

JAMES STERLING PITT

BIOGRAPHY

James Sterling Pitt's artistic process is one of exploring and honoring the often abstract and unknown realms of memories and their emotional counterparts. For many years, Pitt's artistic practice served as an autobiographical image bank, representing particular memories, places, and sensations. Fleeting sightings and experiences were reinterpreted as two and three dimensional reconstructions; standing as surrogates for images lost during momentary, perceptual shifts. Having suffered a traumatic brain injury in a car accident over fifteen years ago, this way of working began as a tool to help cope with short-term memory loss and difficulties with language. Through a process of drawing and sculpture, he was able to give form to the less concrete and harder to articulate aspects of the mind, such as something sensed or a fading memory.

Pitt's latest exhibition, *The Garden*, marks the debut of works in ceramic and wood and includes the largest scale sculptures the artist has made to date. The works retain their intuitive and organic nature, while shifts in scale and unexpected bursts of color punctuate the exhibition. Installed on the gallery walls, pedestals, table, and wall shelves, the sculptures invite an active exploration of the works in relation to one another and the space of the gallery while simultaneously pointing to the memory and perception of once tangible times and places.

James Sterling Pitt (b. 1977, Warwick, New York) earned his BFA from the University of New Mexico and his MFA from Mills College. Pitt's work has been the subject of solo exhibitions in San Francisco, Boston, and Berlin, and group exhibitions throughout the Bay Area and New York. His work is in the permanent collections of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Berkeley Art Museum, and the Blanton Museum of Art.

The artist lives and works in Santa Fe, NM.



ELI RIDGWAY GALLERY

NADA NYC 2022 | Booth I-09
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Born 1977, Warwick, New York
Lives and Works in Santa Fe, NM

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 Blunk Space (forthcoming), Point Reyes Station, CA
2021 *The Garden*, Eli Ridgway Gallery, Bozeman, MT
2020 *A Punching Bag and An Ocean*, 5. Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
2017 *Forms on Forms*, Ratio 3, San Francisco, CA
Points West, Et al., San Francisco, CA
Points East, Steven Zevitas Gallery, Boston, MA
2016 *Points*, College of Marin, Fine Arts Gallery, Kentfield, CA
2014 *Hello Green Cosmos*, Gallery Paule Anglim, San Francisco, CA
The University Galleries, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
2013 *The White Peacock Sings*, Steven Zevitas Gallery, Boston, MA
2012 *On a Clear Day We Were Lightning*, Eli Ridgway Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2011 Romer Young Gallery in Berlin, w/ Kirk Stoller, Galerie Axel Obiger, Berlin
2010 *it goes as it grows*, Romer Young Gallery, San Francisco, CA
The Sea All Around Us, w/ Sean McFarland, Sight School, Oakland, CA
Project Room, Richard Levy Gallery, Albuquerque, NM
2009 *The On and On*, ATA, San Francisco, CA
2000 *LiftnoLimbo*, John Sommers Gallery, Univ. of NM, Albuquerque, NM

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Salutary Sculpture*, Laumeier Sculpture Park, Saint Louis, MO
2021 *Sea Change*, Ratio3, San Francisco, CA
Christine Heindl, Sherry Markovitz, and James Sterling Pitt, Eli Ridgway Gallery,
Bozeman, MT
2020 *Inaugural Exhibition*, Eli Ridgway Gallery, Bozeman, MT
Over/Under, Marta, Los Angeles, CA
2019 *New Material*, Ratio3, San Francisco, CA
2018 *Additive Measures*, Slide Space 123, Mills College, Oakland, CA
Marin Collects, College of Marin, Kentfield, CA
2017 *Way Bay*, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA
2015 *Off the Charts*, 516 Arts, Albuquerque, NM
The Brain, Sun Valley Art Center, Sun Valley, ID
Retrospective, Gallery Paule Anglim, San Francisco, CA

- 2014 *Color Shift*, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA
- 2013 *Introductions*, Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO
Object Oriented (with Reuben Lorch-Miller, Roza Janiszewska), Royal NoneSuch Gallery,
 San Francisco, CA
Group Show, Eli Ridgway, San Francisco, CA
- 2012 *Contemporary Watercolor*, curated by Veronica Roberts, Morgan Lehman Gallery,
 New York, NY
- 2011 *Living Room*, curated by Vanessa Blaikie and Joey Piziali, Parklife, San Francisco, CA
Stacked/Multiplied, curated by Devon Bella and Katie Hood Morgan, Adobe Books
 Backroom Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 *Front + Center*, curated by Vanessa Blaikie, Joey Piziali and Jessica Brier, Headlands
 Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA
PAPER!AWESOME!, curated by Brion Nuda Rosch, Baer Ridgway Exhibitions,
 San Francisco, CA
Hyperspaces, curated by David Kasprzak, Parklife, San Francisco, CA

AWARDS AND ARTIST RESIDENCIES

- 2014 Kala Art Institute; Artist Fellowship, Berkeley, CA
- 2010 Djerassi Artist in Residence; Winter Residency, Woodside, CA
- 2008 Djerassi Artist in Residence; Winter Residency, Woodside, CA
- 2006 Djerassi Artist Fellowship, Woodside, CA
 Djerassi Artist in Residence; April-May, Woodside, CA
- 2002 Tretethen Merit Award, Mills College, Oakland, CA
- 2000 Vera Nolan Award, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2017 McQuaid, Cate. "Sending messages in code at Steven Zevitas Gallery" *The Boston Globe*.
 February 23.
- 2015 Smith, Claude. "James Sterling Pitt: The Ritual of Remembering" *New American Paintings*.
 September.
- 2014 Baker, Kenneth. "Pitt at Anglim" *San Francisco Chronicle*. February.
 Quinton, Luke. "Artists Laurie Frick and James Sterling Pitt map the brain in joint exhibit"
Austin AmericanStatesman. February 2014.
- 2013 Allen, Gwen. "James Sterling Pitt", *ARTFORUM*. February
 McQuaid, Kate. "Low Key Charm", *Boston Globe*. November.
- 2012 Baker, Kenneth. "In Among the Pitts" *San Francisco Chronicle*. November.

Turner, Chérie Louise. "Nov 2012 Artist Profile, James Sterling Pitt" art ltd. November.
"James Sterling Pitt" New American Paintings, Pacific Coast, Issue #103. December .
2010 Baker, Kenneth. "In Among the Pitts." San Francisco Chronicle. November.
Chun, Kimberly. "James Sterling Pitt: Ping Pong Gallery Solo Show" San Francisco
Chronicle. October.
Scholtz, Zachary Royer. "Front + Center: Weather Streams" Art Practical. January

COLLECTIONS

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive
Blanton Museum of Art

EDUCATION

2003 MFA Mills College, Oakland, CA
1999 BFA University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM