

URBAN POP

MIKE HAMMER

Mike Hammer is a contemporary abstract painter interested in color, texture and the possibilities of paint as object. Hammer's signature "blob" paintings were developed in 2014 through a process of experimentation. While working on a series of wet-in-wet pour paintings, Hammer chose to allow the initial layer to dry fully. The next pour layer produced and maintained a nearly perfect circle. These circles, or "blobs," now form the basis of his work. Hammer's paintings celebrate both the vitality and strength of color and aim to push the boundaries of painting.

Hammer's work can be found in a myriad of private and corporate collections throughout the world.

Artist Statement

"I am fascinated with paint and color. I pour large quantities of acrylic paint to form circular 'blobs' of varying sizes. By allowing each layer to dry prior to successive pours, the painting expands dramatically from the surface. I spontaneously apply various color combinations to each blob, hoping to captivate audiences with their sculpture-like nature and myriad of contrasting colors."

"Hammer builds layer upon layer, a visual fine art stalactite. This new visual experience is the juddering of circular entities, atoms pulsating together, and generating a kind of molecular vibration – a harmonic motion."

Gabriel Delgado, *Wall Street International Magazine* (March 2020)

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 *Convolved Color Cacophony*, Rosenbaum Contemporary; Boca Raton, Florida
- 2019 SCOPE Miami, Gallery 133; Miami, Florida
Evolve, Gallery 133; Miami, Florida
- 2017 *Eye Candy*, Laura Rathe Fine Art; Houston, Texas
- 2012 *Rhythm and Opticality*, Michael Gibson Gallery; London, Ontario, Canada

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Selected Solo Exhibitions (continued)

- 2010 *Swerve*, Gallery 133; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2004 *Round About*, Broome Street Gallery, New York
- 2003 *Raw Obsessions*, Gallery Neubacher; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2002 *Alive*, Gallery Neubacher; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2000 *No Things*, Childress Gallery; Ojai, California

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2018 *Dream Weaver*, Laura Rathe Fine Art; Houston, Texas
To The Future, Laura Rathe Fine Art; Dallas, Texas
- 2015 *Hammer, Rotter, Young*; Gallery 133; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2011 Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibit, Nathan Philips Square; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2010 Varied Artists, Art Gallery of Hamilton; Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
- 2009 Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibit; Nathan Philips Square; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Aqua Art Miami, Michael Gibson Gallery; Miami, Florida
Museum of Israel Fundraiser, Edward Day Gallery; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Deck The Walls, Alma Gallery; Guelph, Ontario, Canada
- 2007 Art Chicago, Michael Gibson Gallery; Chicago, Illinois
- 2006 *Stripes, Checks & Balances*, Michael Gibson Gallery; London, Ontario, Canada
- 2005 *Infinite Visions*, Deleon White Gallery; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2003 Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibit, Nathan Philips Square; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Blister in the Sun: Contact, Gallery Neubacher; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 2002 *Bag of Tricks*, Gallery Neubacher; Toronto, Ontario, Canada

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Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2000 *Erotica*, Childress Gallery; Ojai, California
- 1999 *Day of the Dead*, Childress Gallery; Ojai, California
- 1996 *Point of Entry*, Union Gallery; Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Selected Publications

- 2003 "A Unique Crescendo of Pitch & Paint," *The National Post*
"Abstract Painter," *North York Post*
- 2002 "Chance Meets Discipline," *The Toronto Star*
- 2000 "Chaos Cheery," *The Los Angeles Times*
"Visual Balancing Act," *Ventura County Reporter*

Grants

- 2004 Exhibition Assistance Grant, Canadian Consulate, New York
Travel Grant, Canadian Consulate, New York
- 2003 Exhibition Assistance Grant, Ontario Arts Council

Collections

Department of Foreign Affairs, New York
Duca Financial; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Lerners Barristers and Solicitors; Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Fogler Rubinoff LLP; Toronto, Ontario, Canada