

Matthew Wong

Biography

Matthew Wong (1984, Toronto, Canada; 2019, Edmonton, Canada) was a self-taught Canadian artist whose vibrant landscapes evoke the spirit of Post-Impressionist painters like Vincent van Gogh and Paul Sérusier. With his signature style, Wong synthesised forms, bold colours, and mystical themes, creating rich, evocative scenes that often convey a melancholic yearning. Wong's artworks are visual poems that speak to the subjectivity of colour and the power of universal archetypes. In his landscapes, nature is the chief protagonist, animated with a vitality that transcends time and space. Through bold strokes of colour and the sparest of details, Wong creates scenes that resonate with melancholic tenderness and humour, conveying the ineffable states of being that inhabit the human experience.

Wong's work is held in notable public collections across the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Guggenheim Museum, New York; Dallas Museum of Art, Texas; Aïshti Foundation, Beirut; Esteé Lauder Collection, New York; Art Gallery of Ontario, Ontario.

Solo exhibitions

2025

2025 - six feet short of the moon: poems by Matthew Wong, The Milton Resnick and Pat Passlof Foundation, New York, USA

2025 - Vincent van Gogh: Painting as a Last Resort, The Albertina, Wien, A

2024

2024 - Matthew Wong | Vincent van Gogh: Painting as a Last Resort, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, NL

2024 - Matthew Wong | Vincent van Gogh: Painting as a Last Resort, Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich, CH

2023

2023 - Matthew Wong: The Realm of Appearances, MFA, Boston, USA

2023 - A Brief Window, MASSIMODECARLO, London,

2022

2022 - Matthew Wong: The Realm of Appearances, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, USA

2022 - The New World, Paintings from Los Angeles 2016, Cheim & Read, New York, USA. Catalogue

2021

2021 - Footprints in the Wind, Ink Drawings 2013–2017, Cheim & Read, New York, USA. Catalogue

2021 - Blue View, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, CDN

2020

2020 - Postcards, ARCH, Athens, GR. Catalogue

2019

2019 - Day By Night, Massimo De Carlo, Hong Kong,

2019 - Blue, Karma, New York, USA

2016

2016 - Good Bad Brush with Peter Shear, The Occasional, Burlington, Washington, USA

2015

2015 - Pulse of the Land, Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre, Hong Kong, HK

2014

2014 - Chapter One, Cuiheng Art Museum, Zhongshan, PRC

Group exhibitions**2022**

2022 - In Bloom, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, F

2020

2020 - (Nothing but) Flowers, Karma, New York, USA

2020 - An Alternative Canon: Art Dealers Collecting Outsider Art, curated by Paul Laster, Andrew Edlin, New York, USA

2020 - To Be Determined, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, USA

2019

2019 - A Cloth Over a Birdcage, Château Shatto, Los Angeles, USA

2019 - Away in the Hill, GRIMM Gallery, New York, USA

2019 - Reading Painting, curated by Maya Strauss, Seth Becker, Treasure Town, New York, USA

2018

2018 - Sky Above Clouds, Performance Ski, Aspen, USA

2018 - Trance, curated by Albert Oehlen, Aishti Foundation, Beirut, LB

2018 - Monomania, curated by Shaun Ellison and Paul Whiting, George Gallery, New York, USA

2017

2017 - The Horizontal, Cheim and Read, New York, USA

2017 - Flemming Faloon, Office Baroque, Bruxelles, B

2017 - Plastic Surgery, to look like you, Galerie Frank Elbaz, Dallas, USA

2016

2016 - Tom Friedman (+The Birthday Show), Gallery 1969, New York, USA

2016 - Good Bad Brush, Occasional Gallery, Burlington, USA

2016 - Cold Summer, curated by Peter Shear, The Provincial, Kaleva, Michigan, USA

2016 - Outside, Karma, Amagansett, New York, USA

Bibliography

2024

Nayeri, Farah. "Examining the Connection Between Vincent van Gogh and Artists", *The New York Times*, February 29 2024.

2023

Arn, Jackson. "Matthew Wong turned leliness into a landscape", *The New Yorker*, September 4 2023.
Ford, Lauren Moya. "Matthew Wong's Tenacious Vision", *Hyperallergic*, January 10 2023.
Greenberger, Alex. "A Must-See Matthew Wong Retrospective Reveals New Sides of an Artist Whose Story Is Still Emerging", *ARTnews.com*, July 28 2023.

2022

"Matthew Wong's Solitude and Longing in New York", *Ocula*, June 22 2022.
Bourbon, Matthew. "Promise cut short: Dallas show examines the late artist Matthew Wong's growing prowess", *The Dallas Morning News*, November 3 2022.
Khatchadourian, Raffi. "Matthew Wong's Life in Light and Shadow", *The New Yorker*, May 9 2022.

2021

"Matthew Wong landscape to lead Phillips' New Now auction on 3 March", *ArtDaily*, February 2021.
Dafoe, Taylor. "The Late Artist Matthew Wong Made an Ink Drawing Every Morning. For the First Time, Two Dozen Will Go on View in New York", *Artnet*, April 2021.
Parkes, Isabel. "Matthew Wong", *Artforum*, May 2021.
Russet, Andrew. "Matthew Wong Ink Works, Never Before Exhibited, Will Alight in New York", *Artnews*, April 13 2021.

2020

Drake, Cathryn. "Matthew Wong. Arch", *Artforum*, December 2020.
Kinsella, Eileen. "A Matthew Wong Painting Just Sold at Christie's for a Record \$4.5 Million, Marking a Frenzied Turning Point in the Late Artist's Market", *Artnet*, October 2020.

2019

"MATTHEW WONG (1984–2019)", *Artforum*, October 7 2019.
Freeman, Nate. "The Art World Remembers Matthew Wong, Self-Taught Painter of Vibrant Landscapes, Who Has Died at 35", *Artnet*, October 7 2019.
Genzlinger, Neil. "Matthew Wong, Painter on Cusp of Fame, Dies at 35", *The New York Times*, October 21 2019.
Malone, Peter. "Why Landscape Painting Is Thriving in the 21st Century", *Hyperallergic*, 21 March 2019.

2018

"Matthew Wong", *The New Yorker*, 17 April 2018.
Heinrich, Will. "Matthew Wong", *The New York Times*, 13 April 2018.
Saltz, Jerry. "Losing Myself in the Paintings of Facebook-Educated Matthew Wong", *Vulture*, 19 April 2018.
Sutphin, Eric. "Matthew Wong", *Art in America*, 1 June 2018.

Tilley, John Martin. "Scenery from the Subconscious", *Office Magazine*, March 26 2018.
Yau, John. "Matthew Wong's Hallucinatory Pilgrimages", *Hyperallergic*, 21 April 2018.

2017

Heinrich, Will. "What to See in New York Art Galleries This Week", *The New York Times*, 20 July 2017.

Public Collections

Canada

Art Gallery of Ontario, Ontario

Lebanon

Aïshti Foundation, Beirut

United States of America

Dallas Museum of Art, Texas
Esteé Lauder Collection, New York
Guggenheim Museum, New York
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Museum of Modern Art, New York