

# Roland Flexner

## Biography

Roland Flexner was born in 1944 in Nice, France. He lives and works in New York City.

The uncanny quality of presence and absence characterizes much of the artist's work that includes the bubble drawings, figures and vanitas, Sumi ink works, and installations combining sculpture, drawing and photography. In his drawing practice, Roland Flexner explores the expressive qualities of ink using breath, chance and gravity to reveal the pictorial potential of the medium that emerges out of abstraction, and suggests the ambiguous nature of images in the viewer's eyes.

Flexner's drawings are part of the permanent collections of prominent institutions such as the Metropolitan Museum of New York; Whitney Museum, New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Albright Know Museum, Buffalo; Shanghai Contemporary Art Museum, The Power Station, Shanghai; National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo.

### **Solo exhibitions**

#### **2023**

2023 - Two Ghosts, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique , Paris , F

#### **2016**

2016 - Project Space Villa Paloma, Musée National de Monaco, Monaco, MC

#### **2015**

2015 - At the End Of The Day, Massimo De Carlo, London, UK

#### **2012**

2012 - Roland Flexner, D'Amelio Gallery, New York, USA

#### **2011**

2011 - Roland Flexner, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, F

2011 - R.F.C.P., D'Amelio Terras Gallery, New York, USA

#### **2010**

2010 - Roland Flexner, Massimo De Carlo, Milano, I

#### **2008**

2008 - Cuts, D'Amelio Terras Gallery, New York, USA

2008 - Works on paper, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Bruxelles, B

#### **2007**

2007 - New Sumi Ink Drawings, Hosfelt Gallery, San Francisco, USA

#### **2006**

2006 - Guy Ben Nur, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, F

**2005**

2005 - Nocturne, Caren Golden Fine Art, New York, USA

2005 - Roland Flexner, Itsutsuji Gallery, Tokyo, J

**2004**

2004 - Bubbles & Vanitas, Massimo De Carlo, Milano, I

2004 - Roland Flexner, Todd Hosfelt Gallery, San Francisco, USA

**2003**

2003 - Roland Flexner, Miller/Block Gallery, Boston, USA

**2002**

2002 - Roland Flexner, Caren Golden Fine Art, New York, USA

2002 - Roland Flexner, Todd Hosfelt Gallery, San Francisco, USA

**2001**

2001 - Roland Flexner, Caren Golden Fine Art, New York, USA

2001 - Dessins, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, F

**2000**

2000 - Roland Flexner, Centre d'Art d'Yvry - Galerie Fernand Leger, Yvry-sur-Seine, F. Catalogue

2000 - Roland Flexner, Espace Gustave Fayet, Serignan, F

**1999**

1999 - Roland Flexner, Miller/Block Gallery, Boston, USA

1999 - Roland Flexner, Hosfelt Gallery, San Francisco, USA

1999 - Roland Flexner, Galerie Evelyne Canus, La Colle sur Loup, F

1999 - Roland Flexner, Galerie Evelyne Canus, La Colle sur Loup, F

**1998**

1998 - Roland Flexner, Caren Golden Fine Art, New York, USA

**1997**

1997 - Figures and Vanitas, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, USA

1997 - Roland Flexner, Centre Regional d'Art Contemporain, Sete, F

1997 - Roland Flexner, Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, Cleveland, USA

**1996**

1996 - Roland Flexner, Caren Golden Fine Art, New York, USA

**1994**

1994 - Roland Flexner, Galerie Météo, Paris, F

**1992**

1992 - Dyptiques a Pleurants, Abbaye de Noirlac, Noirlac, F

**1991**

1991 - Master of the Bowery, Saint Peter's Church, New York, USA

1991 - Caput Mortuum, Galerie Art Concept, Nice, F

**1990**

1990 - Recent Paintings, Bitter Larkin Gallery, New York, USA

**1987**

1987 - Submission, Bruno Facchetti Gallery, New York, USA

**1986**

1986 - Roland Flexner, Bruno Facchetti Gallery, New York, USA

**1984**

1984 - Roland Flexner, Edward Williams Gallery/Fairleigh Dickinson University, Hackensack, USA

**1982**

1982 - Roland Flexner, Institute for Art and Urban Resources/PS1, New York, USA

**1981**

1981 - Roland Flexner, Fondation Marie-Louise Jeanneret, Boissano, I

**1978**

1978 - Roland Flexner, Galerie La Caisse, Nice, F

**1974**

1974 - Analyse et deconstruction d'un signe, Galerie AARP, Paris, F

**1972**

1972 - Permutations, Galerie Ferrero, Nice, F

**1971**

1971 - Roland Flexner, Galerie Senator, Stuttgart, D

**1969**

1969 - Roland Flexner, Galerie Ben Vautier, Nice, F

**Group exhibitions****2023**

2023 - Regards Croisés, NOEL DOLLA - ROLAND FLEXNER, New York - The Bowery, 1982 - 2022, Galerie Gilles Drouault, Paris, F

2023 - In Search of the Miraculous, Marlborough, New York, USA

**2022**

2022 - Winter Wunderkammer, MASSIMODECARLO, VSpace, I

**2020**

2020 - MEMENTO, Musée Crozatier, Puy-en-Velay, F

**2019**

2019 - Inciser le temps, Galerie municipale Jean-Collet, Vitry-sur-Seine, F

**2018**

2018 - School of Nice From Pop Art to Happenings - Le French May, Hong Kong City Hall, Hong Kong, PRC

2018 - Roland Flexner, The Morgan Library, New York, USA

**2017**

2017 - La Tempête, Centre Regional d'Art Contemporain, Sete, F

2017 - La Tempête, CRAC Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée, Sète, F

2017 - Drawing, The Beginning of Everything, The Albright-Knox Museum, Buffalo, New York, USA

2017 - A Propos de Nice, 1947-1977, Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain de Nice, Nice, F

2017 - La Pergola, Musée Regional d'Art Contemporain du Languedoc-Roussillon, Serignan, F

2017 - Roland Flexner - Ai Weiwei, Massimo De Carlo, Hong Kong, PRC

**2016**

2016 - Sublime. The Tremors of the World, Centre Georges Pompidou-Metz, Metz, F

2016 - Im Labyrinth der Unheimlichen Zufälle, Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien, Berlin, D

**2015**

2015 - Le Monastier sur Gazeille, Espace Culturel Européen, Monastier Sur Gazeille, F

## **2014**

- 2014 - Acquisitions Recentes, FRAC Picardie, Amiens, F
- 2014 - Donation Florence et Daniel Guerlain, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, F

## **2013**

- 2013 - Noel Dolla: Entree Libre mais Non Obligatoire, Centre National d'Art Contemporain, Nice, F
- 2013 - Guerlain Donation. Contemporary Drawings, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, F
- 2013 - Approaching Infinity, Croker Art Museum, Sacramento, USA
- 2013 - L'Arbre de Vie, Collège des Bernardins, Paris, F
- 2013 - Sous l'Amazone Coule un Fleuve, FRAC Auvergne, Clermont Ferrand, F
- 2013 - Stroke, Trace, Blow, Steven Zevitas Gallery, Boston, USA
- 2013 - Le Main Invente le Dessin, FRAC Picardie, Abbaye Saint Riquier, Saint Riquier, F
- 2013 - Pour, Asya Geisberg Gallery, New York, USA
- 2013 - Pour, Lesley Heller Workspace, New York, USA

## **2012**

- 2012 - Decade: Contemporary Collecting 2002-2012, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, USA. Catalogue
- 2012 - Fonds Commun, Ecole Supérieure d'Art et Design de Saint-Etienne, Saint-Etienne, F
- 2012 - Contemporary French Painting, Combinations of History., Museum of Contemporary Art, Permm, RUS
- 2012 - The 70s and beyond, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, J
- 2012 - Electric Fields, Shanghai Contemporary Art Museum, The Power Station, Shanghai, PRC
- 2012 - Graphite, McCormack Forefront Galleries - Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, USA

## **2011**

- 2011 - La Couleur en avant, Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain, Nice, F
- 2011 - A line of Color, Henrique Faria Gallery, New York, USA
- 2011 - Ombres et Lumieres, Galerie Nationale de la Tapisserie, Beauvais, F
- 2011 - Clearing, Services Culturel de l'Ambassade de France, New York, USA
- 2011 - Acquisitions Recentes, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou. Cabinet d'Art Graphique, Paris, F

## **2010**

- 2010 - Noir ou Blanc, FRAC Picardie, Amiens, F
- 2010 - The Cartin Collection, Ars Libri, Boston, USA
- 2010 - Whitney Biennial 2010, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA. Catalogue
- 2010 - Portraits, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Bruxelles, B
- 2010 - Celebration, Fond Régional d'Art Contemporain d'Auvergne, Clermont Ferrand, F
- 2010 - Portrait de l'Artiste en Motocyclist, Musée des Beaux Arts, Chaux-De-Fonds, CH
- 2010 - Depth Perception, Stephan Stoyanov Gallery, New York, USA
- 2010 - No New Thing Under the Sun, The Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK
- 2010 - Art on paper Biennial 2010, Wheatherspoon Art Museum, The University of North Carolina, Greensboro, USA
- 2010 - Portraits, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, F

## **2009**

- 2009 - Fragile. Terres d'empathie, curated by Lorand Hegyl, Accademia d'Ungheria - Palazzo dei Falconieri, Roma,
- 2009 - The End, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, USA
- 2009 - Je, Tu, Il ou Elle, Galerie Nationale de la Tapisserie, Beauvais, F
- 2009 - Une Expedition, Fondation Ricard, Paris, F
- 2009 - Vanités, FRAC Picardie, Château-Thierry, F
- 2009 - Comicstrip, Musée de Serignan, Serignan, F
- 2009 - Cent, Galerie Defrost, Paris, F
- 2009 - Paperview, John Jones Project Space, London, UK
- 2009 - Portrait of the Artist as a Biker, Magasin - CNAC, Grenoble, F

## **2008**

- 2008 - Dessins de la collection Florence et Daniel Guerlain, Ambassade de France, New York, USA
- 2008 - Un Voyage Sentimental, 1st Poznan Biennial - National Museum of Poznan, PL

2008 - Parallel worlds, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, J  
2008 - Double Face, Fond Régional d'Art Contemporain de Picardie, Amiens, F  
2008 - Past as Present. Works from the Lodevans Collection, York Art Gallery, York, UK  
2008 - The Essence of Touch, Saranac Art Projects Spokane, Washington DC, USA  
2008 - Offshore II, Bubaque, Guinea Bissau  
2008 - +De Réalité, Ecole Regionale des Beaux-Arts, Nantes, F  
2008 - Tension/Release, Caren Golden Fine Arts, New York, USA  
2008 - Imago Mundi, Galerie Iconoscope, Montpellier, F  
2008 - Anatomie. Les Peaux du dessin, Fond Régional d'Art Contemporain de Picardie, Amiens, F  
2008 - Desenhos Estranhos, Galeria Porta, Funchai, P  
2008 - Black, G Fine Art, Washington DC, USA

#### **2007**

2007 - Works on Paper, D'Amelio Terras, New York, USA  
2007 - Two Years, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA  
2007 - Le Merveilleux d'après Nature, Château de Malbrouck, Manderen, F  
2007 - I Am as You Will Be, Cheim & Read Gallery, New York, USA  
2007 - Realm of the Senses, The Clay Center, Charleston, USA  
2007 - The Sense of Collapse, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, J  
2007 - Conversations: Artist and Collector, North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Falls, USA  
2007 - Ink, Galerie Jo, Philadelphia, USA  
2007 - The End Begins, The Hospital, London, UK

#### **2006**

2006 - Of Mice and Men, 4th Berlin Biennial for Contemporary Art, Berlin, D. Catalogue  
2006 - To Be or not to Be: Four Hundred Years of Vanitas Painting, Hodge Galery, Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, USA  
2006 - Roland Flexner - Guy Ben Ner, Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, F  
2006 - 400 years of Vanitas, Flint Institute of Art, Flint, USA  
2006 - Dessins 2002-2005, Fond Régional d'Art Contemporain de Picardie, Amiens, F  
2006 - Head over Hand, Denise Bibro fine Art, New York, USA  
2006 - Strange, The Cartin Collection, Hartford, USA  
2006 - Collectors Choice and Show, Arkansas Art Center, Little Rock, USA  
2006 - Diagnose Kunst, Museum im Kulturspeicher, Wurzburg, D  
2006 - Take a Seat Auction Preview, Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, New York, USA

#### **2005**

2005 - Contemporary Art Reflecting Medicine, Kunstmuseum, Ahlen, D  
2005 - Co-Conspirators : Artist and Collector, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, New Paltz, USA  
2005 - Co-Conspirators : Artist and Collector, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, USA  
2005 - Medizin im Spiegel der Zeitgenössischen Kunst, Kunstmuseum, Ahlen, D  
2005 - Chronos. Il Tempo nell'Arte dall'Epoca Barocca all'Età Contemporanea, Centro Sperimentale per le Arti Contemporanee, Caraglio, I. Catalogue  
2005 - Locus Solus, Galerie Iconoscope, Montpellier, F  
2005 - Hot Town Summer in the City, Caren Golden Fine Art, New York, USA

#### **2004**

2004 - Co-Conspirator, curated by Sue Scott, Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, USA. Catalogue  
2004 - National Drawing Invitational, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, USA. Catalogue  
2004 - Breathless, curated by Dede Young, The Neuberger Museum of Art, New York, USA  
2004 - National Drawing Invitational, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, USA  
2004 - Selections from the Permanent Collection, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, J

#### **2003**

2003 - At the Edge of Science, Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Ketchum, USA  
2003 - L'Arte del Gioco: Da Klee a Boetti, Museo Regionale, Aosta, I  
2003 - Lee 3 Tau Ceti Central Armory Show, Villa Arson, Nice, F

#### **2002**

2002 - Continuity/Transgression. A Perspective on contemporary Art, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, J  
2002 - Oxygen, White Box Gallery, New York, USA

2002 - Blobs, Wiggles and Dots, The Work Space, New York, USA  
2002 - Snapshots, The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, USA  
2002 - Reactions, Exit Art, New York, USA  
2002 - Cascade of Scales, James Graham Gallery, New York, USA  
2002 - Luck of the Drawn, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, USA  
2002 - Anniversary Exhibition, Musée d'Art - The Drawing Center, New York, USA  
2002 - Best of the Season, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, USA  
2002 - Luck of the Drawn, Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain, Nice, F  
2002 - Biennale, Corcoran Museum of Art, Washington DC, USA

#### **2000**

2000 - Blurry Lines, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, USA  
2000 - Roland Flexner, Alexander giorgou, Christopher Kendi, Curt Markus Gallery, New York, USA  
2000 - Best of the Season, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, USA

#### **1999**

1999 - Radicalite, Galerie Brownstone Correard, Paris, F  
1999 - Ainsi de Suite, Centre Regional d'Art Contemporain, Sete, F  
1999 - Hands Off, Florence Lynch Gallery, New York, USA

#### **1998**

1998 - Drawings, Gallery Korea - Korean Embassy, New York, USA  
1998 - Encres sur papier, Galerie Serge Ziegler, Zürich, CH

#### **1997**

1997 - 10 Years Anniversary, Cheryl Haynes Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
1997 - Light Catchers, Usdan Gallery, Bennington College, USA  
1997 - In Vivo, Galerie Météo, Paris, F  
1997 - Ecole de Nice 1967-1997, Galerie Alexandre De la Salle, Saint-Paul-de-Vence, F  
1997 - Auto Portrait, The Calligraphy of Power, Exit Art, New York, USA  
1997 - Micro Climat sur l'Art Contemporain, Galerie Météo, Paris, F

#### **1996**

1996 - Morceaux Choisis du Fonds National d'Art Contemporain, Centre National d'Art Contemporain de Grenoble, Grenoble, F

#### **1995**

1995 - Figures, Centre d'Art du Parvis, Tarbes, F  
1995 - L'Art d'Aimer, Espace Boyer, Sete, F

#### **1994**

1994 - Untitled, Philippe Briet Gallery, New York, USA  
1994 - Le temps d'un dessin, Ecole des Beaux Arts de Lorient, Lorient, F  
1994 - Selections, Spring 93, The Drawing Center, New York, USA  
1994 - An American Collection of Contemporary French Art, French Cultural Services of the French Embassy, New York, USA

#### **1992**

1992 - Les Annees 60, Galerie Michel Vidal, Paris, F  
1992 - Vive la France, Galerie Gerald Pilzer, Paris, F

#### **1991**

1991 - Dessins, Galerie Montaigne, Paris, F

#### **1990**

1990 - Abstraction des annees 70-80, Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain de Nice, 1990, F  
1990 - Untitled, Musée des Beaux-Arts Jules Cheret, Nice, F

#### **1989**

1989 - Untitled, Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach, USA  
1989 - The School of Nice, The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, F

**1988**

1988 - Untitled, Bruno Facchetti Gallery, New York, USA

**1986**

1986 - Autour de Nice, Palais des Arts, Musees de Nice, Nice, F

**1985**

1985 - 10 years of Activities, Fondation Marie-Louise Jeanneret, Boissano, F

**1984**

1984 - Artists against Intervention in Central America, New Museum of Contemporary Art and The Westbeth Gallery, New York, USA

1984 - L'Art Contemporain au Musee, Galerie d'Art Contemporain des Musees de Nice, Nice, F

**1983**

1983 - Xenophilia, PS1, The Clock Tower, New York, USA

# Bibliography

## 2013

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- Vergne, Jean Charles. "Sous l'Amazone Coule un Fleuve" in *FRAC Auvergne*, exhibition catalogue, . Clermont-Ferrand, 2013.

## 2011

- Zanchetta, Alberto. "Viriditas" in *Frenologia della Vanitas*. Johan&Levi, 2011, pp. 320-323.

## 2010

- Hirsch, Faye. "Roland Flexner", *Art in America*, September 2010, pp. 78-83.
- Levin, Todd. "The Voices of Silence", *Flash Art International*, June 2010.
- Mart, Chus. "Whitney Biennial", *Artforum*, May 2010, pp. 240-241.
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## 2008

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## 2006

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## 2005

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## 2004

- Young, Brian. *National Drawing Invitational*, exhibition catalogue, . Arkansas, Arkansas Arts Center, 2004, pp. 18-19; 50-51.



## 2003

- Diffusion éditions sept*, exhibition catalogue, . Paris, Michel Baverey Éditeur, 2003.
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## 2002

- "A Perspective on Contemporary Art: Continuity / Transgression" in *Continuity / Transgression*, exhibition catalogue, . Tokyo, The National Museum of Modern Art, 2002.
- Nakabayashi, Kazuo. *Continuity and Transgression*, exhibition catalogue, . Tokyo, The National Museum of Contemporary Art, 2002, pp. 40-48.
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## 2001

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## 2000

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## 1999

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## 1998

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## 1997

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## 1996

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## 1995

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## 1994

- "'Exporama'. Dessins. Galerie Meteo", *Art Press*, n. 197, 1994.
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## 1993

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## 1991

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## 1990

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## 1989

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## 1985

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## 1983

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## 1982

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## 1980

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## 1979

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## 1978

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## 1977

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# Public Collections

## France

Centre National d'Art et de la Culture Georges Pompidou, Paris  
Durand-Ruel Collection, Paris  
Fondation Guerlain, Paris  
Fonds National d'Art Contemporain, Paris  
FRAC - Fond Regional d'Art Contemporain d'Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand  
FRAC - Fond Regional d'Art Contemporain de Picardie, Amiens  
Musee d'Art Contemporain de Serignan, Serignan  
Musee d'art Moderne et Contemporain, Strasbourg  
Musee d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain, Nice  
Musee d'Art Moderne, Saint-Etienne  
Musee des Beaux Arts, La Chaux de Fonds

## Italy

Francois Pinault Foundation, Venezia

## Japan

National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo

## Monaco

Nouveau Musee National Monaco, Monaco

## Portugal

Madeira Corporate Services, Madeira

## United Kingdom

Simmons & Simmons, London

## United States of America

Albright Knox Museum, Buffalo  
Arkansas Art Center Foundation. Little Rock Cottrell-Lovett Collection, New York  
Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, Michigan  
Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge  
Progressive Corporate Art Collection, Cleveland Sprint Corporation  
The Capital Group Companies, Los Angeles  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York  
The Reader's Digest, New York  
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford  
Wellington Management Company, Boston  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York