

**RICHARD HEINSOHN**

American, b. 1961

*“Heinsohn’s colorful, dynamic paintings synthesize abstract expressionism, surrealism and conceptualism, and draw inspiration from artists like Goya, Rauschenberg and Duchamp to convey a singular astuteness, both aesthetically and conceptually, that grounds his work firmly in the contemporary.”*

*- Melinda Baker*

**BIOGRAPHY**

Inspired by the unknowable, Richard Heinsohn seeks to create endlessly intriguing worlds on canvas. Heinsohn once saw “an entire galaxy” through an electron microscope, and this sight served as his stimulus. The artist’s paintings reflect the small scale of humans and their outsized desire to control their surroundings. Working with acrylic paint blended with sand, sawdust, and objects found in his studio, Heinsohn creates canvases akin to ecosystems, engaging themes of decay, transformation, and coexistence. In Heinsohn’s words, his use of bold colors “goes well beyond a merely retinal effect,” reaching the viewer both intellectually and emotionally. Color and material relations in his work parallel human life on both a macro and micro scale, representing nature’s complexities through abstraction.

Heinsohn holds a B.F.A. in painting and drawing from The University of Georgia in Athens. There he studied with renowned abstract painter, Herbert Creecy, who became a key influence and lifelong friend. In 1986 Heinsohn moved to New York City where he would live and work for fifteen years. In 1989 he gained the attention of renowned art dealer, Allan Stone who included him in several group shows at Allan Stone Gallery, most notable of which was the Summer Group Show of 1995. In this show Heinsohn was included with Willem de Kooning, Franz Kline, Eva Hess, Richard Estes, Robert Ryman and other notable artists from Allan Stone’s collection. Allan Stone (1932-2006) well known as one of the world’s premier and most visionary collectors of art, collected Heinsohn’s paintings and supported him extensively.

Richard currently lives and works in Nashville, TN. In 2007, he received the “Critic’s Pick” from The Nashville Scene for his solo exhibit, The Paradox of Change at Estel Gallery, which included his vibrant, cratered paintings. He was also featured in The Tennessean for this exhibition, which raised questions about destruction, creation and transformation. This marked Heinsohn’s return to painting after several years of composing, recording and performing music. Heinsohn’s work includes abstract paintings, wall reliefs and hybrids of painting and photography. He works with burlap, found and appropriated objects and has been noted for his thickly textured, cratered surfaces and bold colors.

# JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

Thematically, Heinsohn's work addresses a range of sociocultural issues and aesthetic concerns. Since 1990, he has made substantial works specifically focused on the Anthropocene as well as turbulent abstractions which serve as visual metaphors for cataclysm. He has also worked extensively with color and texture, illusory space and ambiguity of form in numerous works centered on affect and the experiential as phenomena which trigger imaginative stimulus. Heinsohn's work has now been shown extensively and included in prominent collections.

Heinsohn has recently been included in shows alongside Thornton Dial, Herbert Creecy, Michael David and others. His work is now in the permanent collection of CRP, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Toledo, Spain.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2022** Leu Center for Visual Arts, Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee  
Modfellows Gallery, Nashville, TN A Place for the Mind solo exhibition
- 2020** One Atlantic Center, The IBM Tower | Atlanta, Ga. Time Frames
- 2019** Watkins College of Art, Nashville, TN  
Bill Lowe Gallery, Atlanta Georgia | Time Frames
- 2018** Watkins College of Art, (main gallery, group show) Nashville, TN
- 2017** E.S.P.S./ Red Arrow Gallery, Nashville, TN Time Frames; Critical Conditions
- 2016** Bill Lowe Gallery, The New Exuberance  
Watkins College of Art (group show)
- 2014** Bill Lowe Gallery, No Explanation  
Times Square Megatron projection, New York City  
Bill Lowe Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia  
Barton Fine Arts Gallery, Martin College, Pulaski, TN, Zigzag Signified
- 2013** Landfill Art Project , Watts Bar, PA  
Long Island City skyscraper projection, New York City  
The Lowe Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2012** The Lowe Gallery , Atlanta, GA  
"Postcards to The Future" The Nashville Arts&Business Council,  
The Exchange Project, Curated by Heather Sparks, San Francisco, CA
- 2011** The Lowe Gallery, Atlanta GA
- 2010** Preston Contemporary Art Center, New Mexico  
The Lowe Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2009** Studio 83, Nashville, TN
- 2008** Allan Stone Gallery, New York City
- 2007** Estel Gallery, Nashville, TN  
Take 121 Fine Art, Nashville, TN
- 2001** The Lunatarium, New York City
- 2000** Gayle Gates Gallery, New York City
- 1998** Knoxville Museum of Art, Knoxville, TN
- 1995** Allan Stone Gallery, New York City
- 1994** Allan Stone Gallery, New York City
- 1993** Allan Stone Gallery, New York City
- 1992** Allan Stone Gallery, New York City
- 1991** Bullot Fine Art, New York City  
Allan Stone Gallery, New York City
- 1990** Bullot Fine Art, New York City
- 1989** Rakel, New York City
- 1984** The Courtyard Gallery, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 1979** The Hunter Museum, McCallie School, Chattanooga, TN

## SELECTED COLLECTORS

Colección Roberto Polo: Centro de Arte Moderno y Contemporáneo de Castilla-La Mancha, Spain  
Allan Stone, Allan Stone Gallery, New York City  
Charlie and Moll Anderson, Dallas  
Mariska Hargitay, New York City  
Reeves and Yeats, New York City  
Cannon Studios, New York City  
Montgomery Securities, New York City  
The Worsham Group, Knoxville, TN

## EDUCATION

1979 The McCallie School, Chattanooga, TN  
1984 B.F.A. Painting and Drawing, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

## PUBLIC APPEARANCES, LECTURES, PRESS

2017 *USA Today-Tennessee*, "Critical Conditions"  
2016 *Nashville Arts Magazine*, "Time Frames"  
2016 *Art Socket Magazine*, "Time Frames"  
2014 Martin M. College Guest lecture, "Zigzag Signified"  
2010 *Nashville Arts Magazine*, "Intuitive Universe"  
2010 Martin M. College Guest lecture, "Re-contextualizing Abstraction"  
2010 Preston Contemporary Art Center, Artist talk and Q & A  
2009 Frist Center For Visual Arts, American Painting of The Phillips  
1992 Pratt Institute Guest Lecture, "Materials and Concept"  
1991 Pratt Institute Guest Lecture, "Process" (painting with epoxy resin)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Frist Center for the Visual Arts, *Observing the Phillips Collection*  
Cheekwood Art and Gardens; *Modern Masters*, workshop, painting and Drawing  
2008-Currently: Watkins College of Art, Belmont University, Nashville, TN

Courses taught: Understanding Abstract Painting, Drawing Fundamentals,  
Composition Strategies, Color Theory.