

Bruce Houston

Famous works of art appear in unlikely places, such as a Frank Stella painting on the side of a miniature semi-truck and the famous Warhol tomato soup can on the bust of Nefertete. Houston experiments with the cultural phenomenon of fixating on iconic imagery and the effect when it appears in unexpected places and combinations.

Born

1937, Iowa City, Iowa
Currently resides in Palm Desert, CA

Education

1974 MFA, University of Iowa, Painting
1965 MA, University of California, Los Angeles, California, Graphic Design
1961-2 Art Center College of Design, Los Angeles, California
1959 BA, University of Nebraska

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2011 Lora Schlesinger Gallery, Santa Monica, California
 Studio Fine Art Gallery, Palm Desert, California
2008 Lora Schlesinger Gallery, Santa Monica, California
2001 Imago Galleries, Palm Desert, California
1998 Jan Baum Gallery, Los Angeles, California
1992 Palm Springs Desert Museum, Palm Springs, California
1991 The Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, Virginia
1987 Gracie Mansion Gallery, New York, New
 Jan Baum Gallery, Los Angeles, California
 Lamont Gallery, Phillips Exeter Academy, Andover, New Hampshire
1983 Twenty Years of Assemblage, Municipal Gallery Los Angeles, California
1982 West Gallery, Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, California
1981 Jehu Gallery, San Francisco, California
1980 Molly Barnes Gallery, Santa Monica, California
 Orlando Gallery, Sherman Oaks, California
1977 Orlando Gallery, Sherman Oaks, California

Selected Group Exhibitions

2008 No Particular Theme, 3 Person Show Saranac, Spokane, Washington
 The Toy Show #2, Lora Schlesinger Gallery, Santa Monica, California
2007 The Toy show, Lora Schlesinger Gallery, Santa Monica, California
 Gordon Wagner and Friends, Toby Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
2006 The Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York,
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- New York e
 On The Road, Palm Desert Community Gallery, Palm Desert, California
- 2001 Arts @ Project Toronto/Brooklyn, Toronto, Canada
- 2000 10-Year Anniversary, Imago Galleries, Palm Desert, California
 An Artistic Dialogue, Riverside Art Museum, Riverside, California
- 1999 Orlando, California State University Northridge, Northridge, California
 (catalog)
- Nefertete as Muse, Egyptian Museum, Berlin, Germany
- 1998 Jazz Club, Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, New York (catalog)
- 1997 West Coast Painting & Sculpture 1997, Oceanside Museum of Art, Oceanside, California
- 1993 Intersections, Art and Play, The Armory Center For the Arts, Pasadena, California
- 1992 Mailbox Auction, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institute, Detroit, Michigan
 Palm Springs Desert Museum, Palm Springs, CA
- 1991 Transportation, San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, California
- 1990 Humor, Satire and Irony, Lehman College Art Gallery, Bronx, New York
- 1989 Forty Years of California Assemblage, Fredrick Wight Gallery, UCLA
 (Catalogue; Ann Ayres) Los Angeles, California; San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, California; Fresno Art Museum, Fresno, California; Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska
 Something Funny, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Fullerton, California
- 1988 Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California Homage to Hopper:
 Quoting the American Realist, Baruch College Gallery, New York, New York
 Something Funny, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Fullerton, California
- 1987 Born in Iowa: The Homecoming Exhibition, Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, Iowa (Catalogue; Diane Koeppel-Horn)
 Contemporary Southern California Art, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China; Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, California (Catalogue; Victoria Lu)
 Seriously Humorous, Rancho Santiago College, Santa Ana, California
- 1986 Southern California Assemblage Artists, 1940-80's, Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, California; University of California, Santa Barbara; Art Museum of Santa Cruz, California; Cabrillo College Gallery, Aptos, California (Catalogue; Betty Klausner)
 American Heart, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, California
- 1985 Fantastic, Henry Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington (Catalogue, Chris Bruce)
 The Artist & The Toy, Prichard Art Gallery, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho

- Innocence and Experience, Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, South Carolina (Catalogue, Thomas Styron)
 To the Astonishing Horizon, Art Center College of Design, Los Angeles, California (Catalogue, Peter Frank)
 To the Astonishing Horizon, Art Center College of Design, Los Angeles, California (Catalogue, Peter Frank)
 San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, California, California
 Functional Art, Los Angeles, California
- 1984 Holiday Preview, The New Museum, New York, New York
 Return of the Narrative Palm Springs Desert Museum, Palm Springs, California (Catalogue, Katherine Hough and Roberta Cove)
 Florida International University, Miami, Florida
 Small California Sculpture, Palo Alto Cultural Center, Palo Alto, California
 Fisher Gallery, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California
 Pratt Manhattan Center, New York, New York
 Ceci N'est Pas Le Surrealism, (California Idioms of Surrealism) Fisher Gallery, University of So. California, Los Angeles: Pratt Institute Gallery, Brooklyn, New York (Catalogue)
 San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, CA
- 1983 Leisure America, Tampa Museum, Tampa, Florida (catalogue)
- 1981-83 Collage and Assemblage, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, Mississippi: Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama: Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, North Carolina: Roanoke Museum of Art, Chattanooga, Tennessee: Robertson Center, Binghampton, New York: Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, California
- 1982 Laguna Beach Museum of Art, Laguna Beach, California
 Microcosms from California II, Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, California
 Imaginative Sculpture, Security Pacific Bank, Los Angeles, California (Catalogue, David Rubin)
 Of No Particular Theme, Baxter Art Gallery, California Institute of Technology (Catalogue, Michael Smith)
 Cactus and Palms, Downey Museum of Art, Downey, California
- Forgotten Dimensions, Fresno Arts Center, Fresno, California (Catalogue, George Newberg)
 Miniatures '82, Triton Museum of Art, Santa Clara, California
- 1981-82 Deja-Vu: Masterpieces Updated, Masterpieces Updated, El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, Texas; Cheney Cowles Memorial Museum, Spokane, Washington; Arapaho Community College, Roanoke, Virginia; Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado; Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, Ohio (Catalogue)
- 1981 The Personal Touch, Long Beach City College. Long Beach, California
 Humor in Art, Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California
- 1980 Santa Ana College, Santa Ana, California
 In a Major and Minor Scale, Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, California

- Tableau, Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California
(Catalogue, Phil Garner)
San Diego Museum of Art, Balboa Park, San Diego, California
- 1979 20th Century Sculpture from the Permanent Collection, University Art
Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 1978 Eccentric Los Angeles Art, Arco Center for Visual Art, Los Angeles, California
The First Biennial Juried Exhibition, Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles,
California
(Catalogue, Josine Lanco-Starrels)
100 + Directions in Southern California Art, Los Angeles Institute of
Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California (catalogue, Bob Smith)
- 1977 Another Magical Mystery Tour, Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, California
Plastic Perspective, Los Angeles County Cultural Arts Center, Sylmar,
California (Catalogue, Lukman Glasgow)
Quarterdeck: The Image and the Myth, Beverly Hills, California
Miniature, California State University, Los Angeles
(Catalogue, Sandy Ballatore)
- 1976 Redlands University, Redlands, California
Downey Museum of Art, Downey, California

Collections

Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Exeter Academy, Andover, New Hampshire
Allan Stone, New York, New York
Billy Wilder, Los Angeles, California
Charlie Haden & Ruth Cameron, Malibu, California
Daniel Melnick, Los Angeles, California
Donna and Cargill MacMillan, Palm Springs, CA
Douglas Cramer, Los Angeles, California
Eric Fabre, Paris, France
Eric Burden, Joshua Tree, CA
Frank Arensberg, Palm Desert, California
Isetan Ltd., Tokyo, Japan
Jerry Magnin, Beverly Hills, California
Jim and Linda Burrows, Beverly Hills, California
John D. Rockefeller III, West Virginia
Kenneth Anger, Hollywood, California
Lydia de Polo, New York, New York
Linda and Stewart Resnick, Los Angeles, CA
Marcia Weisman, Los Angeles, California
Marilyn Pearl, Palm Desert, CA
Mary Chapin Carpenter, Washington, D.C.
Martin Mull, Los Angeles, California
Mondrian Foundation, Amersfoort. The Netherlands
Mo Osten, Los Angeles, California
Museum of Art, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Nathan Myhrvold, Microsoft, Seattle, Washington

Nestles International, Los Angeles, California
Norman Lear, Los Angeles, California
Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, California
Peter Lewitt Progressive Corporation, Cleveland, OH
Rick James, Los Angeles, CA
Sam Francis, Los Angeles, California
Smithsonian Art Institute, Washington, D.C.
Sonny Landreth, Nashville, TN
Steve Martin, Los Angeles, California
Susie Tompkins, Beverly Hills, California
Suzanne and Paul Muchnic, Playa Del Rey, California
The Franklin Mint, Beverly Hills, CA
Tina Sinatra, Los Angeles, California

Bibliography

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Muchnic, Suzanne, Los Angeles Times, "Jan Baum Retires", December 21, 2007
J. R Reynolds, Art Scene Desert Magazine, Palm Springs Desert Museum, April 2002 (color photo)
Deirdre Hanna, "Prime Project Toronto/ Brooklyn," Now, June 2001
Pick of the Week, losangelestimes.com, September 21, 2000 (color photo)
Frank, Peter, ARTPICK of the Week, LA Weekly, October 12, 2000
The High Point, "Variations on Queen Nefertete," Berliner Sunday, April 23, 1999, (photos)
I.A "Fatso From the Nile," Die Velt, April 22, 1999 (photos)
Winkler, Kalija, "Painted Beauty," Agesspie Gel, April 18, 1999 (photo)
Blanki, Von Gisela, "Offnet," Schauplatz Museum, April 16, 1999
Pressespiegel, "Variations of Nefertete," April 2, 1999 (photos)
Johnson Reed, "Orlando," Los Angeles Times, November 19, 1999
Misue, Wolgan, News from Abroad, "Art about Jazz," Korea (photos)
Raynor, Vivian, "Valentine '99," The New York Times, Sunday, February 14, 1999 (photo)
Keyishian, Amy, "Valentine '99," Brooklyn Bridge Magazine, February, 1999, (color photo)
Frank, Peter, "Art About Jazz," ARTPICK of the Week, LA Weekly, December 25, 1998 (photo)
Zimmer, William, "Jazz at the Neuberger," The New York Times, February 3, 1998
Roukes, Nicholas, "Humor in Art: A Celebration of Visual Wit," Davis Publications, Worchester, Massachusetts (color photo)
Foster, Dan, article, "Palm Latitudes," Los Angeles Times Magazine, April 25, 1993 (color photo)
Knaff, L. Deborah, review, "Kitsch Noir", Artweek, December 3, 1992 (color photo)
Auer, James, Gallery review, The Milwaukee Journal, Sunday, October 27, 1991 (photo)
Bray, Jamie Shoop, Article, FrontPage, Living Section, The Desert Sun, March 9, 1991

(color photo)

Mathieson, Karen, "The Art of Celebrations and Ceremonies," The Seattle Times, May 30, 1991

Ruehlmann, Bill, "Tiny Art That Looks at the Big Picture," The Virginia Pilot - The Ledger

Star, The Daily Break, FrontPage, May 19, 1991 (Photo)

The Virginia Pilot - The Ledger Star, Around Town, Friday, May 24, 1991, p.14 (color photo)

Hackett, Regina, "Celebrations and Ceremonies," Seattle Post - Intelligencer, May 8, 1991

Littlefield, Kinney, "Hippodromes Hot Hits," Long Beach Press Telegram, May 5, 1991

Daily Press, "Best Bets," Friday, May 17, 1991, p.3 (photo)

Vivian, Raynor, "Humor, Satire and Irony," Bronx, New York, The New York Times, November 4, 1990

Frank, Peter, "Forty Years of Assemblage," Sculpture, January/February 1990

Muchnic, Suzanne, "Looking to 1989 - A Year With a Distinct Character," Los Angeles Times,

January 8, 1989

Zimmer, William, "California Surrealism in Bronx Show," The New York Times, February 5, 1989

Wilson, William, "4 Hip Decades of Assemblage Art." Los Angeles Times, April 7, 1989

Knight, Christopher, "Re-examine the Purpose of Assemblage Art," Herald Examiner, April 9, 1989

Marks, Ben, "The Poetics of Assemblage," Artweek, May 6, 1989

Geer, Susan, "Magical Mystery Tour," Artweek, December 24, 1988

Levine, Gail, "Edward Hopper and Contemporary Artists," Art Times, December 1988

Lanco - Starrels, Josine, "Magical Mystery Tour," Long Beach Museum News, November, 1988

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Galea, Joseph, "Homage to Hopper," The Reporter, November 1988

Muchnic, Suzanne, "Magical Mystery Tour," Los Angeles Times, November 29, 1988

Tallmer, Jerry, "Everybody Hops to Hopper," New York Post, November 25, 1988

Takahama, Valerie, "Something Funny," The Orange County Register, August 2, 1988

Douglas, Jennie, "Taking A Chance On Love," Long Beach Telegram, February 12, 1988,

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Curtis, Cathy, Los Angeles Times, December 16, 1987

Zone, Ray, Artscene, December 16, 1987 (color photo)

Berland, Dinah, "Capturing the Beauty of the Beasts," Press - Telegram, December 13, 1987, p. c2

Kutner, Janet, "Small Wonders," Dallas Morning News, November 28, 1987 (color photo)

Bethany, Marilyn, Photographed by Jensen, Jon, "What's Modern Now," New York Magazine, September 28, 1987 p.48 - 73
 Psyche, Chang, China Times, Taipei Taiwan, R.O.C, May 12, 1987
 Nah, Kuang Nah, Taipei Arts Museum Quarterly, Volume 15, May 4, 1987 (color photo)
 Rick Vanderknyff, "Seriously Humorous," Los Angeles Times, February 6, 1987
 Nusbaum, Eliot, "Broad Iowa Spectrum," Des Moines Register, October 18, 1986
 Dills, Keith, "Assemblage in Southern California," Artweek, October 18, 1986
 Muchnic, Suzanne, "Assemblage in Southern California," Los Angeles Times, October 18, 1986
 McKenna, Kristina, Los Angeles Times, December 13, 1985
 Levin, Kim, "Pick of the Week," The Village Voice, December 24, 1985
 Muchnic, Suzanne, "Trucks Put Artist on the Road," Los Angeles Times, December 17, 1985 (photo)
 James, Noah, Los Angeles Herald Examiner, September 1985 (color photo)
 Rubin, William, Arts Magazine, March 1985
 Grant, Will, Artspeak, February 16, 1985

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 Hugo, Joan, "Narrative Art," Artweek, May 26, 1984
 Kohen, Helen, "Small California Sculpture," Miami Herald, May 25, 1984
 Wilson, William, "Return of the Narrative, Gives Desert Museum Toy Store Aura," Los Angeles Times, April 8, 1984
 Wilson, Raymond L., "California Surrealism," Artweek, March 17, 1984
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 Knight, Christopher, "Schizoid Surrealists," Los Angeles Herald Examiner, February 1, 1984
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 Benbow, Charles, "Sports and Leisure," Tampa Museum, St. Peterberg Times, December 11, 1983
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 Potts, Joe, EOS, June 10, 1983
 Wilson, William, Los Angeles Times, May 22, 1983
 Hugo, Joan, "The Gum - Ball Circus," Artweek, May 21, 1983, cover (color photo)
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