

Robert Freeman

About the Artist

Robert Freeman has been showing nationally for over 40 years and has been included in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the National Center for African American Artists, Boston Public Library, Brown University and DeCordova Museum, among other institutions.

In addition to numerous galleries shows, his paintings have been featured in exhibitions at DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA, Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, MA. He earned his BFA and MFA from Boston University.

Known for his vivid and powerful figurative paintings, Robert Freeman has traditionally focused on the interactions between people in his work. In couples and crowds, the characters in his paintings betray their emotions with expressive faces and body language. Skillful, brave use of color and gesture are the trademark of Freeman's work and make his figures nearly abstract.

Education

- 1981 Boston University, M.F.A.
- 1971 Boston University, B.F.A.
- 1997 Boston University, Distinguished Alumni Award

Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 Museum of the National Center for Afro-American Artists, Boston, MA
Adelson Gallery, Boston, MA - Mardi Gras Indians
- 2017 Adelson Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2010 Norman Parish Gallery, Washington, DC
- 2008 Golden Light, Zenith Gallery, Washington, DC
- 2007 Vineyard Summer, Powell Mandjes Fine Art, Vineyard Haven, MA
- 2006 Water Marks, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
- 2003 New Encounters, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
- 2001 Portugal, Wendell Street Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- 1998 Venice, Wendell Street Gallery, Cambridge, MA
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, Cambridge, MA
- 1997 New Paintings, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
- 1996 Sherry Washington Gallery, Detroit, MI
Boston University Gallery of Art, Boston, MA
- 1995 Mallorca/Costa Brava, Wendell Street Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- 1994 South of Rome, Wendell Street Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- 1992 New Paintings, Zenith Gallery, Washington, D.C.
North of Rome, Wendell Street Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- 1990 New Paintings, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
- 1989 New Paintings, June Kelly Gallery, New York, NY
Isobel Neal Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1988 New Paintings, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA,



Zenith Gallery est. 1978

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- 1987 Summer in the South of France, Wendell Street Gallery, Cambridge, MA,
 1986 Aegean Blues: Summer, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA,
 Aegean Blues: Winter, Wendell Street Gallery, Cambridge,
 1984 Zenith Gallery, Washington, D.C.
 1983 Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
 Wendell Street Gallery, Cambridge, MA

Group Exhibitions

- 2009 The Freedom Place Collection, Art Gallery of the University of New England,
 Portland, ME
 2008 Five American Voices, Meridian International Center, Washington, DC
 2007 The Freedom Place Collection: Romare Bearden, Benny Andrews, Robert
 Freeman, Alma Thomas, and Richard Yarde, Washington, DC
 2000 Salon Show, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
 1999 Salon Show, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
 Boston to Boca, Elaine Baker Gallery, Boca Raton, FL
 1998 Abstraction and the Figure, DeCordova Art Museum, Lincoln, MA
 Salon Show, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
 1997 Four African American Artists, Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami
 1993 African American Perspectives, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University
 1990 Artists Foundation Gallery, Boston, MA
 Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI
 1989 Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, MA
 1988 Faculty Exhibition, Carpenter Center for Visual Arts, Harvard University,
 Cambridge, MA
 Salon Show, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
 Massachusetts Masters: Afro American Artists, Museum of Fine Arts,
 Boston, MA
 Collected Visions, Cambridge Art Association, Cambridge, MA
 1986 Boston Collects: Contemporary Painting and Sculpture, Museum of Fine Arts,
 Boston, MA
 Salon Show, Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
 1985 Crystal Britton Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 1984 Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA
 1983 Clark Gallery, Lincoln, MA

Public Collections

Brown University, Providence, RI
 Boston College, Boston, MA
 Boston Public Library, Boston, MA
 Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
 National Center of Africa American Artists, Roxbury, MA
 DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA
 Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture



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Teaching Experiences

- 1981 – 2006 Artist in Residence, painting instructor, Noble & Greenough, Dedham, MA
1988 – 1994 Lecturer/instructor, Painting & Drawing, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
1973 – 1981 Art Director, Weston Public Schools, Weston, MA

Related Experiences

- 1993 - 1996 School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Board of Governors
1991 - 1994 Panelist, Bunting Institute Fellows, Cambridge, MA
1988 Panelist, Massachusetts Masters: Afro American Artist, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, MA
1982 Panelist, Massachusetts State Arts Council for Arts and Humanities
1982 Artist in Residence, Newton Public Schools, Newton, MA

Bibliography

- 2018 Nov History Makers, <http://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/robert-freeman>
2018 May Open Studios, WGBH interview with Jared Bowen
2018 Mar Artscope, “Mardi Gras Indians, a Captivating Collaboration”
2018 Mar Art New England, Review of new paintings
2016 Nov The Bay State Banner, “Invite Only: Robert Freeman’s Paintings dissect a social world”
2003 Jan Cate McQuaid, Unspoken Desire, The Boston Globe (Arts & Performance)
2002 Nov Emily Sweeny, Documenting new faces, The Boston Globe
1997 Abell, D., “Sea, Sky, and Black Tie”, Bostonia
1994 1996 Who’s Who in American Painting
1995 Nov Christine Temin, “Solo shows Spotlight a New Look for Landscapes”, The Boston Globe
1992 Nov Christine Temin, “An Artist’s Declaration of Independence”, The Boston Globe
1991 Apr Nancy Stapen, “Bold, Figurative Art Expresses Many Aspects of the South”, The Boston Globe
1990 Jan The Boston Globe
1988 Jan Allan Gold, “Boston curator defends Black Artists’ Exhibition”, The New York Times
1988 Jan Peyton Petty, “Portrait of the artist as a rising star”, The Tab
1988 Jan Christine Temin, “Freeman’s art chronicles Black middle class”, The Boston Globe
1988 Jan Marty Carlock, “Electric Lady Land” series energizes Clark Gallery, The Weston Town Crier
1988 Feb Edward Strickland, “Robert Freeman’s painting portray Black middle class”, Bay State Banner
1988 Jan Marty Carlock, The Weston Town Crier Massachusetts Masters: American Artists
1988 Jan Catalog for exhibition, MFA, Boston



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