

DANIEL BRENTS

Studio
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USA

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The Artist

Daniel Brents has lived and worked in Europe, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East, as well as most regions of the United States. Following a career as an architect and urban planner, he studied at the Museum of Fine Arts/Houston's Glassell School of Art for several years. He was recently selected by the faculty to be a member of Glassell's Studio BLOCK, an advanced program of intensive instruction, limited to a small, select group of artists.

His award-winning work is included in corporate and private art collections, and is frequently chosen by prominent jurors for inclusion in exhibitions in Texas and elsewhere. A distinguished jury for the Hunting Art Prize chose one of his works as one of the 129 Finalists for the 2009 prize, out of more than 1,500 entries.

An active participant in the arts community, Daniel has served as president of a Houston-based organization of artists and as Exhibitions Chairman for the Visual Arts Alliance of Houston, where he produced and managed four juried visual art exhibitions annually.

Artist's Statement

In my early work, I explored mysteries found in commonplace settings and the tensions between permanence and change, while addressing technical issues of form, line, composition and color.

Recently, I find my work evolving around themes, such as social displacement, and windows as portals of perception.

As a child, I was aware of the large populations of displaced people, called "DP's", roaming through Europe during World War II and its aftermath. Today, the term is no longer in use in that sense, although we now have another wave of refugees desperately seeking safety and security as immigrants. As dire as their circumstances are, there are many others in our own contemporary society who are also adrift and displaced, whether through economic dislocation, personal catastrophes, substance abuse or untreated mental health problems. Increasingly I am drawn to their situations and to their lonely existence that too often includes displacement. In some instances, I've been compelled to create a portrait of these individuals and in others, I choose to suggest their presence through artifacts and visual clues, as though their hold on existence (and our attention) is slowly dissolving.

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Education

2017-2019: Glassell School of Art, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Advanced Studio BLOCK limited enrollment program, admission by faculty evaluation.

2005-2008: Glassell School of Art, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Beginning through Advanced Painting; Instructors: Patrick Palmer, Brian Portman; Printmaking; Instructor: Suzanne Manns

1968-1969: School of Architecture, Washington University, St. Louis; Master of Architecture and Urban Design

1964: Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines; Beginning Painting; Instructor: Jules Kirschenbaum

1957-1962: College of Architecture, Texas A&M University, College Station; Bachelor of Architecture; Art Instructors: Joseph Donelson, Alan Stacell

Exhibitions

2017:

- New Texas Talent XXIV, Craighead Green Gallery Selection; Dallas
- Assistance League "Celebrates Texas Art", Juror: Jose Esparsa Chong Cuy; Houston
- VAA 11th Juried Invitational Exhibition, Juror: Lester Marks; Houston

2016:

- TVAA 2016 Juried National Exhibition, Jurors: Andrea Karnes and Gabriel Ritter; Mesquite
- VAA 34th Juried Membership Exhibition, Juror: Zoya Tommy; Houston
- C & M Present Invitational Exhibition, Spring Street Studios, Houston
- Third Coast Gallery; Galveston, TX, Invited Exhibition
- Swank Gallery; Houston, Solo Exhibition
- Kam's; Houston, Solo Exhibition

2015:

- Sundance Gallery, Solo Exhibition, Houston
- VAA 7th Invitational Juried Exhibition, David Hardaker, Juror; Houston

2014:

- Brookfield Best of Arts Set Free, Two works chosen for exhibition; New York, Los Angeles, Denver, Houston, Toronto, Perth, Sydney
- VAA 6th Invitational Juried Exhibition, Nicole Longnecker, Juror; Houston
- Live Oak Art Center, Elisabeth Kozlowski, Juror; Columbus

2013:

- VAA 31st Juried Membership Exhibition, Harwood Taylor, Juror; Houston
- VAA 4th Invitational Juried Exhibition, Ken General, Juror; Houston
- VAA 3rd Invitational Juried Exhibition, Patrick Palmer, Juror; Houston

2012:

- ART4LIFE, Juried Charity Exhibition, Station Museum, Houston
- Summerview 3 Exhibition, Phoenix Tower, Houston
- Small Wonders, St. Lukes Methodist Gallery, Houston
- Black and White, Artists Alive & Well Exhibit, Houston
- VAA 30th Juried Member Exhibition, Catherine Ansporn – Juror, Heritage Plaza, Houston
- VAA 2nd Juried Invitational Exhibition, Houston

2010:

- Gambol - 2010 Juried Open Exhibition, Art League Houston
- 2010 Juried Open Exhibition, Grassroots Art in Action; Houston
- The Neon Show, Austin Details Art + Photo Juried Exhibit, Austin
- Red Hot Art, Group Exhibit, Sculptures by Design, Houston
- Signs of Progress Solo Exhibit, Austin Details Art + Photo; Austin

- SummerView Juried Exhibition, Phoenix Tower; Houston
- New Directions Group Exhibition, Continental Center I; Houston
- Spirit of Spring Exhibition; Houston

2009:

- Winter Solstice Juried Exhibition, JP Morgan Heritage Hall; Houston
- The Hunting Art Prize, Finalists Exhibition, Houston
- 2009 City Hall Annex, Houston
- Millennium Tower Exhibition, Houston

2008-2009:

- Richeson75, Juried Still Life Exhibition, Kimberly, WI
- "Urban Life" Exhibition, Three Allen Center; Houston

2008:

- Wimberley Valley Art League, Juried Group Exhibition, Wimberley, Texas
- Group Exhibition, One Allen Center, Houston
- Juried Group Exhibition, Continental Building, Houston

2007:

- Glassell School of Art, Houston; Juried Student Work Exhibition, Intermediate Painting
- Gallery M2, Houston; "Go Figure", Juried Group Exhibition

2006:

- Glassell School of Art, Houston; Juried Student Work Exhibition, Beginning Painting

1964:

- Des Moines Art Center; Student Work Exhibition

Collections/Commissions

- Chevron USA, Houston
- Diane Spolum; Fargo, ND
- Charlotte Eddy and Jason Deal, Austin
- Mr. & Mrs. P. Knox, Houston
- Sandra Harper, Houston
- Anonymous, Houston
- Rosalind Speed
- Nancy Grason and Richard Dixon