

# LISSON GALLERY

## Leon Polk Smith

- 1996 Died in New York, NY, USA
- 1938 M.A. Columbia University, New York, NY, USA
- 1934 B.A. Oklahoma State University, Ada, OK, USA
- 1906 Born in Indian Territory (Chickasha, OK), USA

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 Lisson Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 'Geometry in Motion', Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute, Utica, NY, USA  
'Aspects of Abstraction', Lisson Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 2008 'Circa 1958: 'Circa 1958: Breaking Ground in American Art,' Ackland Art Museum, The University of North Carolina of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA
- 2008 'Severed Ear-The Poetry of Abstraction,' Creiger-Dane Gallery, Boston, MA, USA
- 1999 'De L'Expressionnisme Abstrait a L'Art Minimal: Peinture Abstraiter Aux Estas-Unis 1940-1960', Musee Fabre Montpellier, Montpellier, France
- 1998 'Five Sides to a Square,' Associated American Artist, New York, NY, USA, in association with Galerie Denise Rene, Paris, France  
'Defining the Edge,' Early American Abstraction, Selections from the Collection of Dr. Peter B. Fischer, Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
'Frederick Kiesler / Leon Polk Smith,' Jason McCoy, Inc., New York, NY, USA  
'Kunst im Aufbruch, Abstraktion Zwischen 1945 und 1959,' Wilhelm-Hack Museum, Ludwigshafen, Germany
- 1997 'Inaugural Exhibition', Jason McCoy, Inc., New York, NY, USA
- 1996 'Histoires de Blanc et Noir,' Musée de Grenoble, France  
'Open Door,' Konkrete Kunst International Barscay-Halle, Budapest, Hungary
- 1994 'The Constructive Vocabulary-An American Vision', Galerie Dr. Istvan, Schlegl, Zurich, Switzerland  
'Eloquent Lines', Louis Stern Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA

- ‘Paths of Abstraction: Selections from the Ciba Art Collection’, Hunter College of the City University of New York, NY, USA
- 1993 ‘Aus Der Sammlung IX’, Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Germany  
‘In a Classical Vein, Works from the Permanent Collection’, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1991 ‘43<sup>rd</sup> American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Purchase Exhibition’, New York, NY, USA  
‘Drawings’, Gallery North, Setauket, New York, NY, USA  
‘Post-War Geometric Concepts 1945-1990’, Marilyn Pearl Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
‘Between Mondrian and Minimalism: Neo-Plasticism in America’, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1990 ‘42<sup>nd</sup> American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Purchase Exhibition’, New York, NY, USA
- 1983 ‘Subleties’, The Sutton Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1982 ‘Purism’, Siegel Contemporary Art, Inc., New York, NY, USA
- 1981 ‘Amerikanische Malerie 1930-1981,’ Haus der Kunst, München, Germany
- 1980 ‘Geometric Tradition in American Painting: 1920-1980’, Rosa Esman Gallery and Marilyn Pearl Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
‘Time and Space’, Washburn Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
‘50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Gifts and Purchases Exhibition’, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1979 Susan Caldwell, Inc., New York, NY, USA  
Gallery Paula Anglim, San Francisco, CA, USA  
Ace Gallery, Ltd., Vancouver, BC, Canada  
Ace Gallery, Ltd., Venice, California, USA  
International Kunstmarkt, Cologne, West Germany
- 1978 Art Gallery, State University of New York at Old Westbury, NY, USA
- 1975 Galerie Denise Rene, New York, NY, USA
- 1973 Galerie Denise Rene, New York, NY, USA
- 1970 Galerie Chalette, New York, NY, USA
- 1969 Museum of Fine Arts, Fort Worth, TX, USA  
Galerie Chalette, New York, NY, USA
- 1968 Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, MA, USA  
travelled to San Francisco Museum of Art, CA, USA
- 1967 Galerie Chalette, New York, NY, USA
- 1965 Galerie Chalette, New York, NY, USA

- 1964 Gallery Müller, Stuttgart, Germany  
Studio Galerie, Frankfurt, Germany
- 1963 Stable Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1962 Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, Utica, New York  
Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1961 Stable Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1960 Betty Parsons Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1958 Camino Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1955 Mills College of Education Art Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1949 The Pinacotheca Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1946 Egan Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1943 Santa Fe Museum, Santa Fe, NM, USA
- 1942 Telfair Academy of Arts & Sciences, Savannah, GA, USA
- 1941 Uptown Gallery, New York, NY, USA

#### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2017 ‘Aspects of Abstraction’, Lisson Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 2008 ‘Circa 1958: Breaking Ground in American Art’, Ackland Art Museum, The University of North Carolina of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA
- 1999 ‘Severed Ear-The Poetry of Abstraction’, Creiger-Dane Gallery, Boston, MA, USA  
‘De L’Expressionnisme Abstrait a L’Art Minimal: Peinture Abstraiter Aux Estas-Unis 1940-1960’, Musee Fabre Montpellier, Montpellier, France
- 1998 ‘Five Sides to a Square,’ Associated American Artist, New York, NY, USA, in association with Galerie Denise Rene, Paris  
‘Defining the Edge,’ Early American Abstraction, Selections from the Collection of Dr. Peter B. Fischer, Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
‘Frederick Kiesler / Leon Polk Smith,’ Jason McCoy, Inc., New York, NY, USA  
‘Kunst im Aufbruch, Abstraktion Zwischen 1945 und 1959,’ Wilhelm-Hack Museum, Ludwigshafen, Germany
- 1997 ‘Inaugural Exhibition,’ Jason McCoy, Inc., New York, NY, USA
- 1996 ‘Histoires de Blanc et Noir,’ Musée de Grenoble, France

- ‘Open Door,’ Konkrete Kunst International Barscay-Halle, Budapest, Hungary  
 1994 ‘The Constructive Vocabulary-An American Vision,’ Galerie Dr. Istvan Schlegl, Zurich, Switzerland  
 ‘Eloquent Lines,’ Louis Stern Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA  
 ‘Paths of Abstraction: Selections from the Ciba Art Collection,’ Hunter College of the City University of New York, NY, USA
- 1993 ‘Aus Der Sammlung IX,’ Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Germany  
 ‘In a Classical Vein, Works From the Permanent Collection,’ Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1991 ‘43<sup>rd</sup> American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Purchase Exhibition,’ American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY, USA  
 ‘Drawings,’ Gallery North, Setauket, New York, NY, USA  
 ‘Post-War Geometric Concepts 1945-1990,’ Marilyn Pearl Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
 ‘Between Mondrian and Minimalism: Neo-Plasticism in America,’ Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1990 ‘42<sup>nd</sup> American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Purchase Exhibition,’ American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY, USA
- 1983 ‘Subtleties,’ The Sutton Gallery, New York, NY, NY, USA
- 1982 ‘Purism,’ Siegel Contemporary Art, Inc., New York, NY, USA
- 1981 ‘Amerikanische Malerie 1930-1981,’ Haus der Kunst, München, Germany
- 1980 ‘Geometric Tradition in American Painting: 1920-1980,’ Rosa Esman Gallery and Marilyn Pearl Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
 ‘Time and Space,’ Washburn Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
 ‘50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Gifts and Purchases Exhibition,’ Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1979 ‘Black and White are Colors, Paintings of the 1950s-1970s,’ Galleries of the Larchmont Colleges, Caremont, CA, USA  
 ‘Collection: Art in America After World War II,’ Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY, USA  
 ‘Paintings and Sculptures by Candidates for Art Awards,’ American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY, USA  
 ‘Mondrian and Neo-Plasticism in America,’ Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT, USA  
 ‘Hassum and Speicher Purchase Exhibition,’ American Academy for Arts and Letters, New York, NY, USA
- 1977 ‘The Magic Circle,’ The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, NY, USA  
 ‘Paris-New York,’ Musée National D’Art Moderne, Paris, France  
 ‘American Geometric Abstract Painting of the 1950s,’ Marilyn Pearl Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
 ‘Line-Weight-Color,’ Denise Rene Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
 1976 ‘Contemporary Paintings,’ Joe and Emily Lowe Art Gallery, College of

- Visual and Performing Arts, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, USA  
 1975 'American Art Since 1945,' Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA  
 USA travelled to: Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA, USA
- 1974 'Celebration: Sarah Scaife Gallery Museum of Art,' Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, USA  
 'Contemporary Art I,' Galerie Denise Rene-Hans Meyer, Düsseldorf, Germany  
 'Striped and Shaped Canvases,' The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, NY, USA
- 1973 'Visual R&D – A Corporation Collects,' University Art Museum, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA  
 'Post-Mondrian Abstraction in America,' Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL, USA
- 1966 'Fifty Years of Modern Art, 1916-1966,' The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH, USA  
 'Twenty Drawings: New Acquisitions,' The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA  
 'Systemic Paintings,' The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY, USA
- 1965 'The Responsive Eye,' The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA  
 'Twenty-Ninth Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting,' The Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C., USA  
 'An Exhibition of Retinal and Perceptual Art,' The University Art Museum of The University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA  
 'A Decade of American Drawings, 1955-1965,' Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA  
 'American Collages,' The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA  
 'Colorists, 1950-1965,' San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA, USA  
 '75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition, Three Distinguished Artists from Oklahoma: Lee Mullican, Joseph Glasco, Leon Polk Smith,' Museum of Art, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, USA
- 1964 '1964 Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Sculpture,' Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA  
 'The New Formalists: Contemporary American Painting,' The University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, MI, USA  
 'The Classic Spirit in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Art,' Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1963 'Annual Exhibition 1962: Sculpture and Drawings,' Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA  
 'Twenty-Eighth Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting,' The Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C., USA
- 1962 '65<sup>th</sup> Annual American Exhibition: Some Directions in Contemporary Painting and Sculpture,' Pittsburgh Department of Fine Arts, Carnegie Institute, PA, USA  
 'Geometric Abstraction in America,' Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA

- 1961 'Six American Abstract Painters,' Arthur Tooth and Sons, London, UK  
 'American Abstract Expressionist and Imagists,' Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY, USA  
 'The 1961 Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture,' Pittsburgh Department of Fine Arts, Carnegie Institute, PA, USA
- 1959 'Project 1: An Exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art, Longview Foundation Purchases in Modern American Painting and Sculpture for the Sanatorium Association of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union,' Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1952 'Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting,' Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1949 'Post Mondrian Painters,' Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1948 'Abstract and Surrealist American Art, Fifty-Eighth Annual Exhibition of American Paintings and Sculpture,' The Art Institute of Chicago, IL, USA
- 1946 'Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Sculpture: Watercolors and Drawings,' Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA  
 The Pinacotheca, New York, NY, USA  
 'Five Major works by Stella, De Kooning, Smith, Benn, Hesketh,' Egan Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1943 'Contemporary American Paintings from the Collection of the University of Arizona,' presented under the auspices of the Whitney Museum of American Art, held at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, USA
- 1941 'International Water Color Exhibition – Eleventh Biennial,' The Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY, USA

#### Awards

- 1986 Distinguished alumnus award, East Central University, Ada, OK, USA
- 1979 Hassam and Speicher Fund Purchase Award, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY, USA
- 1972 Artist in Residence, University of California at Davis, Davis, CA, USA
- 1968 Artist in Residence, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, USA  
 Tamarind Lithography Grant, Tamarind Workshop, Los Angeles, CA, USA
- 1966 National Council of Arts Award
- 1958 Longview Grant
- 1943 Solomon R. Guggenheim Fellowship

## Appointments

- 1989 Lecturer, Myers-Bloom Gallery, Santa Monica, CA, USA
- 1987 Lecturer, Burnett Miller Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA
- 1986 Lecturer, East Central University, Ada, OK, USA
- 1983 Lecturer and critic, Philadelphia College of Art, PA, USA  
Lecturer and critic, Yale University Graduate School of Art, New Haven, CT, USA
- 1982 Lecturer and critic, Philadelphia College of Art, PA, USA
- 1979 Lecturer, Ace Gallery, Ltd., Vancouver, B.C., Canada  
Lecturer, Ace Gallery, Venice, CA, USA
- 1978 Lecturer, College at Old Westbury Art Gallery, State University of New York, Old Westbury, New York, NY, USA
- 1977 Lecturer, College of Fine Arts, University Art Museum, University of Texas at Austin, TX, USA
- 1972 Artist in Residence, University of California at Davis, CA, USA
- 1968 Artist in Residence, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, USA
- 1952-58 Head of Art Department, Mills College of Education, NY, USA
- 1949-51 Professor of Art, Rollins College, FL, USA
- 1942-44 Delaware State Supervisor of Education, DE, USA
- 1939-42 Professor of Art, T.C. University System of Georgia, GA, USA
- 1934-39 Classroom teacher, Oklahoma public schools, OK, USA

## Collections

Albright-Knox Museum of Art, Buffalo, NY, USA  
Art Institute of Chicago, IL, USA  
The Brooklyn Museum, NY, USA  
Birmingham Museum of Art, AL, USA  
The Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH, USA  
Cleveland Museum of Art, OH, USA  
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR, USA  
Dallas Museum of Art, TX, USA  
David Owsley Museum of Art, Ball State University, Muncie, IN, USA  
Detroit Institute of Arts, MI, USA  
East Central University, Ada, OK, USA  
Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies, Washington, D.C., USA  
The Art Collection of the First National Bank of Chicago, IL, USA

Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA  
Fort Worth Art Museum, TX, USA  
Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, USA  
Grenoble Museum, Grenoble, France  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum of Art, New York, NY, USA  
Hood Museum of Art, Hanover, NH, USA  
The Hirschhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C., USA  
Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Nürnberg, Germany  
Los Angeles County Museum, CA, USA  
Indianapolis Museum of Art, IN, USA  
Israel Museum, Jerusalem  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, USA  
Milwaukee Art Museum, WI, USA  
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, TX, USA  
Montclair Art Museum, NJ, USA  
Morgan Library and Museum, New York, NY, USA  
Museum of Art, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, USA  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX, USA  
Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, MA, USA  
Museum Fur Konkrete Kunst, Ingolstadt, Germany  
Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA  
Museum fur Moderner Kunst, Ingolstadt, Germany  
Museum Pfalzgalerie, Kaiserslautern, Germany  
National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., USA  
Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, Germany  
Newark Museum, NJ, USA  
New York Public Library, The Miriam and Ira D. Walach Division of Art,  
Prints, and Photographs, New York, NY, USA  
Oklahoma City Art Museum, OK, USA  
Palm Springs Art Museum, CA, USA  
Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, NY, USA  
Phoenix Museum of Art, AZ, USA  
Portland Art Museum, OR, USA  
Rhode Island School of Design Art Museum, Providence, RI, USA  
Rose Museum, Brandies University, Waltham, MA, USA  
Sammlung Ludwig Museum Moderner Kunst, Wien, Cologne, Germany  
Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE, USA  
Staatliches Museum fur Kunst und Design, Nurnberg, Germany  
Stadel Musuem, Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
State Art Collection, Oklahoma City, OK, USA  
University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, IA, USA  
University of Sydney Museum, Sydney, Australia  
Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver B.C., Canada  
Weisbaden Museum of Art, Weisbaden, Germany  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA  
Wilhelm-Hack Museum, Ludwigshaafen Am Rhein, Germany  
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT, USA