

Martin L. Benson

b.1986

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Education

University of New Orleans (New Orleans, LA)

May 2017

Masters in Fine Art

Focused on painting, drawing, and sculpture

University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)

May 2010

Bachelor of Arts (Studio Art)

Focused on drawing, graphic design, and digital photography

Selected Group Exhibitions

“Select 2023”, Garvey and Simon, New York, NY October 2023

“Surreal Salon 15” Baton Rouge Gallery, Baton Rouge, LA January 2023

“Geometric Variations” SITE: Brooklyn, New York, November 2022

“Summer Group Show”, Octavia Gallery , New Orleans, July 2022

“Not a Certainty, But a Circumstance”, Quappi Projects, Louisville, KY April 2022

“The Line of Reflection”, Mitte Projects, Miami, FL February 2022

“Blue Norther” Curated by Bradley Sumrall and John Alexander, Sawyer Yards, Houston, TX
January 2022

“Welcome To Paradise” Mitte Projects, Miami, FL May 2020

“Toward Wholeness” Octavia Art Gallery, New Orleans, December 2017

"Presences" UNO St. Claude Gallery, New Orleans, LA June/ July 2016

"Smoke Signals", LSU Foster Gallery, Baton Rouge, LA, November 2015

"Louisiana Contemporary", The Ogden Museum Of Southern Art, New Orleans, LA August 2015

"Smile Isle", Daniel Rolnik Gallery, Santa Monica, CA September 2014

“Louisiana Contemporary”, The Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, LA August 2014

“Artists Across America”, Flower Pepper Gallery, Pasadena, CA, August 2014

“Yugen” Roux Hall, New Orleans, LA October 2013

"Color Atlas" L'Entrepot Gallery, New Orleans, LA August 2013

"August Art Show" The Big Top, New Orleans, LA August 2013

"Necessary Tangent" L'Entrepot Gallery, New Orleans, LA May 2013

“Bodhi” The Mothaship, New Orleans, LA April 2013

“Post Ism” The Keller Library, New Orleans, LA March 2013

“Dark Matters” The Mothaship, New Orleans, LA March 2013

“The Mothaship Launch” The Mothaship, New Orleans, LA January 2013

"The Portal Show" Roux Hall, New Orleans, LA October 2012

"Circus, Circus, Circus" The Big Top, New Orleans, LA September 2012

"NOLA NOW" The Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA June 2012

"Linking Local and International Communities" New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA
Feb 2012

"Krewe of Motha Roux" Roux Hall, New Orleans, LA October 2011

"Local to Global: A New Orleans Story" Jazz and Heritage Foundation, New Orleans, LA August
2011

"Artfully Aware" Cathedral Creative Studios, New Orleans, LA March 2011

"Entitled to Live" The Art Center, New Orleans, LA December 2010

"Spectrum Spectacle" Hold Up Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, May 2010

"Apocalypse WOW" Pacific Design Center, Los Angeles, CA, December 2009

Solo Exhibitions

“Beginner’s Mind” UNO St. Claude Gallery, New Orleans, LA March/April 2017

"Behind The Light" Georges Art Gallery, Metairie, LA, August 2012

"What You See Is Not Always What You Get" Bean Gallery, New Orleans, LA March 2012

Accomplishments in the Arts

Waking Up App

- Digital images of my paintings were purchased to be used as key art for the largely popular meditation app developed by Sam Harris called "Waking Up" October 2022

New Orleans Children's Hospital (New Orleans, LA)

- Purchased a large scale painting to be on permanent display in the main lobby September 2021

New York Presbyterian (New York, New York)

- Purchases one large scale painting to be on permanent display in their NYC Hospital October 2019

MD Anderson Cancer Center (Houston, TX)

- Purchased two large scale paintings to be on permanent display October 2019

Aloft Hotel Commission

- Commissioned by Aloft Hotel to create a permanent site-specific installation at the entrance of their hotel in Downtown New Orleans November 2017

LUNA Fete

- Commissioned by the Arts Council of New Orleans to create a site specific art installation in downtown New Orleans for the 3rd annual art and light festival. December 2016

University Medical Center (New Orleans, LA)

- The new state of the art hospital purchased six of my large scale paintings to be on permanent display. The largest one (8' x 8') hangs in one of the main entrances. Summer 2015

The Ogden Museum of Southern Art (New Orleans, LA)

- Selected out of hundreds of applicants to participate in the annual Louisiana Contemporary exhibition in both 2014 and 2015. The Juried exhibition highlights contemporary artist from around the state of Louisiana August 2014/2015
- At the opening of the exhibition on White Linen Night, I was among a small group of artists personally awarded for their work at both of the 2014 and 2015 openings.

The University of New Orleans

- Accepted into the MFA program and was awarded both the UNO Fine Arts Achievement scholarship (Full tuition Scholarship) along with a graduate assistantship 2013-2017

Contemporary Arts Center of New Orleans

- Selected to participate in the NOLA NOW exhibition series, an exhibition highlighting contemporary art practices in New Orleans. 2012

Private Collections

New York Presbyterian Hospital (New York, NY)
MD Anderson Cancer Center (Houston, TX)
University Medical Center (New Orleans, LA)
Children's Hospital Of New Orleans
Tulane University Hilel Center (New Orleans, LA)

Podcast Host

Concerning The Spiritual In Art

I am the host of the Podcast “Concerning The Spiritual In Art” where I dialogue with artists from across the globe around topics related to spirituality, consciousness, and the creative process.

Publications

SITE: Brooklyn

<https://www.sitebrooklyn.com/geometric-variation>

Under Main

<https://undermain.art/collections/undermain-on-the-road/review-not-a-certainty-but-a-circumstance-at-quappi-projects/>

Leo Weekly

<https://www.leoweekly.com/2022/05/4-kindred-spirit-artists-come-together-for-a-quappi-projects-group-show-exploring-certainty-vs-circumstance/>

Quappi Projects

<https://www.quappiprojects.com/exhibitions>

Pelican Bomb

[Tools For Consciousness: An Interview with Martin Benson](#)

The New Orleans Advocate

[Healing Art: Local painters, sculptors, multi-media creators bring new genre to new medical center \(2015\)](#)

[Louisiana artists shine at the Ogden’s ‘Contemporary’ group show \(2015\)](#)

Nola Vie

[The art of the new University Medical Center \(2015\)](#)

New Orleans Home and Lifestyles Magazine

[Artist Profile \(Winter 2015\)](#)