Nicole Wittenberg
Biography

Nicole Wittenberg (born 1979) is an American artist based in New York City. She is a curator, professor, writer, and painter.

Wittenberg's paintings reveal intimate, meditative scenes from her surrounding world. First exploring her chosen site through loose, pastel compositions rendered *en plein air*, Wittenberg captures the sensations of her subject matter, then reimagines them on canvas, where a single composition often undergoes a series of transformations.

Wittenberg draws from the rich art historical traditions of painters who find inspiration in the natural world, employing precedents set by the Venetian school, Impressionists, Fauves, and American landscape painters, among others. Wittenberg has developed series of paintings dedicated to the various natural sceneries she has encountered, including the enigmatic landscapes of Maine, the apocalyptic sunsets during the height of California's wildfires, and bodies of water like the Aegean and Caribbean Seas, and Pacific Ocean. Though her compositions are created from observation and life, Wittenberg privileges an emotional state, rendering her surroundings in brilliant colors and automatic, expressive mark making. The resulting creations are personal, unmediated glimpses of universal vistas.

Wittenberg was born in San Francisco, CA, and received her BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute in 2003. She received the American Academy of Arts and Letters coveted John Koch Award for Best Young Figurative Painter in 2012. From 2011–2014 she served as a teacher at the New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture, and the Bruce High Quality Foundation University, and in 2017 she was a professor in the Critical Theory Department at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

Wittenberg's works are included in many prominent collections, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; The Albertina, Vienna, Austria; the Boston Museum of Fine Art, Boston, MA; Aishti Foundation, Beirut, Lebanon; and others.

Solo exhibitions

2026

2026 - Why the Butterflies , MASSIMODECARLO, Hong Kong, PRC

2025

2025 - A Sailboat in the Moonlight, curated by Devon Zimmerman, The Ogunquit Museum of American Art, Ogunquit, ME, USA. Catalogue
2025 - Ain't Misbehavin', Maison la Roche, Paris, F

2024

2024 - Nicole Wittenberg, Fernberger Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
2024 - We've got forever, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I
2024 - Jumpin' at the Woodside, Fernberger Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
2024 - Cheek to Cheek, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, USA

2023

2023 - Tennis Elbow, Journal Gallery, New York, USA
2023 - Distant Waters, Nina Johnson Gallery, Miami, USA
2023 - Moonshine Lullaby, MASSIMODECARLO, London, UK

2022

2022 - Our Love is Here to Stay, Acquavella Galleries, Palm Beach, USA
2022 - Tennis Elbow, Journal Gallery, New York, USA

2021

2021 - Honeysuckle Rose, Ross + Kramer, East Hampton, USA

2020

2020 - Tennis Elbow, Journal Gallery, New York, USA
2020 - Sunday Kind of Love, Nina Johnson Gallery, Miami, USA

2018

2018 - Them, There, Eyes, Yours Mine Ours Gallery, New York, USA

2017

2017 - Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow, Galerie Lisa Kandlhofer, Vienna, A
2017 - Comin' Thro' the Rye, Nina Johnson Gallery, Miami, USA

2016

2016 - The Yellow Kiss, Yours Mine & Ours Gallery, New York, USA

2012

2012 - The Malingerers, Freight and Volume Gallery, New York, USA

Group exhibitions

2026

2026 - Clever, Quick, Magnetic: The Art of Witty Banter , curated by David Salle, Oklahoma Contemporary, OK, Oklahoma , USA

2025

2025 - A Particular Kind of Heaven, Karma, Thomaston, ME, USA

2024

2024 - City Life, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, DK
2024 - dominant traits, Sixth Sense Advisory, New York, NY, USA
2024 - Human Nature, Journal Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA
2024 - Trav'lin' Light, Journal Gallery, Old School of Chora, Patmos, GR

2023

2023 - Works on Paper: 100 Years, Amanita, New York, USA
2023 - VIVID, Acquavella Galleries, Palm Beach, USA
2023 - On Genres, Winter Street Gallery, Edgartown, USA
2023 - Oak House, Fernberger Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
2023 - Land and Sea, Hunter Dunbar Projects, New York, USA
2023 - Beautiful, Vivid, Self-Contained, curated by David Salle, Hill Art Foundation, New York, USA
2023 - Immersed, Jack Siebert Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2022

2022 - The View from Here, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, USA
2022 - Unnatural Nature: Post-Pop Landscapes, Acquavella Gallery, New York, USA
2022 - Nicole Wittenberg: Pastels; Aase Texmon Rygh: Sculptures, SFA Advisory, New York, USA
2022 - Some People, Cheim & Read, New York, USA
2022 - Shrubs, Night Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
2022 - By a Thread, A.I. Gallery, London, UK

2021

2021 - Read Desert, curated by John Garcia, Rockaway Artists Alliance, New York, USA
2021 - Powder Your Face with Sunshine, Viewing Room at Ross + Kramer, New York, USA
2021 - Rewilding, Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
2021 - Ridiculously Sublime, SFA Advisory, New York, USA
2021 - Sunny Side Up, SUNNY NY, New York, USA

2020

2020 - Downtown Painting, Peter Freeman Gallery, New York, USA
2020 - For My Lovers Only, curated by John Garcia, cfcp Presents, New York, USA
2020 - Yellow, September Gallery, Hudson, USA
2020 - Temple of Love, curated by Faye Wei Wei, Cob Gallery, London, UK
2020 - In Her Hands, curated by David Salle, Skarstedt Gallery, New York, USA
2020 - The Hawt Show II, Galerie Rolando Anselmi, Atina, I

2018

2018 - Relating Narratives, curated by Rose Gibbs, Horse Hospital, London, UK
2018 - New Work Part 3, Subject Cob Gallery, London, UK
2018 - It's Personal, Edward Ressle Gallery, New York, USA
2018 - Reflector, Luciana Brito Gallery, New York, USA

2017

2017 - Look! New Acquisitions, Albertina, Vienna, A
2017 - Visionary Painting: Curated by Alex Katz, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, USA
2017 - The Roger Ailes Memorial Show: Fair and Balanced, Yours Mine & Ours Gallery, New York, USA
2017 - Boys of Summer, Upstairs Art Fair, Yours Mine & Ours Gallery, Amagansett, USA

2016

2016 - A Stay in the Paphos Loop, Offspace.xyz, New York, USA
2016 - The Female Gaze, Part Two: Women Look at Men, Cheim Read Gallery, New York, USA
2016 - DICKS, Fortnight Institute, New York, USA
2016 - Mi Casa, Tu Casa, Johannes Vogt Gallery, New York, USA
2016 - Nice Weather, curated by David Salle, Skarstedt Gallery, New York, USA

2015

2015 - Intimates, Four AM, New York, USA
2015 - Painter's Painters: Gifts from Alex Katz, High Museum of Art Atlanta, Atlanta, USA

2014

2014 - Come Like Shadows, Zürcher Studio, New York, USA
2014 - Night Tide, Gallery Diet, Miami, USA
2014 - The Last Brucennial, The Bruce High Quality Foundation, New York, USA

2013

2013 - American Treasures: Other Voices, Farnsworth Museum, Rockland, USA
2013 - Ugly, Broke, Sober, Kathleen Cullen Fine Arts, New York, USA
2013 - Nowhere but Here: Art from the Alex Katz Foundation, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, USA
2013 - The Roving Eye: Aura and the Contemporary Portrait, Oakland University Art Gallery, Oakland, USA
2013 - All the Best People, 1:1 Gallery, New York, USA

2012

2012 - Brucennial, The Bruce High Quality Foundation, New York, USA
2012 - Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, USA
2012 - Interior Visions: Selections from the Collection, Colby College Museum, Waterville, USA
2012 - Building a College Collection: Select Recent Acquisitions, Bowdoin College Museum, Waterville, USA

2011

2011 - The Fitting Room, Johannes Vogt Gallery, New York, USA

Public Collections

Austria

The Albertina, Vienna

Lebanon

Aishti Foundation, Beirut

United States

Boston Museum of Fine Art, Boston, MA
Bowdoin College Museum of Art, MA
Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME
Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH
Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, ME
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York