



Art in Embassies

U.S. DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

Art in Embassies Exhibition: United States Embassy Prague

Art in Embassies

Established in 1963, the U.S. Department of State’s Office of Art in Embassies (AIE) plays a vital role in our nation’s public diplomacy through a culturally expansive mission, creating temporary and permanent exhibitions, artist programming, and publications. The Museum of Modern Art first envisioned this global visual arts program a decade earlier. In the early 1960s, President John F. Kennedy formalized it, naming the program’s first director. Now with over 200 venues, AIE curates temporary and permanent exhibitions for the representational spaces of all U.S. chanceries, consulates, and embassy residences worldwide, selecting and commissioning contemporary art from the U.S. and the host countries. These exhibitions provide international audiences with a sense of the quality, scope, and diversity of both countries’ art and culture, establishing AIE’s presence in more countries than any other U.S. foundation or arts organization.

AIE’s exhibitions allow citizens, many of whom might never travel to the United States, to personally experience the depth and breadth of our artistic heritage and values, making what has been called a “footprint that can be left where people have no opportunity to see American art.”

www.art.state.gov

Artist Biographies

Alice Harrison (born 1934)

“Working in layers—technically, intellectually, and spiritually—I create images and sensations of movement, color, harmony, and joy. Much of my work is inspired by the various materials I have collected, as well as by traditional materials in my studio... Inspiration comes from the inside—based on my personal distillation of the external world.”

Multimedia artist Alice Harrison’s practice has shifted from conventional scenes to collage and abstract work. The jubilant dancers in *Pieces for Peace 7* represent the artist’s desire to communicate the joyfulness of an imagined peace through her art. Harrison has exhibited widely in galleries and universities throughout the United States, and her work has been shown in Europe, Mexico, South Africa, Israel, New Zealand, and Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Title of Artwork Displayed: Pieces for Peace 7



Year Created 2007

Format: Mixed media collage

Dimensions: 31 × 23 1/2 in. (78,7 × 59,7 cm)

Courtesy of the artist, Morristown, New Jersey

Joel Meyerowitz (born 1938)

With a career spanning six decades and multiple genres, Joel Meyerowitz gained widespread acclaim for his groundbreaking work in color photography. As a young street photographer, he defied convention by using color film in an era when black and white was considered the only acceptable form of 'fine art' photography. Despite initial resistance, Meyerowitz's work gained recognition in the 1970s, especially images of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Photographed with a large format camera and printed at a one-to-one scale, these landscapes, still lifes, and portraits

are noteworthy for their intense detail and nuanced use of color. Meyerowitz stresses the fluidity of his vision, stating, “I try not to lock it down so that it has certain familiar characteristics about framing or formal organization. I like the loose, broken, open-ended quality of photography because then the viewer enters and has an experience of their own, of that moment in time.”

After studying painting, art history, and medical illustration at the Ohio State University, Columbus, Meyerowitz worked as an art director in advertising in the early 1960s. He has published forty-two books of his work, including *Cape Light*, which has sold over 200,000 copies. He is the recipient of two Guggenheim Fellowships and a National Endowment for the Arts Grant. His work is featured in many public collections, including the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art, both in New York; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Art Institute of Chicago; the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles; and the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.

Title of Artwork Displayed: Porch Series, Provincetown, 1977



Year Created: 2023

Format: Archival pigment print

Dimensions: 20 × 24 in. (50,8 × 61 cm)

©Joel Meyerowitz, Courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery

Title of Artwork Displayed: Provincetown, Massachusetts, 1976



Year Created: 2023

Format: Archival pigment print

Dimensions: 20 × 24 in. (50,8 × 61 cm)

©Joel Meyerowitz, Courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery

Title of Artwork Displayed: Dune Grass House, Truro, Massachusetts, 1984



Year Created: 2023

Format: Archival pigment print

Dimensions: 20 × 24 in. (50,8 × 61 cm)

©Joel Meyerowitz, Courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery

Title of Artwork Displayed: New Orleans, 1963



Year Created: 2023

Format: Archival pigment print

Dimensions: 20 × 24 in. (50,8 × 61 cm)

©Joel Meyerowitz, Courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery

Title of Artwork Displayed: Provincetown, Massachusetts, 1977



Year Created: 2023

Format: Archival pigment print

Dimensions: 20 × 24 in. (50,8 × 61 cm)

©Joel Meyerowitz, Courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery

Title of Artwork Displayed: Provincetown, Massachusetts, 1976



Year Created: 2023

Format: Archival pigment print

Dimensions: 20 × 24 in. (50,8 × 61 cm)

©Joel Meyerowitz, Courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery

Vickie Pierre (born 1970)

Multimedia artist Vickie Pierre draws upon fantasy, surrealism, and popular culture to address such themes as gender, identity, and memory. Using a diverse collection of materials for inspiration, Pierre creates assemblages, installations, and collages that explore the interconnection between her Haitian heritage, the larger Caribbean community, and global cultural mythologies. Of her practice, she states, “It makes me feel like I’m contributing to a sense of globalism, respecting and preserving cultures that impact all of us.” *Gather Up What You Need* and *We Are Golden, Here and After* are from a series of works that showcase abstracted, adorned biomorphic forms that represent the reclaimed Black female body.

Miami-based Pierre was born in Brooklyn, New York, and graduated from the School of Visual Arts, New York. She has exhibited at such venues as the Little Haiti Cultural Center, Miami; the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.; Museo Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico, San Juan; and the Boca Raton Museum of Art, Florida.

Title of Artwork Displayed: Gather Up What You Need



Year Created: 2022

Format: Acrylic, glitter, paper, and fabric collage on canvas

Dimensions: 48 × 36 in. (121,9 × 91,4 cm)

Courtesy of the artist and Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami

Title of Artwork Displayed: We Are Golden, Here and After



Year Created: 2022

Format: Acrylic, glitter, paper, and fabric collage on canvas

Dimensions: 48 × 36 in. (121,9 × 91,4 cm)

Courtesy of the artist and Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami

Sarupa Sidaarth (born 1976)

"I am inspired by ornament, an ancient and universal visual language used in various cultures for centuries. Through artistic process I create an imaginative response to conflict by transforming images that reference social and environmental issues into moments of transcendence on the canvas."

Born in India and based in California, Sarupa Sidaarth layers paint and ornament to create luminescent textured portraits. Despite losing her life's work in the 2020 Glass Fire that devastated St. Helena, California, she continues to grow her creative practice, including launching a handmade jewelry line. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Sir J.J. School

of Art, Mumbai, India, and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Academy of Art University, San Francisco. She is the recipient of numerous fellowships and awards and has participated in solo and group exhibitions in India, Europe, and the United States.

Title of Artwork Displayed: Accord



Year Created: 2010

Format: Oil on canvas

Dimensions: 48 × 82 in. (121,9 × 208,3 cm)

Courtesy of the artist, Novato, California

Title of Artwork Displayed: Wanderlust



Year Created: 2022

Format: Mixed media on panel

Dimensions: 10 × 13 in. (25,4 × 33 cm)

Courtesy of the artist, Novato, California

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