

DAVINA SEMO

Born 1981 in Washington, DC
Lives and works in San Francisco, USA

EDUCATION

2006 M.F.A. Visual Arts, University of California, San Diego, CA
2003 B.A. Visual Arts & Creative Writing, Brown University, Providence, RI

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2019 'Agora', RIBORDY THETAZ, Geneva, Switzerland
'Precarious Hardware', Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco, USA
'ALL THE WORLD', Marlborough Contemporary, New York, USA
2017 'PHANTOM RINGER', Jessica Silverman, San Francisco, USA
2016 'FUBAR', Marlborough Chelsea, New York, USA
'SILK FLOSS', Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland
2015 'WHERE LIFE IS HAPPENING', Lyles & King, New York, USA
'APPROACH OR ENTER', CAPITAL, San Francisco, USA
'HOLDING THE BAG', Rawson Projects, New York, USA
2014 'STAY UP', Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland
'RUDER FORMS SURVIVE', Marlborough Chelsea, New York, USA
2013 White Flag Library, St. Louis, USA
2012 'Miami - 70 NW 20th Street', Shoot the Lobster, Miami, USA
'PACING LIKE A TIGER', Galerie Gabriel Rolt, Amsterdam, Netherlands
2011 'WE BEGIN WITH THE NOISE', Martos Gallery, New York, USA
'BEFORE SHIFTING TO THE BLACKNESS', Rawson Projects, New York, USA
2006 'Surveying The Damage', San Diego, USA
2004 'Anyone Can Imagine Ten Places They'd Rather Be', San Diego, USA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 'A Doorknob or a Duck', Ratio 3, San Francisco, CA
'Davina Semo and Deborah Remington', Parts & Labor Beacon, Beacon, NY
'APPENDIX', curated by Todd von Ammon, Marlborough, New York, NY
'RISE', RIBORDY THETAZ, Geneva, Switzerland
'Primary Directives', Marlborough Contemporary, London, England
2018 'Show Me as I Want to Be Seen', Contemporary Jewish Museum, San Francisco, USA
'100 Sculptures', Anonymous Gallery, Mexico City, Mexico

- 'Horizon Lines', Jessica Silverman Gallery at 288 Pacific, San Francisco, USA
'An Art Exhibition', The Midwestern Society for Arts & Crafts', Detroit, USA
'Kinship', Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco, USA
'Something (you can't see, on the other side, of the wall from this side)' casts a shadow, SOMarts, San Francisco, USA
- 2017 'Stardust to Steel', organised by Jenny Gheith, CCA Hubbell Street Gallery, San Francisco, USA
'B(L)ACK, Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland
'Strange Attractors: The Anthology of Interplanetary Folk Art, Vol. 1', organised by Bob Nickas, Redling Fine Arts, Los Angeles, USA
'An Idea of a Boundary', curated by Jackie Im, SFAC, San Francisco, USA
'TOUCHPIECE', Hannah Hoffman Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
'The Split', Grin Gallery, Providence, USA
'No Boundaries', Marlborough Gallery, New York, USA
'Thanks, It's A Wig', In Limbo, New York, USA
'ONLY Small Paintings', Fortnight Institute, New York, USA
- 2016 'MUTATION(S)', Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland
'SMS SOS: Text, Texture, and Gesture', Marlborough Chelsea, New York, USA
'BLACK STANDARD: Davina Semo, Phil Wagner, Survival Research Laboratories', CAPITAL @ Minnesota Street Projects, San Francisco, USA
'Vitreous Humour', Kansas Gallery, New York, USA
'Only Lovers', organized by Timothée Chaillou, Le Coeur, Paris, France
- 2015 'Brunch Over Troubled Water', Marlborough Chelsea at Plutschow Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland
The 'Inaugural', Lyles & King, New York, USA
'Spiegel im Spiegel (Mirror in Mirror)', Mitterand+Cramer, Geneva, Switzerland
'Mixed Doubles', organized by Ryan Steadman, New York, USA
'David Flaughter and Davina Semo', U.S. Blues, Brooklyn, NY, USA
- 2014 'Cemeterium', curated by Regina Rex, Emerson Dorsch Gallery, Miami, USA
'Broadway Morey Boogie', curated by Marlborough Chelsea, Broadway and 117th St., New York, USA
'Another, Once Again, Many Times More', Four parts curated by: Walead Beshty and Kelley Walker; Carol Bove; Ryan Foerster; Bob Nickas and Virginia Overton. Martos Gallery Summer Location, East Marion, NY, USA
'INVITATION' (Daniel Heidkamp, Alex Hubbard, Emil Michael Klein, Damian Navarro, Davina Semo), Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland
'The Optical Unconscious / Das Optische Unbewusste', curated by Fredi Fischli, Bob Nickas, Niels Olsen. Alte Fabrik, Gebert Stiftung Fur Kultur, and Kunst(Zeug)Haus, Rapperswil, Switzerland

- 'About Sculpture #1', Galerie Rolando Anselmi, Berlin, Germany
'Aaron Bobrow, Daniel Lefcourt, Davina Semo', Andrea Rosen Gallery 2, New York, USA
- 2013 'XOXO', Night Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
'LAT. 41° 7' N., LONG. 72° 19' W', organized by Bob Nickas, Martos Gallery summer location, East Marion, NY, USA
'Rock Art & the X-ray Style', organized by Ryan Foerster, 425 Oceanview Ave Brooklyn, New York, USA
'Hair and Skin', organized by Isaac Lyles, Derek Eller Gallery, New York, USA
'XSTRACTION', The Hole, 312 Bowery, New York, USA
'The Wall', Marlborough Chelsea, New York, USA
'Diamonds, Diamonds', Curated by Daniel Feinberg, Gallery Diet, Miami, USA
'Montsalvat', Bureau, New York, USA
'Beyond the Object', Brand New Gallery, Milan, Italy
'But the Clouds', Room East, New York, USA
'Twenty Days Later', Nicole Klagsburn, New York, USA
- 2012 'Group Show', Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland
'Weights & Measures', Eleven Rivington, New York, USA
'Time, after Time', Ronchini Gallery, London, UK
'Marseilles -10 bis rue des Quatre Vents', Shoot the Lobster, Marseille, France
'Creature From the Blue Lagoon', Organized by Bob Nickas, Martos Gallery Summer Location, Bridgehampton, USA
'Sweet Distemper', Organized by Isaac Lyles, Derek Eller Gallery, New York, USA
'Everything's Alright Forever', Curated by Gabriel Rolt in collaboration with Paradise Row, Paradise Row, London, UK
'B-OUT', Curated by Scott Hug, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, USA
'Side Show', Greene Naftali Gallery, New York, USA
'Home Again, Again', The Journal Gallery, Brooklyn, New York, USA
'FRACTURE', Pop-up show during Berlin gallery weekend, Curated by Nick Hackworth & Gabriel Rolt
- 2011 'SUMMERSHOW', Galerie Gabriel Rolt, Amsterdam, Netherlands
'The 2011 Bridgehampton Biennial', Organized by Bob Nickas, USA
'We Regret To Inform You There Is Currently No Space Or Place For Abstract Painting', Martos Gallery, New York, USA
'Borderline', Pablo's Birthday Gallery
- 2010 'HELL, NO!', curated by David Louis Fierman and RJ Supa at The Covenant of Saint Cecilia '2up poster project', collaboration with Colleen Asper - PPOW
'Everything in Moderation', selected by Melissa Hopson - 106 Green, NY, USA
- 2009 'In Search of Light', curated by Paul Jacobsen at his loft

- 'Future Tense', organized by Cleopatra's - screening at the Independent Curators Gala, NADA at Miami Basel, and Cleopatra's, NY
'Learn to Communicate Like A Fucking Normal Person', curated by Jessie Cohan and Anastasia Rogers at Art Production Fund, New York, USA
2006 'Supersonic 2006', Barnstall Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
'The Elephant vs. The Termite', UCSD University Gallery, San Diego, USA
2005 'Pretty Crude', Acuna Hansen Gallery, Los Angeles, USA 'Open Stitch', Location One, New York, USA
2004 'Summary', 4-F Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
'Pasale', Estacion Tijuana, Tijuana, Mexico
'PPPP: Paradigm, Promiscuity, Proliferation, Perversion', Marcuse Gallery, San Diego, USA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2019

- Heinrich, Will. "Critic's Notebook: Summer Art Trek: Gallery Hopping in the Hudson Valley." The New York Times, August 8, 2019
Desmarais, Charles. "In the galleries this spring: Art that seeks to define itself," SF Chronicle, March 15, 2019
Dillon, Noah. "A Part of the Main: Davina Semo at Marlborough Contemporary," artcritical, February 26, 2019
Hotchkiss, Sarah, "'Beneath This Mask, Another Mask': Identity is Unfixed in CJM's 'Show Me,'" KQED Arts, February 12, 2019
Desmarais, Charles, "'Show Me As I Want to be Seen' examines artistic and gender identity," SF Chronicle, February 7, 2019
Bury, Louis, "Rocks, Waste, and Water," Hyperallergic, February 2, 2019
Miller, Robert Nager, "The many selves of gender-bending artist and Nazi resister Claude Cahun." The Jewish News of Northern California, February 01, 2019
Choi, Jinny, "Art Review: Davina Semo, ALL THE WORLD, Marlborough Contemporary, January 17, 2019

2018

- Desmarais, Charles, "SFMOMA announces 2019 finalists for prestigious SECA Award," SF Chronicle, December 14, 2018
Hotchkiss, Sarah, "A Sparse Exhibition for a Crowded City at SOMArts," KQED Arts, July 31, 2018
Thackara, Tess, "These 20 Female Artists Are Pushing Sculpture Forward," artsy, July 30, 2018

2016

- Fernandes, Colin, "Black Flag: CAPITAL at Minnesota Street Project," artcritical, April 19, 2016

2015

Baker, R.C., "Heroic Trinity: From Concrete to Comics" The Village Voice, November 3, 2015
Russo, Emmalea, "Concrete, Leather, Light, Glass: Davina Semo at Lyles & King," artcritical.com, October 23, 2015
Fernandes, Colin L., "APPROACH OR ENTER," Art Practical, September 27, 2015
Indrisek, Scott, "In The Studio: Davina Semo," Blouin Artinfo, July 13, 2015
Dillon, Noah, "Davina Semo," The Brooklyn Rail, March 5, 2015

2014

Indrisek, Scott, "Marlborough Chelsea Puts the Boogie in Broadway," Blouin Artinfo, September 24, 2014
Corsaro, Michelangelo, "South likes: Invitation at Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva," South As A State Of Mind, June 9, 2014
Suffenplan, Helder, "Interview with Davina Semo," Scentury, February 14, 2014
Murakami, Nicole, "Meeting Parallels in Parallelograms: Davina Semo's 'Ruder Forms Survive,'" Whitewall, February 5, 2014
Smith, Roberta, "Davina Semo: Ruder Forms Survive," The New York Times, January 23, 2014
"Goings on about town: Art; Davina Semo," New Yorker, February 10, 2014
Indrisek, Scott, "Introducing: Davina Semo, in NYC Show, Faces the Industrial Void," Modern Painters, January 2014
Elizalde, Molly, "Davina Semo's Survival Instincts," Interview Magazine, January 2014

2013

Grayson, Kathy, "Davina Semo," I-D Magazine, Winter 2013 Issue
"Portfolio," Journal Magazine 33
"Featured Artist: Davina Semo," Sculpture Center Tumblr
Rosenberg, Karen, "Wry to Whimsical, a Summer Eden for Improvisers," The New York Times, July 18, 2013
Heinrich, Will, "Hair and Skin' at Derek Eller", New York Observer, July 17, 2013
Farago, Jason, "...but the clouds..." - Critics Pick, Artforum.com, February 2013

2012

Nickas, Bob, "X Marks the Rot", Mousse, October 2012
Bronner, Julian Elias, "Sweet Distemper" - Critics Pick, Artforum.com, August 2012
Russeth, Andrew and Michael H. Miller, "East End? It's Only Beginning! At Last, the Hamptons Is Attracting Edgy Art to Match Its Glitzy Collectors," GalleristNY, 8 August 2012
Sutton, Ben. "Martos Gallery Makes for the Hamptons, Filling a Collector's Beach House With High-Priced Hipster Art." Artinfo, 3 August 2012
Rosenberg, Karen. "Check Out the Gallery in the Freezer: 'Creature From the Blue Lagoon,' in Bridgehampton." The New York Times, 2 August 2012

Russeth, Andrew – “The Boys (and Girls) of Summer: ‘Context Message’ at Zach Feuer and ‘Side Show’ at Greene Naftali,” New York Observer, 31 July 2012
“Sweet Distemper” New Yorker, 30 July 2012
Potts, Daniel, “Everything’s Alright Forever at Paradise Row, London.”
Aesthetica Blog, 26 July 2012 Ekker, Jan Pieter, “Rusty Chains Seem Like A Soft Wall Tapestry.” Rescensie Parool, 16 March 2012

2011

Gomez, Enrico, “Before Shifting to the Blackness” Wagmag, 20 October 2011
Rosenburg, Karen. “All Nooks, Crannies, Bedrooms and Trees Are Backdrops for Art”, New York Times, 8 July 2011
Ruble, Casey, “We Regret To...” Art in America, 1 September 2011
Miller, Michael, “Learning From Bridgehampton” New York Observer, 12 July 2011
N, Linnert, “Don’t Miss – New York: “We Regret To Inform You...” At Martos Gallery Through June 18”, Art Observed, 16 June 2011
Buter, Susan. “Part I: Seeing Silver,” Two Coats of Paint, 9 June 2011

GRANTS / AWARDS

2005 University of California Institute for Research in the Arts,
Demonstration Grant, UC San Diego
2003 Russell Grant, UC San Diego
Ann Belsky Moranis Award, Brown University