

HOLLIS TAGGART

MICHAEL (CORINNE) WEST

BIOGRAPHY

- | | |
|------|---------------------------|
| 1908 | Born in Chicago, Illinois |
| 1991 | Died in New York City |

EDUCATION

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 1927–30 | Cincinnati Art Academy, Ohio |
| 1932–35 | The Art Students League of New York, N.Y. |

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1935 | <i>Corinne West</i> , Rochester Art Club, Art Center, Rochester, N.Y. |
| 1957 | <i>Michael West: Paintings</i> , Uptown Galleries, New York. |
| 1957–58 | <i>Michael West</i> , The Domino Gallery, Washington, D.C. |
| 1963 | <i>Paintings By: Michael West</i> , Granite Galleries, Inc., New York. |
| 1966 | <i>Michael West: Recent Paintings</i> , Imaginary Art, Inc., New York. |
| 1978 | <i>Michael West: Abstract Expressionism</i> , Womanart Gallery, New York. |
| 1996 | <i>Michael West: Painter-Poet</i> , Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center, East Hampton, N.Y. |
| 1999 | <i>Michael West: Automatic Paintings, The Abstract Expressionist Works</i> , 123 Watts Gallery, New York. |
| 2010 | <i>Michael West: Paintings from the Forties to the Eighties</i> , Art Resource Group, Newport Beach, Calif. |
| 2016 | <i>Michael West: Mysticism</i> , Taylor Graham, New York. |
| 2018 | <i>Michael West: The Black and White Paintings</i> , Mark Borghi Fine Art, Inc., New York. |
| 2019 | <i>Space Poetry: The Action Paintings of Michael West</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York. |
| 2020 | <i>Michael West: We Come Alive and Dream</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York. (Online Viewing Room) |
| 2021 | <i>Epilogue: Michael West's Monochrome Climax</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York. |
| 2022 | <i>Bold Marks: The Drawings of Michael West</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York. |
| 2025 | <i>Chronicling an Artistic Practice: Michael West Paintings and Archives from the 1950s to 1970s</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York. |

HOLLIS TAGGART

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 1935 *22nd Annual Exhibition of the Work of Artists and Craftsmen of Rochester*, Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester, N.Y.
- 1939 *The Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition*, Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester, N.Y.
- 1941 *The Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition*, Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester, N.Y.
- 1942 *The Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition*, Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester, N.Y.
- 1943 *The Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition*, Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester, N.Y.
- 1945 Pinacotheca, New York.
- 1948 Rose Fried Gallery, New York.
- 1953 *2nd Annual Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture*, Stable Gallery, New York.
- 1965 *American and Other Modern Paintings, Watercolors, Drawings, Sculptures*, Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., New York.
- 1976 *22nd International American Revolution Bicentennial 1776–1976 Exhibition*, Galerie Internationale, New York.
- 1978 *Dialogues*, Womanart Galleries, New York.
Works & Words, Womanart Galleries, New York.
Second Anniversary Show: Best of '78, Womanart Gallery, New York.
- 1979 *Drawing & New Drawing*, Womanart Gallery, New York, N.Y.
- 1996 *Other Artists of the '50s*, Miami-Dade Community College, Kendall Campus Art Gallery, Miami, Fla.
- 2001 *Second to None: Six Artists of New York School*, Thomas McCormick Gallery, Chicago.
- 2005 *Rapt in the New York School: The Art of Corinne Michael West and William Douglas McGee*, The Studio, Armonk, N.Y.
- 2007–08 *Suitcase Paintings: Small Scale Abstract Expressionism*, The Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, Ga. Traveled to Ball State University Museum of Art, Muncie, Ind.; Greenville County Museum of Art, S.C.; Loyola University Museum of Art, Chicago; Sydney Mishkin Gallery, Baruch College, New York; and Utah Museum of Fine Art, Salt Lake City.
- 2008 *Beyond the Cannon: Small Scale American Abstraction*, Robert Miller Gallery, New York.
The Movement of Abstract-Expressionism, Borghi Fine Art, Englewood, N.J.
- 2009 *Modern Women*, Madron Gallery, Chicago.
- 2011–12 *Painterly Abstraction, Spheres of AbEx*, Heather James Fine Art, Palm Desert, Calif.
- 2015 *Her Work*, McCormick Gallery, Chicago.
Red Enigma, Scape Gallery, Corona Del Mar, Calif.
The Hans Hofmann School, Heather James Fine Art, Palm Desert, Calif.

HOLLIS TAGGART

- 2017 *Advanced and Irascible: Abstract Expressionism from the Collection of Jeanne and Carroll Berry*, The Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, Ga.
In the Absence of Color: Artists Working in Black and White, Hollis Taggart, New York.
Post-War Highlights, Hollis Taggart, New York.
- 2018 *Important Women of Abstract Expressionism*, Sky Gallery, Boca Raton, Fla.
Gallery Selections, Hollis Taggart, New York.
Summer Selections, Hollis Taggart, New York.
August Spotlight: Postwar Abstraction, Taylor | Graham, New York.
Compendium, Mark Borghi Fine Art, Bridgehampton, N.Y.
2018 Masters Exhibit, Mid-Century Abstraction: The American Vanguard, Sager Braudis Gallery, Columbia, Mo.
- 2018–19 *A Gesture of Conviction: Women of Abstract Expressionism, Works from the 1950s and '60s*, Setareh Gallery, Düsseldorf, Germany.
- 2019 *Recent Post-War Acquisitions*, Hollis Taggart, New York.
Summer Selections, Hollis Taggart, New York.
Montauk Highway III: Postwar Abstraction in The Hamptons, Eric Firestone Gallery, East Hampton, N.Y.
Heroines of Abstract Expressionism, Fenimore Art Museum, Cooperstown, N.Y.
Postwar Women, Art Students League of New York, New York.
She/Her: A New Look at a History of Art Since 1900, Heather James Fine Art, San Francisco, Calif.
- 2019–20 *Jackson Hole: Highlights from 1900 to Today*, Heather James Fine Art, Jackson Hole, Wyo.
- 2020 *Alan Wolfson: Brooklyn Elevated and Highlights from our New Acquisitions*, Hollis Taggart, New York.
Abstract Expressionist Women, Heather James Fine Art, Palm Desert, Calif.
Abstract Expressionism: Visions of the Sublime, Heather James Fine Art, Montecito, Calif.
Remix, Hollis Taggart, Southport, Conn.
- 2020–21 *Heroines of Abstract Expressionism and FEM*, Nassau County Museum of Art, The Mansion, Roslyn Harbor, N.Y.
- 2022 *Brushed Up: Postwar Abstraction from Front Range Collections*, University of Denver, Vicki Myhren Gallery, Denver, Colo.
Women and the Void: Abstract Expressionism on Paper, Huxley-Parlour Gallery, London, United Kingdom.

HOLLIS TAGGART

	<i>9th Street and Beyond: 70 Years of Women in Abstraction</i> , Hunter Dunbar Projects, New York.
	<i>Ruminations</i> , Gazelli Art House, London, United Kingdom.
	<i>SELECTIONS</i> , Hunter Dunbar Projects, New York.
2023	Art Palm Beach, Hollis Taggart, Palm Beach, Fla.
	<i>Heroines of the Abstract Expressionist Era: From The New York School to The Hamptons</i> , Southampton Arts Center, Southampton, N.Y.
	Dallas Art Fair, Hollis Taggart, Dallas.
	<i>Her Forms: Celebrating femininity through diverse artistic expressions</i> , Gazelli Art House, London, United Kingdom.
	<i>Of the Past and Present: Estates and Contemporary Artists at Hollis Taggart</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York.
	The Armory Show, Hollis Taggart, New York.
	<i>Action, Gesture, Paint: Women Artists and Global Abstraction 1940–70</i> , Whitechapel Gallery, London, United Kingdom.
	<i>The Laughing Torso</i> , Marlborough, Frieze Masters, London, United Kingdom.
	Art Miami, Hollis Taggart, Miami Beach, Fla.
2023–24	<i>Connecticut Modern: Art, Style, and the Avant-Garde, 1930–60</i> , Bruce Museum, Greenwich, Conn.
2024	Art Palm Beach, Hollis Taggart, Palm Beach, Fla.
	<i>Asian-American Abstraction: Historic to Contemporary</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York.
	<i>Dynamic Rhythm: Geometric Abstraction from the 1950s to the Present</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York.
	Dallas Art Fair, Hollis Taggart, Dallas.
	<i>This Isn't Who It Would Be, If It Wasn't Who It Is</i> , Casey Kaplan, New York.
	<i>Changes: Paintings from the 1970s</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York.
	<i>Modern Women</i> , The San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, Calif.
	The Armory Show, Hollis Taggart, New York.
	<i>Montage</i> , Gazelli Art House, London, United Kingdom.
2025	Art Palm Beach, Hollis Taggart, Palm Beach, Fla.
	The Winter Show, Hollis Taggart, New York.
	<i>Homecoming</i> , Stanley Museum of Art, Iowa City, Iowa.
	Dallas Art Fair, Hollis Taggart, Dallas.
	<i>Bluets</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York.
	<i>Take Notice</i> , Hollis Taggart, New York.

HOLLIS TAGGART

The Making of a New World: Art of the 1980s, Hollis Taggart, New York.

The Armory Show, Hollis Taggart, New York.

2025–26 *Exchanges: Miró and the United States*, Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona, Spain. Traveled to The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.

2025–27 *Abstract Expressionists: The Women*, American Federation of Arts, Wichita Art Museum, Wichita, Kans. Traveled to Muscarelle Museum of Art, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.; Speed Art Museum, Louisville, Ky.; Grinnell College Museum of Art, Grinnell, Iowa; Mobile Museum of Art, Mobile, Ala.

2026 Art Palm Beach + Contemporary, Hollis Taggart, Palm Beach, Fla.

Summer Highlights, Hollis Taggart, New York.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Master's Thesis

Richmond, Patricia. "Michael West's Paintings from the 1940s and 1950s." Master's thesis, George Washington University, 1995.

Bachelor's Thesis

Clements, Melissa. "Like Deeds Permeating Hell: Tracing Michael West's Stylistic Development During the Atomic Age." Bachelor's thesis, The School of Design, The University of Western Australia, 2022.

Catalogue Essays

1957 Mills, Clark. *Michael West Paintings*. New York: Voyages Press for Uptown Galleries, 1957.

1996 Richmond, Patricia, "Michael West: A Biographical Sketch," and Chris McNamara, "By Any Other Name," in *Michael West Painter-Poet*. East Hampton, N.Y.: Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center, 1996.

1999 Ashton, Dore. "On Michael West," and Walter Maibaum, "Michael West: The Automatic Paintings," in *Michael West: The Automatic Paintings*, edited by Josée Bienvenu and Walter Maibaum. New York: 123 Gallery, 1999.

2005 Friedman, Stuart, Roberta Friedman, and J. Pindyck Miller. *Rapt in the New York School: The Art of Corinne Michael West and William Douglas McGee*. Armonk, N.Y.: The Studio, 2005.

2009 Olds, Kirsten. "The New Mysticism in Painting: The 1950s Paintings of Michael West," in *Michael (Corinne) West*. New Jersey: Borghi Fine Art Gallery, 2009.

HOLLIS TAGGART

- 2010 Lewis, David. "Michael West: More than Gorky's Muse," in *Michael West: Paintings from the Forties to the Eighties*. Newport Beach, Calif.: Art Resource Group, 2010.
- 2019 Landau, Ellen G., *Space Poetry: The Action Paintings of Michael West*. New York, N.Y.: Hollis Taggart, 2019.
- 2021 Landau, Ellen G., *Epilogue: Michael West's Monochrome Climax*. New York, N.Y.: Hollis Taggart, 2021.
- 2022 Russo, Jillian. *Bold Marks: The Drawings of Michel West*. New York, N.Y.: Hollis Taggart, 2022.

General Books and Articles

- 1957 Schwabacher, Ethel. *Arshile Gorky*. New York: MacMillan, 1957, pp. 61–64.
- 1981 Kramer, Hilton. "The Case of the Purloined Image," *New York Times*, June 25, 1981.
- 1995 Fine, Elsa Honig. "One Point Perspective." *Woman's Art Journal* 16 (fall/winter 1995/1996): p. 2.
- 1999 Gibson, Ann Eden. *Abstract Expressionism: Other Politics*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999, pp. 19–20, 156–57.
- 2000 Herskovic, Marika. "Michael (Corinne) West," in *New York School Abstract Expressionists Artists Choice by Other Artists: A Complete Documentation of the New York Painting and Sculpture Annuals, 1951–1957*. New Jersey: New York School Press, 2000, pp. 130–37.
- 2001 Spender, Matthew. *From a High Place: A Life of Arshile Gorky*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2001, pp. 132–36, 153–55.
- 2003 Herrera, Hayden. *Arshile Gorky: His Life and Work*. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003, pp. 239–46.
- 2009 Spender, Matthew, ed., *Arshile Gorky: Goats on the Roof; A life in Letters and Documents*. New York: Ridinghouse, 2009.
- 2016 Marter, Joan, "Missing in Action: Abstract Expressionist Women" in *Women of Abstract Expressionism*. Denver, Colo.: Denver Art Museum and Yale University Press, 2016, pp. 23–25.
- 2023 Mafi, Nick. "This Enchanting Palm Beach Home Is Steeped in Bold Italian-Inspired Design." *Architectural Digest*, July 17, 2023 (online).
- Gerlis, Melanie. "Frieze fairs open in style with big-hit art sales." *Financial Times*, October 12, 2023 (online).
- Halperin, Julia. "At Frieze, Marlborough Showcases the Work of Artists Who Traded in Their Female Birth Names for Male Monikers." *Cultured*, October 12, 2023 (online).

HOLLIS TAGGART

- Kakar Arun, Josie Thaddeus-Johns and Casey Lesser. "The 15 Best Booths at Frieze London and Frieze Masters 2023." *Artsy*, October 12, 2023 (online).
- 2024 Kempkes, Anke. *Teruko Yokoi*. New York: Marlborough Gallery, 2024.
- 2025 Gerlis, Melanie. "The surprising rebirth of the art investment fund." *The Financial Times*, February 13, 2025 (online).

Group Exhibition Catalogues

- 1999 Snyder, Gary. *Other Artists of the '50s*. Miami: Kendall Campus Art Gallery of the Miami-Dade Community College, 1999.
- 2000 *Second to None: Six Artists of the New York School*. Chicago: Thomas McCormick Gallery, 2000.
- 2007 Kingsley, April. *Suitcase Paintings: Small Scale Abstract Expressionism*. Athens, Ga.: Georgia Museum of Art, 2007.
- 2021 Lewandowska, Karolina, Christine Macel, and Anne Monfort. *Women in Abstraction*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2021.
- Macel, Christine. *Elles font l'abstraction*. Paris: Éditions du Centre Pompidou, 2021.
- 2023 *Of the Past and Present: Estates and Contemporary Artists at Hollis Taggart*. New York: Hollis Taggart, 2023.
- Landau, Ellen G. and Joan M. Marter. *Abstract Expressionists: The Women*. London and New York: Merrell Publishers, 2023.
- Smith, Laura, ed. *Action, Gesture, Paint: A Global Story of Women and Abstraction 1940-70*. London: Whitechapel Gallery, 2023.

Exhibition Reviews

- 1935 Herdle, Isabel C. "Rochester Artists Show Vigor in This Year's Exhibit." *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, N.Y.), April 28, 1935; see also 1939, 1941, 1942.
- Sabin, Stewart B. "Art Center Has Exhibition by Corinne West." *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, N.Y.), November 4, 1935, p. 11.
- 1957 Sandler, Irving Herschel. "Michael West [Uptown]." *Artnews* 56 (December 1957): p. 13.
- 1958 Burrey, Suzanne. "Michael West: Paintings at Uptown Gallery." *Arts Digest* 32 (January 1958): p. 57.
- "Gallery Notes." *Washington Post and Times Herald*, June 26, 1958.
- 1963 Jaffe, Jane. "West at Granite." *Manhattan East*, December 26, 1963, p. 41.
- O'Doherty, Brian. "Art: Christmas Doldrums." *New York Times*, December 28, 1963.
- 1964 Gablik, Suzi. "Michael West." *ARTnews* 62 (February 1964): p. 12.

HOLLIS TAGGART

- 1996 Braff, Phyllis. "Review: Michael West Painter-Poet at the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center." *New York Times* (Long Island edition), September 22, 1996.
- Slivka, Rose C. S. "From the Studio." *East Hampton Star*, October 3, 1996, p., III-3.
- 1998 Conaty, Siobhan. "Michael West." *Critical Review*, April 14, 1998 (online).
- 1999 Hanks, Victoria. "Michael West: 'Automatic Paintings.' The abstract expressionist works." *New York Arts Magazine*, August 14, 1999.
- Pinchbeck, Daniel. "Go West, Young Woman?" *The Art Newspaper*, 1999.
- Wilkinson, Jeanne C. "Michael West: 'Automatic Paintings' That Thrill." *The Tribeca Trib* (New York), June 1999, p. 36.
- 2005 Sims, Jane. "Rediscovering the Artists of the New York School." *The Scarsdale Inquirer* (Scarsdale, N.Y.), April 25, 2005, pp. 15, 18.
- 2010 Chang, Richard. "A Woman Painting in a Man's World." *The Orange County Register* (Anaheim, Calif.), June 9, 2010 (online).
- 2015 Somerville, Kris. "Living Energy: The Abstract Expressionist Paintings of Michael West." *The Missouri Review* (Columbia, Mo.), July 25, 2015 (online).
- Willette, Jeanne. "Michael West: The Artist Was a Woman" [Exhibition review of *Michael West: Paintings from the Forties to the Eighties*, Art Resource Group]. *Art History Unstuffed*, May 30, 2015 (online).
- 2018 Danielsen, Aarik. "Come together: Fifth Masters Exhibit showcases collective creative motion." *Columbia Daily Tribune* (Columbia, Missouri), December 7, 2018 (online).
- 2019 Chadd, Scott. "Fenimore Art Museum In Cooperstown, New York Shines Spotlight On Women Of Abstract Expressionism." *Forbes*, November 6, 2019 (online).
- Edquist, Grace. "Remembering Michael West, a Forgotten Founder of Abstract Expressionism." *Vogue* (New York), November 26, 2019 (online).
- Carrigan, Margaret. "Three exhibitions to see in New York this weekend." *The Art Newspaper*, November 28, 2019 (online).
- Anania, Billy. "The Cosmological Musings of Michael West, an American Abstract Expressionist." *Hyperallergic*, December 3, 2019 (online).
- Cascone, Sarah. "Editors' Picks: 15 Things Not to Miss in New York's Art World This Week." *artnet News*, December 16, 2019 (online).
- 2020 Cascone, Sarah. "She Was a Student of Hans Hofmann and a Friend of Arshile Gorky. But This Artist's Work Was Obscured—Until Now." *artnet News* (New York), March 6, 2020 (online).
- Chernick, Karen. "Why the Art World Is Rediscovering Female Abstract Expressionist Michael West." *Artsy*, May 7, 2020 (online).

HOLLIS TAGGART

- Grovier, Kelly. "Blinding Light: The 'Great American Painting'?" *BBC*, October 5, 2020 (online).
- 2021 Buhe, Elizabeth. "Epilogue: Michael West's Monochrome Climax." *Studio International*, May 11, 2021 (online).
- 2022 Pegah Hoghoughi. "From 4th-Century Greek Vases to Female Abstract Expressionism." *Larry's List*, 2022 (online).
- Michalska, Magda. "Michael West, Woman Artist Excluded from the Ab-E Gang." *DailyArt*, October 15, 2022 (online).
- 2023 Jackie Wullschläger. "Whitechapel Gallery offers thrilling landmark show of female abstract artists — review." *Financial Times*, February 1, 2023 (online).
- McGivern, Hannah. "Abstract Expressionism's forgotten women and their international contemporaries emerge from the shadows." *The Art Newspaper*, February 2, 2023 (online).
- Modig, Karolina. "Kraft, kamp och explosiv skönhet." *Art Notes*, 2023. (German-language) (online).
- Jackie Wullschläger. "Whitechapel Gallery offers thrilling landmark show of female abstract artists — review." *Financial Times*, February 1, 2023 (online).
- McGivern, Hannah. "Abstract Expressionism's forgotten women and their international contemporaries emerge from the shadows." *The Art Newspaper*, February 2, 2023 (online).
- Dewavrin, Margot. "Action, Geste, Peinture : Femmes dans l'abstraction, une histoire mondiale (1940-1970) à la Fondation Van Gogh." *Journal Ventilo*, June 29, 2023 (online).
- 2025 Cascone, Sarah. "Abstract Expressionist Michael West Was Overlooked for Decades. A New Show Revives Her Lost Legacy." *Artnet*, February 8, 2025 (online).

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Chimei Museum, Tainan City, Taiwan

FAMM (Female Artists of the Mougins Museum), France

Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, Ga.

Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, Ill.

The Rockwell Museum, Corning, N.Y.

The San Diego Museum of Art, CA

The Westmoreland Museum of American Art, Greensburg, Pa.