

# John McAllister

## Biography

John McAllister was born in Slidell, Louisiana in 1973. He lives and works in Northampton, Massachusetts.

John McAllister, deeply drawn to the enigmatic play of light, immersed himself in its exploration through the medium of painting. His journey from California to New York proved pivotal, especially his encounter with Post-Impressionist masters at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The works of Pierre Bonnard and Henri Matisse drew him into the tradition of twentieth-century artists who strive to capture the immemorial elements of light.

In his landscapes, instead of sketching specific scenes and points of view in the natural world, McAllister creates imagined vistas inspired by the sense of the sublime experienced in the beauty of nature. The artist engages in an ever-evolving dialogue with his environment; formed as close by as the flowers planted in his garden beyond his studio door, to riding his bike for miles through the wilderness in his surrounding Massachusetts. Back in the studio he creates scenes that possess the kind of harmonious beauty only possible with a considerate understanding of the delicate balance between the oppositional forces in nature and its constant state of flux: the fleetingness of a single ray of light against the ubiquitous being of the sun: the endless cycle of creative growth into hibernation and decay.

McAllister's almost electric tonalities paint vivid and blooming scenes that embody the essence of pleasure and delight that coexist in painting and nature. His canvases defy conventional perspective, merging flat surfaces with illusions of depth set against intricate backdrops reminiscent of textiles and wallpapers. Each painting - whether a still life, landscape, or detailed interior - offers a poetic glimpse into a world where naïvety flirts with decadence.

McAllister's works are included in public collections such as The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; The Rubell Family Collection, Miami and Le Consortium, Dijon, FR.

### Solo exhibitions

#### 2024

2024 - John McAllister, MASSIMODECARLO, Hong Kong, PRC

2024 - sometimes splendid seeming...stellar even...ripping, James Fuentes, Los Angeles, USA

2024 - Sculpting Earth, Painting Sensations, Almine Rech Gallery, Paris, F

#### 2023

2023 - sometimes symphony clatter calm, Wentrup Gallery, Berlin, D

#### 2022

2022 - be delirious reveries ringing, Almine Rech, Brussels, B

#### 2021

2021 - some rhapsodies radiant, Almine Rech, Brussels, B

**2020**

2020 - Adrift gleaming serenest rustling air, Wentrup Gallery, Berlin, D

**2019**

2019 - silence sounding sumptuous, James Fuentes, New York, USA

2019 - John McAllister, Richard Telles Fine Art, Los Angeles, USA

**2018**

2018 - cymbals of sleep uncurtain the night, James Fuentes, New York, USA

**2017**

2017 - botanic haunting soft-static, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, USA

2017 - Wished-for wilds, Carl Freedman Gallery, London, UK

**2016**

2016 - Chorus clamors sultry, Wentrup Gallery, Berlin, D

2016 - riot rose summary, Almine Rech, Brussels, B

**2015**

2015 - sudden thunder some motley sea, Hagiwara Projects, Tokyo, J

2015 - Sultry Spells Rapture, Richard Telles Fine Art, Los Angeles, USA

2015 - serene raving radiant, James Fuentes, New York, USA

**2014**

2014 - tides must exalt, James Fuentes, New York, USA

2014 - stellar crash the sea, Carl Freedman, London, UK

**2012**

2012 - starry sudden without bales, Shane Campbell, Chicago, USA

2012 - serenest riots away, Carl Freedman, London, UK

2012 - Duskbright Bellows, Richard Telles, Los Angeles, USA

**2011**

2011 - Damned Sparkling Pomp, James Fuentes, New York, USA

2011 - Damned Sparkling Pomp, Ribordy Contemporary, Geneve, CH

**2010**

2010 - Much Pretty Reverie, James Fuentes, New York, USA

**2009**

2009 - Alistair, James Fuentes, New York, USA

**2008**

2008 - Fire, James Fuentes, New York, USA

**Group exhibitions****2024**

2024 - The beauty of things: Still life from 1900 to today, Kunsthalle, Emden, D

**2023**

2023 - Particular Kind of Heaven, curated by Ali Dipp, parrasch heijnen, Los Angeles, USA

2023 - Chromazones, Analog Diary, Beacon, USA

**2022**

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

2022 - Symbiosis, Berkshire Botanical Garden, Stockbridge, USA

2022 - Les Fleur du Mâle, Musée International d'Art Naïf Anatole Jakovsky, Nice, F

2022 - Unnatural Nature: Post-Pop Landscapes, Acquavella Galleries, New York, USA

**2021**

2021 - Marcia Hafif and John McAllister, Parts & Labor, Beacon, New York, USA  
2021 - Salon de Peinture, Almine Rech, New York, USA  
2021 - EXPEDITION, Brattleboro, Vermont, USA

**2020**

2020 - INTERIORS: hello from the living room, 1969 Gallery, New York, USA

**2019**

2019 - Contemporary Landscape, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, USA  
2019 - Group show, MAMCO, Geneva, CH

**2018**

2018 - Group show, Le Consortium, Dijon, F

**2015**

2015 - The Shell (Landscapes, Portraits & Shapes), a show by Eric Troncy, Almine Rech, Paris, F

**2014**

2014 - All a tremulous heart requires, ZieherSmith, New York, USA  
2014 - Inside Arrangement, Mary Mary, Glasgow, UK  
2014 - L'Almanach 14, Le Consortium, Dijon, F  
2014 - Don't Look Now, curated by 247365, Zach Feuer, New York, USA

**2011**

2011 - Six Pack, Richard Telles Fine Art, Los Angeles, USA  
2011 - American Exuberance, Rubell Family Collection, Miami, USA. Catalogue

**2009**

2009 - Harlequin, Sister / Cottage Home, Los Angeles, USA

**2008**

2008 - Joan Mitchell Foundation: 2007 MFA Grant Recipients Show, Cue Art Foundations, New York, USA

**2007**

2007 - Greater Los Angeles Master of Fine Arts Exhibition, California State University, Long Beach, USA  
2007 - The Old Unstable Stable: MFA Thesis Exhibition, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, USA

**2006**

2006 - 2nd ANNUAL L.A. WEEKLY BIENNIAL: MFA WMDs: Selections From L.A. Art Schools, Track 16 Gallery, Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, USA

# Bibliography

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- Tarmy, James. "How to Succeed as an Artsit without Relying on 'The Art World'", *Bloomberg*, December 13 2017.
- Troncy, Eric. "Point de vue – John McAllister", *Numero Magazine*, December 2013.

# Public Collections

## **France**

Consortium Museum, Dijon

## **United States of America**

Hammer Museum, Los Angeles

Rubell Family Collection, Miami