

## CHRISTOPHER BENSON

A lifelong painter, Christopher W. Benson (b. 1960) has built an impressive career for over two decades. Hailing from a family of noted American artists and art educators, Benson first picked up a brush at ten years old. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design and two-time winner of the Pollock Krasner Painting Fellowship, he has lived, worked and exhibited for extended periods in New England, New York City, the San Francisco Bay Area and New Mexico.

Although Benson is often known for his representation works - depicting a wide variety of everyday life from cityscapes to portraits to landscapes - he has skillfully danced with expressionism and abstraction. His works are widely recognized for taking inspiration from east coast painters, such as Edward Hopper and Winslow Homer, and adding the lively spark of Bay Area Figuration. Benson's work resides in private and museum collections throughout the US and abroad. He currently lives with his wife and their sons in Santa Fe, NM.

As the owner and director of The Fisher Press in Santa Fe, Benson is also a critical and art historical essayist and the designer and publisher of numerous books on art. The Fisher Press limited editions reside in many top American special collections libraries, including at Yale, Harvard, Dartmouth and Stanford Universities, at the Rhode Island School of Design and in the Harrison Collection at the San Francisco Public Library.



Born 1960, Providence, RI

Lives and works in Santa Fe, NM

#### GALLERY REPRESENTATION

Newport Beach, CA - Kennedy Contemporary

Santa Fe, NM - EVOKE Contemporary

Newport, RI - Jessica Hagen Fine Art + Design

#### EDUCATION

2005, BFA in Painting at the Rhode Island School of Design

1982, Rhode Island School of Design, Painting

#### GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2016 - 2017, The Pollock Krasner Foundation, Painting Fellowship

2001 - 2002, The Pollock Krasner Foundation, Painting Fellowship

#### EXHIBITIONS

2023 (*Forthcoming*)

Solo Exhibition at the Museum of the Southwest, Midland, TX

2022

*24 x 24*, Group Exhibition at Kennedy Contemporary, CA

*Either Side of the Divide: New Paintings by Christopher Benson and Sue McNally*, North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks, ND

Group Exhibition with Daniel Denton and Lloyd Martin at Jessica Hagen Contemporary American Art, Newport, RI

2021

*The Middle Place, New Work by Christopher W. Benson*, Solo Exhibition, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM



2020

*Grand Gestures, Land and Seascapes by Christopher W. Benson*, Solo Exhibition, Evoke Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM

*Meltdown*, Group Exhibition, Jessica Hagen Fine Art + Design, Newport, RI

2019

Group Exhibition, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM

2018

*Through a Glass Darkly*, Solo Exhibition, Jessica Hagen Fine Art and Design, Newport, RI

2017

*Pictures and Windows, The Paintings of Christopher W. Benson*, 42-year Retrospective at The Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI

*Santa Fe Real*, Group Exhibition with Sheila Miles and Kathryn Stedham, Holt Russell Gallery, Baker University, KS

2015

*Quiet Spaces*, Works by Christopher Benson, John Beerman, David Hines and Kurt Solmssen, LewAllen Galleries, Santa Fe, NM

*Juried Group Show*, Co-Winner of Juror's Prize (chosen by William Bailey, Juror), Washington Art Association, Washington, CT

2014

*Inside and Out, Recent Paintings by Christopher Benson*, Solo Exhibition, Paul Thiebaud Gallery, San Francisco, CA

*Withheld Narratives*, Solo Exhibition, LewAllen Galleries, Santa Fe, NM

*The West Select*, Group Exhibition, The Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ

*Reimagining the Contemporary Landscape*, Group Exhibition, LewAllen Contemporary, Scottsdale, AZ

2013

*Dwellings: Paintings by Peri Schwartz, Christopher Benson and Tom Birkner*, Group Exhibition, Gerald Peters Gallery, Santa Fe, NM

*Face to Face*, Group Exhibition, Gerald Peters Gallery, Santa Fe, NM



2012

*Christopher Benson: New Paintings*, Solo Exhibition, Gerald Peters, Santa Fe, NM

2010

*Artist Perspectives*, Group Exhibition, Gerald Peters Gallery, Santa Fe, NM

2008

*The Printed Picture*, Group Exhibition, MoMA, New York, NY

2006

*Christopher Benson: Rhode Island Seascapes*, Solo Exhibition, Suydam-Diepenbrock Gallery, Newport, RI

2005

*RISD Senior Invitational Exhibition*, Group Exhibition, Woods-Gerry Gallery, Providence, RI

2003

Tercera Gallery, San Francisco, CA

*Annual Juried Show*, Group Exhibition, Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI

2001

*The Bensons of Newport*, Virginia Lynch Gallery, Tiverton, RI

2000

Tercera Gallery, San Francisco, CA

*Contemporary American Painting*, Group Exhibition, Gerald Peters Gallery, Santa Fe, NM

1999

Tercera Gallery, Los Gatos, CA

*Grand Opening Exhibition*, Tercera Gallery, San Francisco, CA

1997

Butters Gallery, Portland, OR



1992

LewAllen Gallery, Santa Fe, NM

*167th Annual Juried Exhibition, Group Exhibition, National Academy of Design, New York, NY*

1989

*Featured Artist, LewAllen-Butler Gallery, Santa Fe, NM*

#### REVIEWS & ARTICLES

2021 – *Dark Mountain, ABYSS – issue 20*

2021 – *EXTRACTION, Art on the Edge of the Abyss*

2017 – The Providence Journal

2014 – The Huffington Post

2014 – New American Paintings

2014 – THE Magazine, Critical Reflections

2013 – THE Magazine, Critical Reflections

2012 – ArtNews, summer issue, regional reviews

2012 – Pasatiempo Magazine of the Santa Fe New Mexican, Santa Fe, NM

2008 – *The Printed Picture, MoMA, New York, NY*

2004 – Art New England, regional reviews

1992 – The Albuquerque Journal North



## COLLECTIONS

The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT

North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks, ND

The Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI

Baker University, Holt Russell Gallery, Baldwin City, KS

Stanford University Libraries, Special Collections, Stanford, CA

The Redwood Library and Athenaeum, Newport, RI

The Rhode Island School of Design Special Collections Library, Providence, RI  
Duke University School of Law (Portrait of Dean David Levi)

Stanford University School of Law (Portrait of Dean John Ely)

Stanford University School of Aeronautics and Aviation, (Portrait of Dean Nicholas Hoff)