

Linda LaBella

Artist Statement

I cannot remember each stroke or mark that I make in a painting, and often by the finish I wonder how I arrive at these exact ends. The jumping off place — the wrinkles in the canvas, the shadows on the paper or the dents in the wood panels — are the first indications of where the work will lead me. There is no pre-drawing, underpainting or sketching. The meaning of the work is found in the process of actually making it. I paint with oil and with graphite, and with wax. I also draw with oil and with graphite and with wax. Painting and drawing are complementary and together, in the same canvas, the different mediums and their usages, support an implied spatial illusion by delineating different planes of information. They also do not hide one another or pretend to be something else.

"This is drawing right here." the work seems to say, "And this here is painting."

With years of painting technique at the ready I can allow the intuitive mind to be the most formidable force in the decision making. The resulting works are abstractions of sub-thought projections, memories and desires. They are non-linear culminations of distinct sets of choices that lead to a captured *paint-sketch* of a visual moment or event.

Recently I have been learning about birds in the field and practicing walking meditations in nature. These, combined with my studies of the color palettes and the painting skills displayed in vintage Audubon paintings, has lead to me to think about the soundness of evolutionary building blocks and how making art with the intention of it lasting through time is one and the same. Therefore, although the paintings appear to be haphazardly painted on raw canvas, it is not. I have treated the canvas with a clear protective barrier between the paint and the fiber so as to maintain the life of the work. The graphite and charcoal have also been treated to be permanent. This archival approach is derived from a traditional formalist canon that the painting is the painting from the beginning to the end.

Linda LaBella Bio

Born in Oyster Bay New York, Linda LaBella is a highly productive painter, printmaker, collagist and archivist. She has been featured in solo exhibits at Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL and Los Angeles, CA; The Wallach Gallery at SUNY, NY and the Galeria de Arte Moderno, Guadalajara, MX. Select juried exhibits include Masur Museum, Monroe, LA, SOHO20, NYC; The Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, NY; Kentler International Drawing Center, Brooklyn, NY; The Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA; The University of Notre Dame, IN and the Contemporary Art Center of Guadalajara, MX.

Ms. LaBella was awarded a full tuition scholarship to Stanford University where she earned her MFA and was a teaching assistant to Bay-Area painters Nathan Oliveira and Frank Lobdell. She also holds an MA from California State University at Sacramento, where she worked with renowned St. Louis painter, Oliver Jackson. Scholarships awarded from CSUS include the Robinson Witt Scholarship and the First Place Kingsley Purchase Award.

After graduating Stanford she moved to Guadalajara, Mexico and taught painting and printmaking at the Instituto Cultural Cabanas and Art History at the Tecnologico de Monterrey. In a cultural exchange that lasted three and a half years Ms. LaBella acquired new printmaking techniques, learned the Spanish language, practiced Dressage, and can now prepare a mean Pico de Gallo.

Returning to the US, Ms. LaBella was given a summer Printmaking Residency at CW Post College and taught printmaking and drawing at the Brooklyn Museum. She held a residency to the Keyholder Program at the Lower Eastside PrintShop and has lab rights at the Columbia University Leroy Newman Print Lab and has exhibited widely. Today she makes art in her Tribeca studio and holds a day job in administration at Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. She lives in New York City with her husband and pet turtle, Ebby.

Linda LaBella

Resume

Education

Master of Fine Arts, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 1992
Master of Art, California State University at Sacramento, CA 1989
Bachelor of Art, California State University at Sacramento, CA 1986

Solo Exhibits

2017
New York New York, Hankyu Gallery, Osaka, Japan
2014
Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL
2009
Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA
2006
Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA
2000
Qué Linda LaBella, a Retrospective, A. Wallach Gallery, SUNY, NY
1997
Alumna, Sierra Campus Gallery, Rocklin, CA
1995
Works, Galería de Arte Moderno, Guadalajara, México
Ay Papel! Hatley Mason Studio, Sacramento, CA
1989
Bank of America Presents, Bank of America, Palo Alto, CA
LaBella and Moe 750, Gallery, Sacramento, CA
LaBella Works, Witt Gallery, California State University, Sacramento, CA

Selected Group Exhibits

2017
Marked Urgent, Ground Floor Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
2016
New York Art Show, Hankyu Gallery, Osaka, JA
SPRING BREAK, Moynihan Station, New York, NY
Print Show, Ground Floor Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
2014
Masur Museum, 51st juried Exhibition, Monroe, LA
2012
Art of the Northeast, Silvermine Arts Center, New Canaan, CN
2010
SoHo 20 Gallery International Juried Exhibit, New York, NY
2009
Long Beach Island Foundation for the Arts, New Jersey
2008
Crossing Borders/Cruzando Fronteras, Hera Gallery, Wakefield, RI
2007

Lacy Street Opening Gala, curated by Creative Expressions, Los Angeles, CA
2006
Non-Objectivity, Pharmaka, Los Angeles, CA
2006
Spring Show, E3Gallery, New York, NY
2005
Day of the Dead, E3Gallery, New York, NY
Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA
2003
Hispanic Reunion, St Francis College, Brooklyn NY
2002
Open, Bryant Street Gallery, Palo Alto, CA
2000
SOFO, Ruby Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
1999
Size Matters, GAle GAtes et al. Brooklyn, NY
Projections, GAle GAtes et al. Brooklyn, NY
1998
Works on Paper, Kentler International Drawing Center Brooklyn, NY
1997
Small Statements, BWAC, Brooklyn, NY
1996
The Parrish Art Museum 35th Juried Exhibition, Southampton, NY
Printwork '96 National Juried Exhibit, Barrett House Gallery, Poughkeepsie, NY
Fan da Sickle...Impressions of the End of Our Century, Circle Elephant Fine Art, San Francisco, CA
Re-Con-Figuration/Three Artists, 750 Gallery, Sacramento, CA
1995
Mujeres 95, Galería Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Guadalajara, México
Muestra Anual de Universidad Maestros de la Escuela de Artes Plásticas, Guadalajara, México
El verano Casa de Maestranza, Guadalajara, México

Grants/Fellowships, Awards/Honors

Best in Show /Dia de los Muertos, Rocking Horse, New York 2006
Full Tuition Scholarship /Assistantship Stanford University, CA 1990-92
First Place Purchase Award California State University Sacramento, CA 1990
First Place Robinson /Witt Scholarship California State University Sacramento, CA 1989

Residencies, Workshops and Lectures

Nest Building Workshops, Audubon Society, Governors Island, NY Summer 2017
Printshop Monitor, Columbia University, Leroy Neiman Print shop 2010-2012
Printmaking Workshop, "Working with Paper" Brooklyn Museum, NY Spring 2005
Mural Workshop, "Environmental Panoramas" Brooklyn Museum, NY Summer 2004
Lower Eastside Printshop, monthly rental space, New York, NY 2001
Printshop Residency, CW Post College Brookville, NY 1996
Figure Drawing Workshop, Buck's Rock Camp, New Milford, CT 1996
Monotype Workshop, Buck's Rock Camp, New Milford, CT 1996
Mural Painting Workshop, Buck's Rock Camp, New Milford, CT 1996
Monotype Workshop, Instituto Cultural Cabañas, Guadalajara, México 1995

Las Cuadas Contemporáneos, lecture given at the Instituto Cultural Cabañas, Guadalajara, México
1995 En Foco, Lecture given at the Galería Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Guadalajara, México 1995
Looking at Abstract Art, Lecture given at the Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA 1990

Reviews, Articles and Interviews

Steinhauer, J "Spring/Break, a Sprawling Alternative Art Fair that Delivers" Hyperallergic 3.3.2016
<http://hyperallergic.com/280032/springbreak-a-sprawling-alternative-art-fair-that-delivers/>
Lynch S. "Photos: Spring/Break Kicks Off Armory Arts Week With A Long Line & A Kissing Closet"
Gothamist 2.3.2016 (Image) http://gothamist.com/2016/03/02/spring_break_2016.php#photo-51
staff writer "Linda LaBella Presenta su exposición "Works," El Informador, Guadalajara, MX 3.15.1995
(article, art image and photo)
Blanca R. "Works" Siglo 21, Guadalajara, MX 3.17.95 (article and photo)
Blanca R. "Linda Bernadette" Siglo 21, Guadalajara, MX 3.17.95 (photo with mention)
Dalkey, V. "There's no Room for Complacency in the Crocker-Kingsley Exhibit," Sacramento Bee
6.7.1990 (mention)
Dalkey, V. "The State of The Arts at California Works," Sacramento Bee, CA 9.1.1990 (mention)
Dalkey, V. "Stars, stripes and controversy," Sacramento Bee CA 9.3.1989 (mention)
O'Rourke G. "Harbour Lites," Oyster Bay Guardian 4.28.2000 (brief article)
staff journalist "Profiles," Interview C7 Cultura, Guadalajara, MX (aired March 1995)
staff journalist "Arts Alive," Interview Channel 6, Sacramento, CA (aired February 1990)
Goddard, L. "750 House Needs New Location," August 1988 (photo, mentions and quotes)
Magri, K. "The 750 Gallery." On The Wing October 1987 (mention)