

## RON GORCHOV

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**Ron Gorchov** (b. 1930, Chicago, IL; d. 2020, Brooklyn, NY) was an American artist who began working with curved surface paintings in 1967. He created his first shaped canvas work in Mark Rothko's studio. Gorchov was best known for helping to spearhead the shaped canvas movement with his bowed wooden frames, resembling saddles or shields, stretched with linen or canvas and marked with simple shapes of thin paint providing chromatic contrasts. As part of a group of artists in New York in the 1960s and '70s including Frank Stella, Richard Tuttle, Blinky Palermo, and Ellsworth Kelly, Gorchov pushed painting to its extreme, defying Greenbergian formalism. Becoming a sort of hybrid between painting and sculpture, the warped edges of Gorchov's canvases created new dimensions and depth, disorienting the viewer's perception.

Gorchov was the subject of the first solo exhibition that Vito Schnabel curated in 2005. At that time, Gorchov's work had not been presented in over a decade, and the show led to a resurgent interest in his work, including a solo exhibition the following year at MoMA PS1. Since then, Schnabel has exhibited Gorchov's work in both New York and St. Moritz. Schnabel also curated an exhibition of his paintings at Sotheby's S|2 in London in 2015.

Gorchov's paintings are included in many prominent collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania; Detroit Institute of Arts, Michigan; Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois; and the Everson Museum of Art, New York.

**RON GORCHOV**

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**B. 1930, CHICAGO, IL; D. 2020, NEW YORK, NY**  
**1948 UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI, OXFORD, MS**  
**1950 ROOSEVELT COLLEGE & ART INSTITUTE, CHICAGO, IL**  
**1951 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA, IL**

**SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

**2024**

*Ron Gorchov: Exploring the Near/Far Painterly Horizons of Modern Space*, Curated by Robert Storr, Vito Schnabel Gallery, New York, NY

**2023**

*Ron Gorchov*, Hall Art Foundation, Reading, VT

**2022**

*Ron Gorchov: Watercolors 1968 - 1980*, Cheim & Read, New York, NY

**2021**

*Ron Gorchov: Spice of Life*, Vito Schnabel Gallery, New York, NY

*Ron Gorchov: The Last Paintings 2017-2020*, Cheim & Read, New York, NY

**2019**

*Ron Gorchov: at the cusp of the '80s, paintings 1979-1983*, Cheim & Read, New York, NY

**2018**

*Ron Gorchov*, Modern Art, London, UK

*Ron Gorchov: Theogony According To Ron Gorchov*, Thomas Brambilla, Bergamo, Italy

*Ron Gorchov*, Maruani Mercier, Brussels, Belgium

*Ron Gorchov*, Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin, Germany

**2017**

*Ron Gorchov*, Maruani Mercier, Knokke, Belgium

*Ron Gorchov*, Cheim & Read, New York, NY

**2016**

*Ron Gorchov: Works from the 1970s*, presented by Vito Schnabel Gallery at 360 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY

*Ron Gorchov: Concord*, Vito Schnabel Gallery, St. Moritz, Switzerland

*Ron Gorchov: Stacks*, presented by Cheim & Read at ADAA: The Art Show, New York, NY

**2015**

*Ron Gorchov*, Curated by Vito Schnabel, Sotheby's S|2, London, United Kingdom

*Ron Gorchov: Recent Works*, Thomas Brambilla, Bergamo, Italy

**2014**

*Ron Gorchov: Serapis*, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

**2013**

*Ron Gorchov: Monsieur X.*, Vito Schnabel Projects, New York, NY

*Ron Gorchov: Recent Watercolors*, Lesley Heller Workspace, New York, NY

*Ron Gorchov: Recent Paintings*, Galerie Forsblom, Helsinki, Finland

**2012**

*Ron Gorchov*, curated by Phong Bui, Cheim and Read, New York, NY

*Ron Gorchov: Recent Paintings*, Galerie Richard, Paris, France

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- 2011**  
*Ron Gorchov: Donde Se Oculta el Alma (Where The Soul Hides)*, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain
- 2010**  
*Ron Gorchov: Recent Watercolors*, George Lawson Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2009**  
*Ron Gorchov: Ron Gorchov & Alain Kirili*, Galerie Richard, Paris, France
- 2008**  
*Ron Gorchov: Recent Paintings*, Nicholas Robinson Gallery in collaboration with Vito Schnabel, New York, NY
- 2006**  
*Ron Gorchov: Double Trouble*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY
- 2005**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Vito Schnabel, New York, NY
- 1994**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI
- 1993**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Locks Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- 1992**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Jack Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
- 1990**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Jack Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
- 1985**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI
- 1984**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI
- 1983**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Marlborough Gallery, New York, NY
- 1981**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Montana State University Fine Art Gallery, Bozeman, MT
- 1980**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Gallery AK, Frankfurt, Germany  
*Ron Gorchov*, Hamilton Gallery, New York, NY  
*Ron Gorchov*, Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York, NY
- 1979**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Hamilton Gallery, New York, NY  
*Ron Gorchov*, Young Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Ron Gorchov: Entrance*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY
- 1978**  
*Ron Gorchov*, Galerie M, Bochum, Germany  
*Ron Gorchov: Matrix Program*, University Art Museum, Berkley, CA

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**1977**

*Ron Gorchov*, Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI

**1976**

*Ron Gorchov*, Texas Gallery, Houston, TX

*Ron Gorchov: Rooms*, MoMA P.S. 1, Long Island City, NY

**1975**

*Ron Gorchov*, Fischbach Gallery, New York, NY

**1972**

*Ron Gorchov*, Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY

**1966**

*Ron Gorchov: Recent Paintings*, Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York, NY

**1963**

*Ron Gorchov*, Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York, NY

**1960**

*Ron Gorchov*, Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York, NY

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

**2023**

*These Days*, Vito Schnabel Gallery, New York, NY

*Beautés*, FRAC Auvergne, Clermont Ferrand, France

*Spring Can Really Hang You Up the Most*, Cheim & Read, New York, NY

**2022**

*These Days Part II*, presented by Vito Schnabel Gallery, Sotheby's, Beverly Hills, CA

**2021**

*Ron Gorchov and Otis Jones*, Fondation CAB, Brussels, Belgium

**2020**

*A Good Show For Strange Times*, Curated by Vito Schnabel, Phillips, Southampton, NY

*Painting the Essential: New York 1980-Present*, Timothy Taylor, Online Exhibition

*Works from the 1980's/Conceptual Photography*, Marlborough Gallery, New York, NY

*Abstract! Minimalism to Now*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY

**2018**

*'Vis-À-Vis' Dual-Space Group Exhibition*, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hongkong

**2017**

*The Horizontal*, Cheim & Read, New York, NY

*What's Up New York*, LVH Art, New York, NY

**2016**

*OUT/ER.SPACE: APPREHENSION OF NOTHINGNESS*, Chowaiki & Co., New York, NY

*A Selection of Works from the 1980s*, Vito Schnabel Gallery, St. Moritz, Switzerland

*FORTY*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, New York

*Shapeshifters*, Luhring Augustine, New York, NY

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**2015**

*Intimacy in Discourse: Unreasonable Sized Paintings*, SVA Chelsea Gallery (Curated by Phong Bui and Rail Curatorial Projects), New York, NY

*First Show / Last Show*, curated by Vito Schnabel, Germania Bank Building, New York, NY

*Der Beste Anfang*, Thomas Brambilla, Bergamo, Italy

*Community of Influence*, curated by Chuck Webster, Spencer Brownstone Gallery, New York, NY

**2014**

*The Shaped Canvas, Revisited*, Luxembourg & Dayan, New York, NY

*Green Circle, Black Diamond, Ratio 3*, San Francisco, CA

*All The Best Artists Are My Friends (Part I)*, curated by Ray Smith, Mana Contemporary, Jersey City, NJ

*Mana Monumental*, curated by Eugene Lemay, Mana Miami, Miami, FL

**2013**

*DSM-V*, Moynihan Post Office, curated by David Rimanelli and presented by Vito Schnabel, New York, NY

*39 Great Jones*, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zürich, Switzerland

**2012**

*Painting Towards Three Dimensions: Bram Bogart, Ron Gorchov, Takesada Matsutani*, Galerie Richard, New York, NY

*Little Languages/Coded Pictures*, curated by Theresa Hackett and Michelle Weinberg, Lesley Heller Workspace, New York, NY

*Brucennial*, presented by The Bruce High Quality Foundation and Vito Schnabel, New York, NY

**2011**

*Paper 2011*, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, New York, NY

*It's All Good!! Apocalypse now*, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

*Brooklyn Rail 10 Year Anniversary Silent Art Benefit Auction*, Visual Arts Gallery at the School of Visual Arts, New York, NY

**2010**

*Brucennial 2010: Miseducation*, presented by The Bruce High Quality Foundation and Vito Schnabel, New York, NY

*Territories, Left of Center*, The Luckman Gallery, California State University, Los Angeles, CA

*Between Picture and Viewer: The Image in Contemporary Painting*, Visual Arts Gallery at the School of Visual Arts, New York, NY

*Works On Paper*, Galerie Richard, Paris, France

*Party at Chris's House*, Curated by Phong Bui, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

**2009**

*Triple Play*, Curated by Lilly Wei, Lesley Heller Gallery, New York, NY

*NY Masters: Bleckner, Gorchov, Kirili, Koznowski, Ross, Stella*, Galerie Richard, Paris, France

*Winter Salon: Works on Paper*, Bjorn Ressle Gallery, New York, NY

**2008**

*Party at Phong's*, Curated by Chris Martin, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

*Brucennial*, Presented by The Bruce High Quality Foundation, Brooklyn, NY

**2006**

*New Painting*, Suzanne Hilberry Gallery, Birmingham, MI

**1997**

*Roland Pease Collection*, Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York, NY

*Salient Green*, Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI

**1996**

*Epitaphs*, Edward Thorp Gallery, New York, NY

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**1995**

*47th Annual Purchase Exhibition*, American Academy of Arts & Letters, New York, NY

**1993**

*Anniversary Exhibition*, Leo Castelli Gallery, New York, NY

*Paintings from the Permanent Collection*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

*The Return of the Cadavre Exquis*, The Drawing Center, New York, NY

*Paintings from the Permanent Collection*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

*MFA Gallery*, Hunter College, New York, NY

Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI

**1992**

*Invitational*, John Good Gallery, New York, NY

*Locks Gallery*, Philadelphia, PA

Susanne Hilberry Gallery, Ferndale, MI

**1991**

*Abstract Painting of the 90s*, Andre Emmerich Gallery, New York, NY

**1990**

*Clyfford Still: A Dialogue*, Phillipe Briet Gallery, New York, NY

**1989**

Jack Tilton Gallery, New York, NY

*Small and Stellar*, Ruth Seigel Gallery, New York, NY

*Unrealism*, curated by Alan Jones, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York, NY

**1986**

*Inspiration by Nature*, Jack Tilton Gallery, New York, NY

**1985**

*Gallery Artists*, Marlborough Gallery, New York, NY

*Abstract Painting 1960-1980*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

**1984**

*Eccentric Images*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

**1983**

*Language, Drama, Source and Vision*, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, NY

Bonnier Gallery, New York, NY

**1981**

Hamilton Gallery, New York, NY

**1976**

*Rooms*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

**2010**

Skowhegan Medal for Painting

Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant

**1994**

John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship Award for Painting

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**1975**

National Endowment for the Arts Award for Painting  
CAPS Award

**1959**

Ingram Merrill Award

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

*Ron Gorchov: Works from the 1970s*, Vito Schnabel Gallery, 2017  
Exhibition catalogue, *Ron Gorchov*, Sotheby's S|2 London, 2015  
Exhibition catalogue, *Ron Gorchov*, Cheim and Read, 2012  
Exhibition catalogue, *Ron Gorchov: Donde Se Oculta el Alma (Where The Soul Hides)*, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, 2011  
Exhibition catalogue, *Ron Gorchov: Recent Paintings*, Nicholas Robinson Gallery, 2008  
Exhibition catalogue, *Ron Gorchov*, Vito Schnabel, 2005  
*Painter for Macintosh*, Peachpit Press, 1997  
Exhibition catalogue, *Ron Gorchov*, Jack Tilton Gallery, 1990  
Exhibition catalogue, *American Painting: The Eighties, A Critical Interpretation*, Grey Art Gallery, 1979  
Exhibition catalogue, *Private Myths*, The Queens Museum, 1978  
Exhibition catalogue, *Early Works by Five Contemporary Artists*, New Museum, 1977  
Exhibition catalogue, *Name Book 1: Statements on Art*, N.A.M.E. Gallery, 1977  
Exhibition catalogue, *1977 Whitney Biennial*, The Whitney Museum of American Art, February 1977  
Exhibition catalogue, *1975 Whitney Biennial*, The Whitney Museum of American Art, 1975

**PERMANENT COLLECTIONS**

The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, NY  
Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, ME  
Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH  
Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME  
Columbus Museum, Columbus, GA  
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI  
Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY  
The Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies, New York, NY  
FRAC Auvergne, France  
Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY  
Hall Art Foundation, Reading, VT  
Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, Miami, FL  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY  
Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO  
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA  
The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, New York, NY  
Queensborough County Community College Art Gallery, Queens, NY  
Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE  
Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY  
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA  
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT