

JOSEPH JUSTUS

Joseph Justus (b. 1982) is a contemporary American artist whose works re-imagine the physical and conceptual landscapes of his hometown, Los Angeles. Drawing inspiration from the urban fabric and the human body, his paintings experiment with surfaces that act as lenses or x-rays steadily moving in and out of plane. We see one thing on the surface – skin, buildings – but there are complex currents right under the surface.

Justus mainly works with acrylic and spray paint, but also explores polyurethane in a series of hanging sculptures. His work is unified by the exploration of the surface, using various processes to both build, extract, and create. In his current work, timing is so important. It is not just a visual, but also a physical process. The constraint of speed and risk is critical.

Justus received his BA in Architecture from University of California, Berkeley and MA from Columbia University, New York. While living in Los Angeles he has worked for Frank Gehry for nearly a decade, having design roles on projects such as Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and Facebook Headquarters. Recently, he has recalibrated his career, starting his own multidisciplinary practice with an emphasis on painting.

Justus lives and works in Los Angeles. He has participated in group and solo exhibitions in the United States, United Kingdom and Germany.



B. 1982 Minneapolis, MN, USA

Lives and works in Los Angeles, CA

EDUCATION

2009 – 2012, Columbia University, Master in Architecture

2002 – 2004, University of California at Berkeley, Bachelor of Arts, Architecture

2000 – 2002, Westmont College, Visual Arts

EXHIBITIONS

2023

Entrance Into Language, Solo Exhibition, Kennedy Contemporary, Newport Beach, CA

2022

24 x 24, Group Exhibition at Kennedy Contemporary, CA

Rising Sun, London Art Fair, Curated by Virginia Damtsa

2021

Permission to Descend, Solo Exhibition, Kennedy Contemporary, Newport Beach, CA

Art Matters 2, Group Online Exhibition, Galerie Biesenbach, Honourable Mention

2020

Intervals, Aucart, London, UK (Group)

2018

Fence and Stone, WAJU Projects, Los Angeles, USA (Group)

2016

Lenses, WAJU Projects, Los Angeles, USA (Group)

After These Things, Gruner GmbH, Ulm, Germany (Solo)

2014

A Picture Is Worth 500 Words, LaForum, Los Angeles, USA (Group)

2012

Fresh Punches, LOT Gallery, Lexington, USA (Group)

2012



Collecting Architecture - Territories, Deste Foundation, Athens, Greece (Group)

2010

Joseph Justus New Paintings, Gruner GmbH, Gerstetten, Germany (Solo)

Christopher Mercier & Joseph Justus - Paintings, Pamela Skinner/Gwenna Howard Contemporary Art, Sacramento, USA (Group)

2007

Convergence, Gruner GmbH, Gerstetten, Germany (Solo)

AWARDS

2012, Honor Award, Columbia University

2012, Avery 6 Award, Columbia University

2012, Jury selection, suckerPUNCH & Land of Tomorrow Competition

2002, Student award, Santa Barbara Arts Council

PUBLICATIONS OF WORK

2021, Permission to Descend at Kennedy Contemporary, Blue Door Magazine, Summer 2021

2014, Collecting Architecture Territories – Phase One Report, GSAPP Books, New York with Deste Foundation

2012, Aqua Alta(2) featured in "Not Nature", TARP, PRATT Publication

2010, Dalkey, Victoria. "Skinner/Howard exhibition features architectural styles", The Sacramento Bee, June 25, 2010

RECENT PRESS

2020, "In the Studio with Joseph Justus", Aucart Magazine, London, June 15, 2020

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2012 - 2019 | Gehry Partners

2012 | Acconci Studio



2007 - 2009 | Gehry Partners