

## ALEX KATZ

Alex Katz was born on July 24, 1927, in Brooklyn, New York. In his youth, he attended Woodrow Wilson High School in Queens, which enabled him to devote his mornings to academics and his afternoons to art. He went on to study from 1946 through 1949 at Cooper Union in New York and from 1949 through 1950 at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Skowhegan, Maine.

By 1954, Katz had his first solo show at the Roko Gallery in New York. The following year he began making cut-paper collages.

In the late 1950s, he began to attempt greater realism in his paintings and became increasingly interested in creating portraits, particularly of his wife, Ada, who has been his model and his muse since they married in 1958, as well as of friends and family members. He also began using the monochromatic backgrounds which have become a defining characteristic of his style.

In the early 1960s, he began producing large-scale works, often with dramatically cropped faces. After 1964, he began depicting groups of figures including artists, critics and others in his social circle, which he continued through the 1970s. In 1965, he added printmaking to his artistic repertoire.

In the 1980s, Katz began using fashion models as subjects for his portraits. In the late 1980s and 1990s, he began to focus on large landscape paintings that give viewers the sensation of being enveloped by nature. In 1986, he began series of night paintings to explore a new type of light. From the 1990s through the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, he created many paintings exploring the theme of light falling through tree branches. At the start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, he also began painting multiples of flowers. In 2010, he began cropping his individual portraits more severely and started creating paintings featuring sequences of multiple closely cropped images of a single subject depicted from various angles. He has recently begun to work from images he takes with his iPhone.

Katz's work has been the subject of more than 200 solo exhibitions and nearly 500 group exhibitions internationally and is found in public collections throughout the world, including the Paul J. Schupf Wing for the Works of Alex Katz at Colby College, one of the few museum wings in the United States dedicated solely to the work of a living artist.

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## contemporary

### **Selected Solo Exhibitions**

- 2018 "Alex Katz: People & Places," Rosenbaum Contemporary; Boca Raton, Florida
- 2017 "Brand-New & Terrific: Alex Katz in the 1950s," Cleveland Museum of Art; Cleveland, Ohio  
"Alex Katz: Small Paintings," Boca Raton Museum of Art; Boca Raton, Florida
- 2016 "Alex Katz: Small Paintings," Center for Maine Contemporary Art; Rockland, Maine
- 2015 "Alex Katz: This is Now," High Museum of Art; Atlanta, Georgia  
"Brand-New & Terrific: Alex Katz in the 1950s," Colby College Museum of Art; Waterville, Maine  
"Alex Katz at the Met," Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York  
"Alex Katz: This is Now," Guggenheim Bilbao; Bilbao, Spain
- 2014 "Artist Rooms: Alex Katz," Tate Modern; London, England  
"Alex Katz: Drawings, Cartoons, Paintings," The Albertina Museum; Vienna, Austria
- 2013 "Alex Katz: Landscapes," Museum Haus Konstruktiv; Zurich, Switzerland  
"Alex Katz: New York/Maine," Museum der Moderne; Salzburg, Austria  
"Alex Katz/Félix Vallotton," Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts; Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2012 "Alex Katz: Give Me Tomorrow," Tate St. Ives; St. Ives, England  
"Alex Katz: Maine/New York," Colby College Museum of Art; Waterville, Maine
- 2011 "Alex Katz," Museum Ostwall; Dortmund, Germany  
"Alex Katz: Naked Beauty," Kestnergesellschaft; Hanover, Germany
- 2010 "Alex Katz;" National Portrait Gallery; London, England  
"Alex Katz Prints;" The Albertina Museum; Vienna, Austria  
"Alex Katz: New York;" Farnsworth Art Museum; Rockland, Maine

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contemporary

**Selected Solo Exhibitions (continued)**

- 2010 "Alex Katz: Prints, Paintings, Cutouts," Kunsthalle Würth; Schwäbisch Hall, Germany  
"Alex Katz," Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania  
"Alex Katz: Seeing, Drawing, Making," Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, New York (organized by The Gallery at Windsor, Vero Beach, Florida)
- 2009 "Alex Katz: An American Way of Seeing;" Sara Hildén Museum, Tampere, Finland; Musée Grenoble, France; Museum Kurhaus Kleve, Germany
- 2007 "Alex Katz;" Irish Museum of Modern Art; Dublin, Ireland
- 2006 "Alex Katz in European Collections," Langen Foundation; Neuss, Germany  
"Alex Katz: Woodcuts and Linocuts," Colby College Museum of Art; Waterville, Maine  
"Alex Katz Paints Ada, 1957-2005," The Jewish Museum, New York  
"Alex Katz: Recent Works," Rosenbaum Contemporary; Boca Raton, Florida
- 2005 "Alex Katz Collages;" Colby College Art Museum; Waterville, Maine  
"Alex Katz: Recent Paintings," CAC Malaga; Malaga, Spain  
"Alex Katz in Maine," Farnsworth Art Museum; Rockland, Maine  
"Alex Katz," Rosenbaum Contemporary; Boca Raton, Florida
- 2004 "Alex Katz: Cartoons and Paintings," The Albertina Museum; Vienna, Austria
- 2003 "Alex Katz: Cutouts," Deichtorhallen Hamburg; Hamburg, Germany
- 2002 "Alex Katz: Small Paintings;" Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, Maine; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris, New York; Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, Missouri; Oklahoma City Museum, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; The Austin Museum of Art, Austin, Texas
- 2000 "Regarding Alex Katz," Carnegie Museum of Art; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 1999 "Alex Katz," Galleria Civica Di Arte Contemporanea; Trento, Italy

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## contemporary

### **Selected Solo Exhibitions (continued)**

- 1998 "Alex Katz: Twenty Five Years of Painting," The Saatchi Collection; London, England
- 1996 "Alex Katz Under the Stars: Landscapes 1951-1995," Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland; Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida; Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine; and Institute for Contemporary Art/P.S. 1 Museum, Long Island City, New York  
"Alex Katz," I.V.A.M. Centre Julio Gonzalez; Valencia, Spain
- 1995 "Alex Katz: American Landscape," Staatliche Kunsthalle; Baden-Baden, Germany
- 1988 "Alex Katz: A Print Retrospective," Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York
- 1986 "Retrospective Exhibition," Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (traveled to Center for the Fine Arts, Miami, Florida)
- 1974 "Alex Katz Prints," Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (traveled to Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia; Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, Utah; The Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, California; University Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota and the Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, Indiana.)

### **Selected Awards**

- 2023 National Medal of Arts; Washington, D.C.
- 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award, National Academy Museum, New York
- 2001 Philip Morris Distinguished Artist, American Academy; Berlin, Germany
- 1988 Inducted into the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters
- 1987 Art Award for Lifetime Achievement, Queens Museum, New York
- 1972 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship for Painting

**Selected Collections**

Addison Gallery of American Art; Andover, Massachusetts  
The Albert & Vera List Arts Center; Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
The Albertina Museum, Essl Collection; Vienna, Austria  
Albright-Knox Museum; Buffalo, New York  
Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College; Oberlin, Ohio  
Altana Haus Museum; Bad Homburg, Germany  
American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York  
Albright-Knox Museum; Buffalo, New York  
The Arkansas Art Center; Little Rock, Arkansas  
The Art Gallery of Ontario; Toronto, Canada  
The Art Institute of Chicago; Chicago, Illinois  
Atenium Taidemuso; Helsinki, Finland  
Bayerische Staatsbibliothek; Munich, Germany  
Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Moderne Kunst; Munich, Germany  
Berardo Museum Collection; Sintra, Portugal  
Bowdoin College Museum of Art; Brunswick, Maine  
The Brooklyn Museum, New York  
Carnegie Museum of Art; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
Chicago Arts Club; Chicago, Illinois  
Chrysler Museum of Art; Norfolk, Virginia  
Cincinnati Art Museum; Cincinnati, Ohio  
Cleveland Museum of Art; Cleveland, Ohio  
Colby College Museum of Art; Waterville, Maine  
Collection Westdeutsch Spielbank; Cologne, Germany  
Daros Collection; Zurich, Switzerland  
Delaware Art Museum; Wilmington, Delaware  
Denver Art Museum; Denver, Colorado  
Des Moines Art Center; Des Moines, Iowa  
Detroit Institute of Art; Detroit, Michigan  
Equitable Life Insurance, New York  
Essl Museum; Vienna, Austria  
Everhard Museum; Scranton, Pennsylvania  
Exxon Corporate Collection, New York  
Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University; Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Fondation d'Art Contemporaine; Paris, France  
Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art, Pepperdine University; Malibu, California

**Selected Collections (continued)**

Frisia Museum; Spanbroek, Holland  
Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia; Athens, Georgia  
Graphische Sammlung Albertina; Vienna, Austria  
Guggenheim Museum; Bilbao, Spain  
The Grey Art Gallery, NYU Art Collection, New York University, New York  
High Museum of Art; Atlanta, Georgia  
Hiroshima City Museum; Hiroshima, Japan  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution; Washington, D.C.  
Honolulu Academy of Art; Honolulu, Hawaii  
Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College; Hanover, New Hampshire  
Hunter Museum of American Art; Chattanooga, Tennessee  
The Israel Museum; Jerusalem, Israel  
IVAM Centre Julio Gonzalez; Valencia, Spain  
Iwaki City Art Museum; Iwaki, Japan  
The Jewish Museum, New York  
Joe & Emily Loe Art Gallery, Syracuse University; Syracuse, New York  
Joslyn Art Museum; Omaha, Nebraska  
Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art; Kansas City, Missouri  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Los Angeles, California  
Madison Museum of Contemporary Art; Madison, Wisconsin  
Meadow Brook Art Gallery, Oakland University; Oakland, California  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York  
Metropolitan Museum of Art; Tokyo, Japan  
Miami-Dade Community College; Miami, Florida  
Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art; Middlesbrough, England  
Milwaukee Art Museum; Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth; Fort Worth, Texas  
Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute of Art; Utica, New York  
Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts; Lausanne, Switzerland  
Musée National d'Art Moderne—Centre Georges Pompidou; Paris, France  
Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art; Luxembourg City, Luxembourg  
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía; Madrid, Spain  
Museo Rufino Tamayo; Mexico City, Mexico  
Museum Brandhorst; Munich, Germany  
Museum Frieder Burda; Baden-Baden, Germany  
Museum Kurhause Kleve; Kleve, Germany  
Museum Moderner Kunst; Vienna, Austria  
Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design; Providence, Rhode Island

**Selected Collections (continued)**

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Boston, Massachusetts  
Museum of Fine Arts; Houston, Texas  
Museum of Modern Art, New York  
Museum Würth; Künzelsau, Germany  
National Collection of Fine Arts; Washington, D.C.  
National Gallery of Art; Washington, D.C.  
National Gallery of Scotland; Edinburgh, Scotland  
National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution; Washington, D.C.  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art; Kansas City, Missouri  
Neue Galerie; Aachen, Germany  
New Jersey State Museum; Trenton, New Jersey  
New Orleans Museum of Art; New Orleans, Louisiana  
North Carolina Museum of Art; Raleigh, North Carolina  
Olin Art Center, Bates College; Lewiston, Maine  
The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia Museum of Art; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
The Phillips Collection; Washington, D.C.  
The Picker Art Gallery, Colgate University; Hamilton, New York  
Portland Art Museum; Portland, Oregon  
Portland Museum of Art; Portland, Maine  
Princeton University Art Museum; Princeton, New Jersey  
Rahr West Museum; Manitowoc, Wisconsin  
Rice Museum, Rice University; Houston, Texas  
Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University; Waltham, Massachusetts  
Saatchi Collection; London, England  
Sarah Hilden Museum of Art; Tampere, Finland  
Scheringa Museum Voor; Spanbroek, Holland  
Sioux City Art Center; Sioux City, Iowa  
Smithsonian Institute; Washington, D.C.  
Sonje Museum of Contemporary Art; Kyonqiu-Shi, Korea  
Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas; Lawrence, Kansas  
Staatliche Museen Preussischer Kulturbesitz Nationalgalerie; Berlin, Germany  
Tate Gallery; London, England  
University of Iowa Museum of Art; Iowa City, Iowa  
University of South Florida Art Galleries; Tampa, Florida  
Utah Museum of Fine Arts; Salt Lake City, Utah  
Virginia Museum of Fine Art; Richmond, Virginia  
Virginia Wright Fund; Seattle, Washington

***Selected Collections (continued)***

Wadsworth Atheneum; Hartford, Connecticut

Wake Forest University; Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Greensboro,  
North Carolina

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

Wichita Art Museum; Wichita, Kansas

William A Farnsworth Library and Art Museum; Rockland, Maine

Worcester Art Museum; Worcester, Maine