; Art + Practice, Los Angeles, CA (2016); Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, MA and the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO (2017). Solo institutional exhibitions include Riverside Art Museum, Riverside, CA (2020); Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA (2015); Pomona College Museum of Art, Pomona, CA (2015); the Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, MO (2014) and the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA (2006).

In 2016, she was the recipient of the Seattle Art Museum's Gwendolyn Knight and Jacob Lawrence Prize. Youngblood's works are held in private and public collections, including the Fundación/Colección Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA and The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY.

764 Miami Circle NE, Suite 210, Atlanta, GA 30324

O. (404) 352 8114 info@johnsonlowe.com johnsonlowe.com

JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

EDUCATION

- 2006 MFA, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 2002
BFA, California State University, Long Beach, CA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 “the LIGHT and the DARK” Roberts Projects, Culver City, CA
- 2020 “Lavender Rainbow” Riverside Art Museum, Riverside, CA
- 2017 “Affection” Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
“The Game of Life” Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Brussels, Belgium
- 2016 “WHAT A FEELING” Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 “abstracted realities” Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
“Projects Series 50: Brenna Youngblood” Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont, CA
“Stairway” Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, France
- 2014 “Brenna Youngblood: Loss Prevention” Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
“A Phrase That Fits” Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013 “ACTIVISION” Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, CA
“Spanning Time” Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Brussels, Belgium
- 2011 “The Mathematics of Individual Achievement” Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 “WHEN-WIN” Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2009 “Brenna Youngblood” Susanne Vielmetter Berlin Projects, Berlin, Germany
- 2008 “Brenna Youngblood” Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2007 “Brenna Youngblood” Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
“Murder by the Bank” Project Room, WallSpace, New York, NY
“Brenna Youngblood” Wignall Museum, Rancho Cucamonga, CA
- 2006 “Hammer Projects: Brenna Youngblood” Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
“Brenna Youngblood” Susanne Vielmetter, Los Angeles, CA

JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023** "The Alchemists" Johnson Lowe Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2022** "Wish You Were Here II" Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA
"9th Street and Beyond: 70 Years of Women in Abstraction, Part I: The Gestural" Hunter Dunbar, New York, NY
- 2021** "Art of California: Greater than the Sum" San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
"Irresistible Delights: Recent Gifts to the Art Collection" Art, Design & Architecture Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2020** "Nasty Women" GAVLAK, Los Angeles, CA
"Synchronicity" Roberts Projects, Culver City, CA
"Abstract! Minimalism to Now" Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
"Collective Constellation: Selections from The Eileen Harris Norton Collection" Art + Practice, Los Angeles, CA
"Wish You Were Here" Roberts Projects, Culver City, CA
- 2019** "Dust My Broom: Southern Vernacular from the Permanent Collection" California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
"Natani Notah, Mitzi Pederson, Lisa Williamson, Brenna Youngblood" San Francisco, CA "Summer" Honor Fraser Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"Open House: Elliot Hundley" MOCA Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA
"STORIES: Selections from the Permanent Collection" Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont, CA
- 2018** "SuperpowerShadowWoman" Five Car Garage, Los Angeles, CA
"Out of Easy Reach" DePaul Art Museum, Gallery 400 at University of Illinois, Chicago and Rebuild Foundation, Chicago, IL
"Conceptual Feedback" Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017** "Magnetic Fields: Expanding American Abstraction, 1990s to Today" National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.
"Face to Face: Los Angeles Collects Portraiture" California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
"Big Picture" Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
"Victory Over the Sun: The Poetics and Politics of Eclipse" Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY
"Artists of Color" The Underground Museum, Los Angeles, CA
"Sonic Rebellion: Music as Resistance" Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit, MI "In the Abstract" Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, MA "POWER" Sprüth Magers, Los Angeles, CA
"Signifying Form" The Landing Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"The Future is Abstract" Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture, Charlotte, NC

764 Miami Circle NE, Suite 210, Atlanta, GA 30324

O. (404) 352 8114 info@johnsonlowe.com johnsonlowe.com

JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

- “Man Alive” Jablonka Maruani Mercier, Brussels, Belgium
“Magnetic Fields: Expanding American Abstraction, 1960s to Today” Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO
- 2016** “L.A. Exuberance: New Gifts by Artists” Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
“AFRICA FORECAST: Fashioning Contemporary Life” Spelman College Museum, Atlanta, GA
“A Shape That Stands Up” Art + Practice, Los Angeles, CA “Wasteland” Los Angeles Nomadic Division (LAND), Paris, France
- 2015** “Surface of Color” The Pit, Los Angeles, CA
“Hard Edged” California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014** “Selections from the Permanent Collection” Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
“Saying yes to everything” Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, CA “Attunement” Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA
“Please Enter” curated by Beth DeWoody, Franklin Parrasch Gallery, New York, NY “TRAINS” curated by Sterling Ruby, Night Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
“...but that joke isn’t funny anymore” Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
“Point of View: African American Art from the Elliot and Kimberly Perry Collection, Flint Institute of the Arts, Flint, MI
“Rites of Spring” Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX
“Black in the Abstract, Part 2: Hard Edges/Soft Curves”, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX
- 2013** “Demolition Woman” Organized by Commonwealth & Council, Chapman University, Orange, CA
“Murmurs: Recent Contemporary Acquisitions” Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
“Turn of Phrase” Pepin Moore, Los Angeles, CA “Fanatic” Post, Los Angeles, CA
“Psychosexual” Andrew Rafacz Gallery, Chicago, IL 2012
“Dark Flow Lurking” David Castillo Gallery, Miami, FL
“Fore” The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
“What We Do for Fun: Kristin Calabrese with Caitlin Lonagan and Brenna Youngblood” The Green Gallery East, Milwaukee, WI
“Made in L.A. 2012” Organized by the Hammer Museum in collaboration with LAXART, Los Angeles, CA
“Going Public – Telling it as it is?” performance with OJO, organized by the European Network of Public Art Produces, Bilbao, Spain
- 2011** “TAG! You’re it” curated by Amber Noland, Royal/T, Culver City, CA
“G.L.O.W. Match Three: Kelly Cline & Brenna Youngblood” Commonwealth & Council, Los Angeles, CA
“Romare Bearden Centennial Exhibition” The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY “A Painting Show” Harris Lieberman, New York, NY
“Unfinished Paintings” Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA “Suelto” La Central, Bogotá, Colombia

764 Miami Circle NE, Suite 210, Atlanta, GA 30324

O. (404) 352 8114 info@johnsonlowe.com johnsonlowe.com

JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

- "The Space Between" LAXART Annex, Los Angeles, CA 2010
"Severed Arrangements" Latned Atsar, Los Angeles, CA
"Second Story" Pepin Moore, Los Angeles, CA
"50 Artists Photograph The Future" Higher Pictures, New York, NY "Works in Edition"
Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"From My Universe: Objects of Desire Part II" See Line Gallery, Los Angeles, CA 2009
"With You I Want to Live" Fort Lauderdale Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, FL
"Glue, Paper, Scissors" Luckman Gallery, California State University, Los Angeles, CA "Reading Standing Up"
Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"Feelings and Power" Five Thirty Three, Los Angeles, CA
- 2008** "California Biennial" University Art Museum, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA "Half-Life: Twenty-five Emerging L.A. Artists" Los Angeles, Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA
"Whatcha See is Whatcha Get, What You Don't See (Is Better Yet)" Five Thirty Three Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"Asylum" Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"Fall In, Fall Out, Fall Down, Get Ready!" Five Thirty Three Gallery, Los Angeles, CA "Aspects of Mel's Hole: Artists Respond to a Paranormal Land Event Occurring in Radiospace" Grand Central Art Center, California State University at Fullerton, Fullerton, CA
- 2007** "Hammer Contemporary Collection Part II" Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA "Big Secret Cache" Angstrom Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"hovering over the universe..." Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, CA
"Blacks In and Out of the Box" California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA 2006
"Bling" Palos Verdes Art Center, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
"Gray Korfmann Youngblood: New Forms in Photography" Carl Berg Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- "New American Talent: the 21st Exhibition" Arthouse at the Jones Center, Austin, TX "Then and Now and Again" Black Dragon Society, Los Angeles, CA
"25 Bold Moves" House of Campari, Los Angeles, CA "Locale"
Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"Good Times For Never" Queen's Nails Annex, San Francisco, CA "Effacé" Steve Turner Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"LA25" Skadden Arps, Los Angeles, CA
- 2005** "Handmade" Wallspace Gallery, New York, NY
"Greater LA MFA Exhibition" California State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, CA "State of Emergence: Unsuspected Cracks in the Art-World Infrastructure" Track 16 Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2004** "Macrae Semans and Brenna Youngblood" Hayworth Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

764 Miami Circle NE, Suite 210, Atlanta, GA 30324

O. (404) 352 8114 info@johnsonlowe.com johnsonlowe.com

JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

- 2015 Seattle Art Museum Gwendolyn Knight/Jacob Lawrence Prize
2014 The Hermitage Artist Retreat, Englewood, FL
2012 Los Angeles County Museum of Art Young Talent Award/AHAN Award

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- 2023 Destination Crenshaw, Los Angeles, CA
2021 Brenna Youngblood X MOCA X Vans

PUBLICATIONS

Brenna Youngblood; the LIGHT and the DARK. Roberts Projects, Culver City, CA
Young, Gifted and Black: A New Generation of Artists The Lumpkin-Bocuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art. Distributed Art Press, New York, NY
Wasteland: New Art from Los Angeles. Galerie Thaddaeus Ropa, Paris, France
Brenna Youngblood; Project Series 50. Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont, CA
Outside the Lines. Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX
Brenna Youngblood; The Mathematics of Individual Achievement. MISPRINT Press, Los Angeles, CA
Made in L.A. 2012. Hammer Museum, University of California, Los Angeles, CA
Aspects of Mel's Hole. Orange County Museum of Art, Costa Mesa, CA

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Art, Design, and Architecture Museum at UC Santa Barbara, CA The Blake
Byrne Collection, Los Angeles, CA
Creative Artists Agency, Los Angeles, CA Eileen
Harris Norton, Santa Monica, CA
Fundación/Colección Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico Hammer
Museum, Los Angeles, CA
JP Morgan Chase Art Collection
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA The Museum
of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, C

764 Miami Circle NE, Suite 210, Atlanta, GA 30324

O. (404) 352 8114 info@johnsonlowe.com johnsonlowe.com

**JOHNSON
LOWE** GALLERY

764 Miami Circle NE, Suite 210, Atlanta, GA 30324

O. (404) 352 8114 info@johnsonlowe.com johnsonlowe.com