

KOHN GALLERY

SHARON ELLIS

Born 1955 in Great Lakes, Illinois
Lives and works in Yucca Valley

Sharon Ellis creates kaleidoscopic abstractions of the natural environment. Bridging the gap between 19th century Romantic painting and psychedelic art of the 1960's, Ellis identifies as a contemporary landscape painter. Stars and atmospheric phenomena are made active as shimmering agents that create a circuit of energy running throughout the entire picture plane. Ellis takes us on a trip through a hallucinatory landscape and illustrative network of flora and fauna.

Ellis received her M.F.A. from Mills College in 1984, and her B.A. from University of California, Irvine. Her work is included in the collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA; Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN; and Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, UT. Ellis' work has been exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions throughout the world including: Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA (2018); MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA (2016); the El Segundo Museum of Art; El Segundo, CA (2015); Greenberg Van Doren Gallery, New York, NY (2011); The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA (2007); and the Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, the Netherlands (2000). Her work has also been reviewed by numerous publications, including The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, and Art Review.

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EDUCATION

- 1984 Master of Fine Arts, Mills College, Oakland, CA
1978 Bachelor of Arts, University of California, Irvine, CA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *Blue Hour*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
2016 *Intimate Terrain*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
2014 *Sharon Ellis*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
2011 *Sharon Ellis: New Paintings*, Greenberg Van Doren Gallery, New York, NY
2008 *Sharon Ellis: Drawn to Paint*, Rio Hondo College Art Gallery, Whittier, CA
2006 *California*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
2003 *The Four Elements*, Greenberg Van Doreen Gallery, New York, NY
2002 *Evocations*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA; Contemporary Arts Center
Cincinnati, OH; and San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
2001 *Sharon Ellis*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
1999 *Times of the Day*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
1996 Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
The Four Seasons, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
1995 *The Four Seasons*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
1993 Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
1991 Dorothy Goldeen Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
1990 Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA
1985 Beulah Land, New York, NY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *Explode Everyday: An Inquiry into the Phenomena of Wonder*, MASS MoCA
North Adams, MA
2015 *Experience 19: Touch*, El Segundo Museum of Art, El Segundo, CA
2012 *Visionary Landscape II*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
2007 *Eden's Edge: Art in L.A.*, The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
2005 *POPulence*, Blaffer Gallery, Houston, TX; Cleveland Museum of Contemporary Art,
Cleveland, OH; and Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston Salem,
NC, curated by David Pagel

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- 2004 *California Landscape*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
25th Anniversary: The LA Years, Part II, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Flower Power, Palais des Beaux-Arts, Lille, France
Blue Sky, Pomona College of Art, Claremont, CA
- 2003 *LA Post Cool*, Ben Maltz Gallery, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, CA
- 2002 *Post Cool*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
Glow, University of Texas San Antonio, San Antonio, TX; Jones Center for Contemporary Art, Austin, TX, University of North Texas Art Gallery, Denton, TX
- 2001 *All -Terrain: An Exploration of Landscape and Place*, Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, Virginia Beach, VA, curated by Carla Hanzal (catalog)
The Importance of Being Earnest, Weingart Galleries, Occidental College Los Angeles, CA, curated by Michael Duncan
- 2000 *Twisted: Urban and Visionary Landscapes in Contemporary Painting*, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands, curated by Jaap Guldemond and Marente Bloemheuvel (catalog)
Glee: Painting Now, The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT; Palm Beach Institute of Contemporary Art, Palm Beach, FL, curated by Amy Cappellazzo and Jessica Hough (catalog)
The Visionary Landscape, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
There is no spirit in painting, Le Consortium Centre d'Art Contemporain, Dijon, France
Departures: Eleven Artists at the Getty, The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA, curated by Lisa Lyons (catalog)
The New Wave: Recent Painting in Southern California, California Center for the Arts, Escondido, CA, curated by Noriko Gamblin
- 1999 *Another Country: The Constructed Landscape*, Lawrence Rubin Greenberg Van Doren Fine Art and Brent Sikkema, New York, NY
Happy Trails, College of Creative Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, curated by Christopher Miles
- 1998 *Phoenix Triennial*, Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ, curated by David S. Rubin (catalog)
Painting From Another Planet, Deitch Projects, New York, NY, curated by David Pagel
California Current, Rare, New York, NY
Landscape, Meyerson & Nowinski, Seattle, WA
- 1997 *Spot Making Sense*, Grand Arts, Kansas City, MO, curated by David Pagel
- 1996 *Exchange*, Galeria Galerie Camargo Vilaca, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1995 *Postmarked L.A., P.P.O.W.*, New York, NY, curated by Sue Spaid
A Vital Matrix, Domestic Setting Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, curated by Jane Hart
- 1994 *Promising Suspects*, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT, curated by Barry Rosenberg (catalog)
Current Abstractions, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

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- curated by Noel Korten
New Voices, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH
- curated by Lucinda Barnes
- 1993 *Serious Beauty*, Metropolitan Momentary Contemporary Art Museum
Los Angeles, CA, curated by Irit Krygier
Appraising the Preternatural, Patricia Shea Gallery, Santa Monica, CA, curated by
Sue Spaid and Michael Anderson
Peculiar Paintings, Woodbury University, Burbank, CA, curated by Randy Sommer
The Imp of the Perverse, Sally Hawkins Gallery, New York, NY, curated by Alisa Tager
Sugar 'n' Spice, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA curated
by Noriko Gamblin and Carol Ann Klonarides (catalog)
- 1992 *Germinal Notations: A Drawing Show*, Food House, Santa Monica, CA
From the Studio: Recent Painting and Sculpture by 20 California Artists, The Oakland
Museum, Oakland, CA, curated by Philip E. Linhares (catalog)
California North and South, Aspen Art Museum, CO
- 1990 *Six Painters*, Matthew Scott Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Sublime Geometries, Sue Spaid Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA

COLLECTIONS

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, UT

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Hickey, Dave. "Sharon Ellis: Modest Ecstasy," in *25 Women: Essays on Their Art*. (152-156). *Chicago: University of Chicago Press*, 2016.
- 2011 "Critics Pick," *Time Out New York*, December 30, 2011.
"Goings on About Time," *The New Yorker*, January 17, 2011.
"Sharon Ellis: Painting," *cityArts 3, Issue 2*, January 26-February 8, 2011.
- 2009 *Psychedelic: Optical and Visionary Art since the 1960s*
San Antonio Museum of Art (catalog)
- 2007 Satorius, Katherine. "Eden's Edge," *Art US*, May 2007.
- 2006 Myers, Terry R. "Reviews: Sharon Ellis," *Art Review*, August 2006.

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- Dea, Cynthia. *Los Angeles Times*, June 1, 2006.
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- 2003 Ollman, Leah. "Elements and Essence," *Art in America*, November 2003.
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- Ollman, Leah. "He Set Imagination Free," *Los Angeles Times*, Sunday January 19, 2003.
- Myers, Holly. "Redefining Boundaries of what's Hip," *Los Angeles Times* July 28, 2003: E8.
- 2002 Fischer, Jack. "Super Natural, Painter Sheds Vivid Lights on World," *San Jose Mercury News*, November 20, 2002.
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