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Tomma Abts

Born 1967 in Kiel, Germany. Lives and works in London.

EDUCATION

1988-1995 Hochschule der Künste Berlin

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Tomma Abts*, David Zwirner, New York
- 2018 *Tomma Abts*, Serpentine Gallery, London [itinerary: Art Institute of Chicago] [catalogue]
- 2017 *Tomma Abts*, Galerie Buchholz, Berlin
- 2016 *Tomma Abts*, greengrassi, London
- 2015 *Tomma Abts: Four New Etchings*, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
- 2014 *Tomma Abts*, David Zwirner, New York
Tomma Abts: Mainly Drawings, Aspen Art Museum, Colorado [catalogue published in 2015]
- 2013 *Tomma Abts*, Galerie Buchholz, Berlin
- 2011 *Tomma Abts*, greengrassi, London
Tomma Abts, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf [artist book and catalogue]
- 2009 *Tomma Abts*, Galerie Giti Nourbakhsh, Berlin
- 2008 *Tomma Abts*, David Zwirner, New York
Tomma Abts, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York [itinerary: Hammer Museum, Los Angeles] [catalogue]
- 2006 *Tomma Abts*, Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Cologne
Tomma Abts, Kunsthalle zu Kiel, Kiel, Germany
- 2005 *Tomma Abts*, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin
Tomma Abts, greengrassi, London [catalogue]
Tomma Abts, Kunsthalle Basel [catalogue]
- 2004 *Tomma Abts: Journal #7*, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands [catalogue] [two-person exhibition with Vincent Fecteau]
Tomma Abts, Galerie Giti Nourbakhsh, Berlin
- 2003 *Tomma Abts: Recent Works*, greengrassi, London
Tomma Abts, Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Cologne
Tomma Abts, The Wrong Gallery, New York
- 2002 *Tomma Abts: Paintings*, greengrassi, London

- Tomma Abts & Vincent Fecteau*, Marc Foxx, Los Angeles [two-person exhibition]
- 2001 *Tomma Abts*, Galerie Giti Nourbakhsh, Berlin
- 1999 *Tomma Abts: Paintings*, greengrassi, London
- 1998 *Tomma Abts*, habitat, Kings Road, London

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *Duro Olowu: Seeing Chicago*, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago [catalogue]
- 2019 *Abstraction: Aspects of Contemporary Art*, The National Museum of Art, Osaka
Dirty Protest: Selections from the Hammer Contemporary Collection, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles [collection display]
PHOTO, Parkett Space Zurich, Zurich
Vista View, Galerie Buchholz, New York
- 2018 *Autofiktionen – Zeichnung der Gegenwart*, Wilhelm-Hack-Museum, Ludwigshafen, Germany [catalogue]
David Zwirner: 25 Years, David Zwirner, New York [catalogue]
Generations Part 3. Female Artists in Dialogue, Sammlung Goetz, Munich
A TIME CAPSULE REVISITED: A New Installation of Works Made by Women for Parkett (1984-2017), New Temporary Parkett Space, Zurich
Verdant Spring: A Group Exhibition, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
- 2017 *Abstract Painting Now!*, Kunsthalle Krems, Austria [catalogue]
Degrees of Abstraction, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
Occasional Geometries: Rana Begum Curates the Arts Council Collection, Longside Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, England
Summer Choices: A Group Exhibition, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
Thread Benefit Exhibition, David Zwirner, New York
Tomma Abts, Lutz Bacher, Trisha Donnelly, Vincent Fecteau, Mark Leckey & Jack Goldstein, Hervé Guibert, Galerie Buchholz, Berlin
- 2016 *Art Against Art*, Parkett Editions, Zurich
The Campaign for Art: Contemporary, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art [exhibition publication]
On Paper: Finding From, Baltimore Museum of Art
Summer Choices, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
- 2015 *Drawing: The Bottom Line*, Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst (S.M.A.K.), Ghent
Drawing Now, Albertina, Vienna [catalogue]
Paper Trail: Contemporary Prints, Drawings, and Photographs from the Collection, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine [collection display]
Prix de Dessin 2015 de la Fondation Daniel et Florence Guerlain: Tomma Abts, Jockum Nordström, Pavel Pepperstein, Maison Guerlain, Paris
Random Sampling – Painting from Sammlung Goetz, Haus der Kunst, Munich [collection display]
Zero to one on paper, Ratio 3, San Francisco
- 2014 *Abstract Drawing*, Drawing Room, London
CMYK, Albus Greenspon, New York
ONE IS MANY: Portfolios and Sets, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
Persian Rose Chartreuse Muse Vancouver Grey, Equinox Gallery, Vancouver
Primary Elements, Marc Jancou, New York

- Reductive Minimalism: Women Artists in Dialogue, 1960-2014*, University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, Michigan [catalogue]
Summer Choices: A Group Show, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
Winter Group Show, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
- 2013 *Abstract Mash-Up II: A Group Exhibition*, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
Elie Nadelman, Jim Nutt, Tomma Abts, Vincent Fecteau, Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Cologne
Painting Now: Five Contemporary Artists, Tate Britain, London [catalogue]
- 2012 *Architectural Dispositions*, Thomas Solomon Gallery, Los Angeles
Automaton, Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Cologne
Contemporary Painting, 1960 to the Present: Selections from the SFMOMA Collection, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Rendezvous der Maler II: Malerei an der Kunstakademie Düsseldorf 1986 bis heute/Rendezvous of the Painters II: Painting at the Düsseldorf Art Academy from 1986 until today, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf - Galerie Die Neue Sammlung, Düsseldorf [catalogue]
Stand still like the hummingbird, David Zwirner, New York
Summer Exhibition 2012, Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 2011 *Absentee Landlord*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota
The Indiscipline of Painting: International Abstraction from the 1960s to Now, Tate St. Ives, St. Ives, England [itinerary: Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, England]
Public Private Paintings, Mu.ZEE, Ostend, Belgium
Seeing is a Kind of Thinking: A Jim Nutt Companion, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Quodlibet III – Alphabets and Instruments, Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Berlin
- 2010-2012 *Made In Britain: Contemporary Art from the British Council Collection 1980-2010*, Sichuan Provincial Museum, Chengdu, China [itinerary: Xi'an Art Museum, Xi'an, China; Hong Kong Heritage Museum; Suzhou Museum, Suzhou, China; Benaki Museum, Athens; National Gallery of Arts, Tirana, Albania]
- 2010 *At Home/Not At Home: Works from the Collection of Martin and Rebecca Eisenberg*, CCS Bard Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-On-Hudson, New York [catalogue]
- 2009 *4th Tirana Biennial: The Symbolic Efficiency of the Frame*, Tirana, Albania [catalogue]
Cave Painting, PSM Gallery, Berlin
Quodlibet II, Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Cologne
Revision. Zeitgenössische Malerei und Skulptur, Neue Pinakothek, Munich
Selected Works, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco
Slow Paintings, Museum Morsbroich, Leverkusen, Germany [catalogue]
- 2008 *The Gallery*, David Zwirner, New York
Yes, No & Other Options, Art Sheffield 08, Sheffield, England
- 2007 *Turner Prize: A Retrospective*, Tate Britain, London [itinerary: Moscow Museum of Modern Art; Mori Art Museum, Tokyo] [catalogue]
- 2006 *4th Berlin Biennial: Von Mäusen und Menschen/Of Mice and Men*, Berlin [catalogue]
6th Shanghai Biennale: Hyper Design, Shanghai [catalogue]
Axis of Praxis, Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Köln, at Metro Pictures, Metro Pictures, New York
Turner Prize, Tate Britain, London [catalogue]
- 2005 *British Art Show 6*, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, England [organized by The Hayward Gallery, London and traveled to various venues in England]

- 2004 *54th Carnegie International*, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh [catalogue]
Formalismus: Moderne Kunst, heute, Kunstverein Hamburg [catalogue]
Müllberg, Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Cologne
Werke aus der Sammlung Boros, ZKM | Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie Karlsruhe, Germany [catalogue]
- 2003 *Black Rainbow*, Lucky Tackle, Oakland, California
Der Kunstpreis der Böttcherstrasse in Bremen, Kunsthalle Bremen, Bremen, Germany [catalogue]
deutschemalereizweitausenddrei, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt [catalogue]
Honey I Rearranged the Collection, greengrassi and Corvi-Mora, London
Hot, Blue and Righteous, Galerie Giti Nourbakhsch, Berlin
- 2002 *Richard Hawkins & Tomma Abts, Lecia Dole-Recio, Morgan Fisher, James Hayward*, Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Cologne
- 2001 *7th Istanbul Biennial: Egofugal: Fugue from Ego for the Next Emergence*, Istanbul [catalogue]
The Devil is in the Details, Allston Skirt Gallery, Boston [catalogue]
- 1999 *Etcetera*, Spacex Gallery, Exeter, England
Limit Less, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna
- 1998 *Tomma Abts, Steve Dowson, Gareth Jones: The Origins of Parties*, greengrassi, London
The Vauxhall Gardens, Norwich Art Gallery, Norwich, England
- 1996 *Fast*, 520 King Street West, Toronto
- 1995 *filmcuts*, Galerie neugerriemschneider, Berlin

MONOGRAPHS & SOLO EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

- 2018 *Tomma Abts*. Edited by James Rondeau and Lekha Hileman Waitoller. Texts by James Rondeau, Kate Nesin, and Juliane Rebentisch. Serpentine Gallery, London and Art Institute of Chicago (exh. cat.)
- 2015 *Tomma Abts: Mainly Drawings*. Texts by Bob Nickas, Katy Siegel, and Heidi Zuckerman Jacobson. Aspen Art Museum, Colorado (exh. cat.)
- 2011 *Tomma Abts*. Texts by Magdalena Holzhey and Gregor Jansen. Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Cologne (exh. cat.)
Tomma Abts. Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Cologne [artist book published on the occasion of *Tomma Abts*, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf]
- 2008 *Tomma Abts*. Texts by Bruce Hainley, Laura Hoptman, and Jan Verwoert. Phaidon Press, New York (exh. cat.)
- 2005 *Tomma Abts*. Edited by Daniel Buchholz and Christopher Müller. Text by Jan Verwoert. Interview with the artist by Peter Doig. Galerie Daniel Buchholz, Cologne and greengrassi, London (exh. cat.)
Tomma Abts. Text by Adam Szymczyk. Kunsthalle Basel (exh. cat.)
- 2004 *Tomma Abts & Vincent Fecteau*. Texts by Phillip van den Bossche and Lynn George. Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands (exh. cat.)

SELECTED BOOKS & GROUP EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

- 2020 *Duro Olowu: Seeing*. Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (exh. cat.)
- 2018 *Autofiktionen – Zeichnung der Gegenwart*. Distanz Verlag, Berlin (exh. cat.)
David Zwirner: 25 Years. Foreword by David Zwirner. Texts by Richard Shiff and Robert Storr.
David Zwirner Books, New York (exh. cat.)
- 2017 *Abstract Painting Now!*. Edited by Florian Steininger. Kunsthalle Krems, Austria and
Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Cologne (exh. cat.)
- 2016 *The Campaign for Art*. San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (exh. pub.)
- 2015 *Drawing Now 2015*. Edited by Elsy Lahner and Klaus Albrecht Schröder. Text by Elsy Lahner.
Albertina, Vienna and Hirmer Verlag, Munich (exh. cat.)
- 2014 *Contemporary Drawing: from the 1960s to Now*. Text by Katherine Stout. Tate Publishing,
London
Painting Now. Text by Suzanne Hudson. Thames & Hudson, New York
Reductive Minimalism: Women Artists in Dialogue, 1960-2014. Text by Erica Barrish. University
of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, Michigan (exh. cat.)
The Twenty-First Century Art Book. Texts by Jonathan Griffin, Paul Harper, David Trigg, and
Eliza Williams. Phaidon Press, London
- 2013 *Painting Now: Five Contemporary Artists*. Edited by Andrew Wilson. Texts by Lizzie Carey-
Thomas, Martin Clark, Mark Godfrey, Clarrie Wallis, and Andrew Wilson. Interview
with the artist by Simon Grant. Tate Britain, London (exh. cat.)
- 2012 *Rendezvous der Maler II: Malerei an der Kunstakademie Düsseldorf 1986 bis heute/Rendezvous
of the Painters II: Painting at the Düsseldorf Art Academy from 1986 until today*. Text by
Sanja Claser and Siegfried Gohr. Kunstakademie - Galerie Die Neue Sammlung,
Düsseldorf (exh. cat.)
- 2010 *At Home/Not At Home: Works from the Collection of Martin and Rebecca Eisenberg*. Texts by
Matthew Higgs and Bob Nickas. CCS Bard Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-On
Hudson, New York (exh. cat.)
- 2009 *4th Tirana Biennial: The Symbolic Efficiency of the Frame*. Texts by Corinne Diserens, Joa
Ljungberg, Oskar Mörnerud, Edi Muka, Miguel Robles-Duran, and Jala Toufic.
T.I.C.A.B., Tirana, Albania (exh. cat.)
Slow Paintings. Edited by Markus Heinzelmann. Texts by Heinz Knobloch, Wolfgang Ullrich,
et al. Verlag für Moderne Kunst Nürnberg, Nuremberg (exh. cat.)
- 2008 *Art & Today*. Text by Eleanor Heartney. Phaidon Press, New York
- 2007 *The Turner Prize and British Art*. Edited by Katharine Stout and Lizzie Carey-Thomas. Texts by
Louisa Buck, Michael Bracewell, Tom Morton, and Sacha Craddock. Tate Publishing,
London (exh. cat.) [revised edition]
- 2006 *Shanghai Biennale 2006: Hyper Design*. Texts by Gianfranco Maraniello, Jonathan Watkins, et al.
Shanghai Fine Arts Publisher (exh. cat.)
Turner Prize 2006. Texts by Gair Boase, Lizzie Carey-Thomas, and Katharine Stout. Tate
Publishing, London (exh. cat.)
Von Mäusen und Menschen/Of Mice and Men: 4th Berlin Biennial. Edited by Maurizio Cattelan,
Massimiliano Gioni, and Ali Subotnick. Texts by Klaus Biesenbach, Maurizio Cattelan,

- Massimiliano Gioni, Emily Speers Mears, Ali Subotnick, et al. Hatje Cantz Verlag, Ostfildern, Germany (exh. cat.)
- 2005 *Etwas von Etwas - Abstrakte Kunst*. Edited by Friedrich Meschede. Texts by Jens Ashtoff, Tobias Buche, Lynne Cooke, Michael Diers, et al. Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Cologne
- 2004 *54th Carnegie International*. Text by Laura Hoptman. Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (exh. cat.)
Formalismus: Moderne Kunst, heute. Edited by Yilmaz Dziewior. Texts by Johanna Burton, Katrina M. Brown, Yilmaz Dziewior, Anette Freudenberger, Angela Rosenberg, Jan Verwoert, Janneke de Vries, et al. Hatje Cantz Verlag, Ostfildern, Germany (exh. cat.)
Werke aus der Sammlung Boros. Edited by Götz Adriani. Texts by Florian Illies, Silke Immenga, and Ralph Melcher. Hatje Cantz Verlag, Ostfildern, Germany (exh. cat.)
Wrong Times. Interview with the artist by Peter Doig. The Wrong Gallery, New York
- 2003 *Der Kunstpreis der Böttcherstrasse in Bremen*. Text by Ulrike Groos. Kunsthalle Bremen, Bremen, Germany (exh. cat.)
Deutschemalereizweitausenddrei. Edited by Nicolaus Schafhausen. Text by Ingo Niermann. Lukas & Sternberg, New York (exh. cat.)
- 2002 *Vitamin P: New Perspectives in Painting*. Edited by Valerie Breuvert. Texts by Barry Schwabsky, Thomas Bayrle, Francesco Bonami, Johanna Burton, Alison Gingeras, Hou Hanru, Ulrich Loock, Hans Ulrich Obrist, et al. Phaidon Press, London
- 2001 *The Devil is in the Details*. Text by Bruce Hainley. Allston Skirt Gallery, Boston (exh. cat.)
Egofugal: Fugue from Ego for the Next Emergence: 7th Istanbul Biennial. Edited by Yuko Hasegawa. Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Art (exh. cat.)

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- 2018 Borrelli, Christopher. "Art Not of This World: Made by an artist who definitely is." *Chicago Tribune* (November 8, 2018) [ill.]
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 "Tomma Abts' Paintings at Art Institute of Chicago." *blouinartinfo.com* (October 15, 2018) [ill.] [online]
- 2016 Buck, Louisa. "Tomma Abts' enigmatic abstracts." *telegraph.co.uk* (June 3, 2016) [ill.] [online]
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- 2015 Kolesnikov-Jessop, Sonia. "Jockum Nordstrom, Tomma Abts, Pavel Pepperstein at Maison Guerlain." *artinfo.com* (June 3, 2015) [ill.] [online]

- 2014 Smith, Roberta. "Triple the Space and Right in Town: Aspen Art Museum Unveils Its New Building." *The New York Times* (August 3, 2014): AR2
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- 2013 Dorment, Richard. "Painting Now, Tate Britain, review." *telegraph.co.uk* (November 11, 2013) [ill.] [online]
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- 2012 Bedford, Christopher. "Dear Painter..." *Frieze* (March 2012): 98-104 [cover] [ill.]
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- 2011 Belcove, Julie. "Small is Beautiful." *Architectural Digest* (July 2011): 53 [ill.]
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- 2010 Asthoff, Jens. "Tomma Abts." *Artforum* (February 2010): 213-214 [ill.]
- 2009 Marshall, Piper. "Cave Painting: A Conversation with Bob Nickas." *artinamericamagazine.com* (June 22, 2009) [online]
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- 2006
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AWARDS

- 2015 Daniel and Florence Guerlain Contemporary Art Foundation Drawing Prize
- 2006 Turner Prize, Tate Britain, London
- 2004 Paul Hamlyn Foundation Award, London

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Art Institute of Chicago
 Arts Council England, London
 Baltimore Museum of Art
 Bayerische Staatsgemäldesammlungen, Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich
 British Council, London
 Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris
 Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh
 Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine
 Cubitt, London
 Hammer Museum, Los Angeles
 Los Angeles County Museum of Art
 Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
 The Museum of Modern Art, New York
 National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
 Sammlung Boros, Berlin
 Sammlung Goetz, Munich
 San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
 Staatsgalerie Stuttgart
 Tate, London
 Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota