

James Benjamin Franklin

Born 1972 Tacoma, Washington. Lives and works in Detroit, Michigan.

Education & Residencies

- 2019 The Lighthouse Works, Fishers Island, NY
- 2017 MFA Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 1999 BFA Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA
- 1995 New York Studio School of Painting and Sculpture, New York, NY
- 1994 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Madison, ME

Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 *Something In Mind*, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
- 2023 *WHILE AWAY*, Broadway Gallery, New York, NY
- 2022 *Full Circle*, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Practice, Reyes | Finn, Detroit, MI
- 2021 *Framed In Memory*, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
A Layered Approach, KMAC Museum, Louisville, KY
- 2019 *Whole In The Dust*, Reyes | Finn, Detroit, MI
- 2017 *Suspect Sentence*, Reyes Projects, Birmingham, MI
- 2013 *On the Other Hand*, COOP Gallery, Nashville, TN
- 2010 *Getting There From Here*, KRETS, Malmö, Sweden
- 2008 *Sub-Tippy (North Gallery)*, Clementine, New York, NY
- 2007 *New Paintings*, Mogadishni International Contemporary Art, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2006 *Ignoring the Signs*, Clementine, New York, NY
New Paintings (East Gallery), Acuna-Hansen, Los Angeles, CA
- 2004 *Plants and Animals*, Acuna-Hansen, Los Angeles, CA
General Store, Milwaukee, WI

Group Exhibitions / Expos

- 2024 *Expo Chicago*, Library Street Collective, Detroit, MI
Moreover: 50 Paintings, pt 1, The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, WI, Michelle Grabner curator
Zona Maco, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
- 2023 *NADA Miami*, Broadway Gallery, New York, NY
Felix Art Fair, Reyes | Finn, Detroit, MI
Rounding the Circle: The Mary and Al Shands Collection, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY
Get Together, Reyes | Finn, Detroit, MI
Dallas Art Fair, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
Search and Rescue, KMAC Museum, Louisville, KY
- 2022 *Art Basel Miami Beach*, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
The Armory Show, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
It Takes a Village, Library Street Collective, Detroit, MI
Beyond the Black Hole, The Pit, Palm Springs, CA
Thrift Store Find, Andrew Rafacz, Chicago, IL, Melissa Brown curator
Independent New York, Reyes | Finn, Detroit, MI

- Dallas Art Fair*, Broadway Gallery, New York, NY
SALON redux, David Klein Gallery, Detroit, MI
Zona Maco, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
Felix Art Fair, Broadway Gallery, New York, NY
- 2021 *Grouper*, Broadway Gallery, New York, NY
With Eyes Opened: Cranbrook Academy of Art Since 1932, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
The Armory Show, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
Art Basel Miami Beach, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
- 2020 *Mapped Out*, NADA Miami VR, Reyes | Finn, Detroit, MI
Show Me the Signs, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, CA
Independent New York, Reyes | Finn, Detroit, MI
- 2019 *Who's Afraid of Red, Yellow and Blue*, Proyectos Monclova, CDMX, Mexico
Useless Utility, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit, MI, Jova Lynne curator
Independent New York, Reyes | Finn, Detroit, MI
- 2018 *HOMEMADE*, Library Street Collective, Detroit, MI, McArthur Binion curator
Seven Samurai, Platform Project Space, Brooklyn, NY, Phil and Sue Knoll curators
Paradise, Night Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, Edgar Bryan and Adrienne Rubenstein curators
FRONT International, The Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH, Michelle Grabner and Lisa Kurzner curators (cat.)
McArthur Binion Curates in Detroit, Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI, McArthur Binion curator
NADA, Reyes Projects, Birmingham, MI (solo booth)
Chromalicious, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA, Phil and Sue Knoll curators
Geometrix, Galerie Camille, Detroit, MI, Leah Cohen curator
- 2017 *Brave New Work*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA, Phil and Sue Knoll curators
Something Green, Reyes Projects, Birmingham, MI
- 2016 *Solar Vortex*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA, Phil and Sue Knoll curators
Goulding the Lolly, Gavin Brown's Enterprise, New York, NY, Brian Belott curator
- 2015 *Remains To Be Seen*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA, Phil and Sue Knoll curators
Oysters With Lemon, Ventana244, Brooklyn, NY, Michael Zahn curator
Melted City, Blanc Gallery, Quezon City, Philippines, Jordin Isip and Louie Cordero curators
- 2014 *The Age of Small Things*, Dodge Gallery, New York, NY, Chuck Webster curator
- 2013 *Beach Painting Club*, silent auction to benefit Smallwater, Rachel Uffner Gallery, New York, NY, Hosted by Scott and
Tyson Reeder, and New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA)
Paperazzi 2, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY, Janet Kurnatowski curator
Draw Gym, 247365 & KnowMoreGames, Brooklyn, NY, Brian Belott curator
Milwaukeeists: 1996-2006, UW-Green Bay Lawton Gallery, Green Bay, WI, Nicholas Frank curator
- 2012 *Permanent Collection*, Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York, NY, Edward del Rosario and Jordin Isip curators
FAKES, Tomato House, Brooklyn, NY
Paperazzi, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY, Janet Kurnatowski curator
- 2011 *Coming and Going: Work from the Collection of Peter Kang*, New York Center for Art and Media Studies, New York, NY,
Donald Johnson-Montenegro curator
Permanent Collection, Regina Rex, Brooklyn, NY
Interior Loot, Tory Folliard Gallery, Milwaukee, WI, Peter Barrickman curator
Leisureland, Maloney Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA
Summer Salt, The Proposition, New York, NY, Ingrid Dinter curator
(Darling) You Send Me..., b9 galerie, Vienna, Austria, Julie Ryan curator

- Spaghetti and Beachballs*, Studio D'Arte Raffaelli, Trento, Italy (cat.)
- This is Water*, Michael Rosenthal Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- The Open Daybook*, LACE, Los Angeles, CA, David P. Earle curator
- 2010 *Casheesh Four*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
- FIAC Art Fair*, Paris, France, Galerie Zürcher
- Knock Knock*, Needles and Pens, San Francisco, CA
- Strategic Abstraction*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
- Consider The Oyster*, James Graham & Sons, New York, NY, Ingrid Dinter curator
- Singles*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
- Happily Unhappy*, Blanc Compound, Mandaluyong, Philippines, Jordin Isip and Louie Cordero curators
- 2009 *Mutant Anxiety*, Michael Rosenthal Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- Wild Feature II*, Galerie Zürcher, Paris, France, Brian Belott curator
- Casheesh Two*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
- Wild Feature*, Studio Zürcher, New York, NY, Brian Belott curator
- About Face*, Rio Hondo College Art Gallery, Whittier, CA, Chris Acuna curator
- 2008 *Presents*, Rowley Kennerk Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2007 *In Full Cry*, New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, LA, Matt Leines and Taylor McKimens curators
- Wu-Tang / Googleplex*, Gavin Brown's Passerby, New York, NY, Darren Bader curator
- Phantasmia*, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO, Elizabeth Dunbar curator (cat.)
- Poets on Painters*, Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS, Katie Geha curator (cat.)
- Crystal Crunch*, Perugi Artecontemporanea, Padova, Italy, Taylor McKimens curator
- 2006 *Go Figure*, Mogadishni International Contemporary Art, Aarhus, Denmark
- 2005 *Mystery Meat*, Future Prospects Gallery, Quezon City, Philippines, Jordin Isip curator
- Let The Players Play*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
- Move #13*, Clementine, New York, NY, Rich Jacobs curator
- Can't See The Forest*, Sixspace, Los Angeles, CA
- 2004 *Under the Influence*, Junc Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- Taste Like Chicken*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
- Chicago Art Exposition International Invitational, Chicago, IL, Acuna-Hansen
- Stray Show Art Fair*, General Store, Chicago, IL
- Drunk vs. Stoned*, Gavin Brown's enterprise at Passerby, New York, NY, General Store curator
- Fresh Squeezed*, Acuna-Hansen Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2003 *Scope*, Acuna-Hansen, Miami, FL
- Stray Show Art Fair*, Milhaus, Chicago, IL
- Paintingshow*, Austrian Art Studio, Chicago, IL
- 2002 *Stray Show Art Fair*, Daniel Reich, Chicago, IL
- Milhaus*, Deluxe Projects, Chicago, IL
- 1999 *Factory Reject*, Ross Farrell Gallery, Pasadena, CA, Taylor McKimens curator
- Raw Seeing: Celebrating a Decade of Alumni Exhibitions 1988-1998*, New York Studio School, NY
- 1998 *Ways and Means*, Miller Durazo Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- The Experimenters*, Lombard Freid Fine Arts, New York, NY, Kenny Schachter curator
- 1987-1997 A Skowhegan Decade*, David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY
- 1996 *Texas Meets New York: Facing the Millennium," the song remains the same..."*, Arlington Museum of Art, TX,
Kenny Schachter curator
- 1994 *10 X 10*, Art Initiatives Gallery, New York, NY

Bibliography

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- 2022 Letts, K.A., "Full Circle: James Benjamin Franklin @ Cranbrook Art Museum." *Detroit Art Review*, 11 December 2022, [article link](#), reproductions.
- Green, R.C., "Bakpak Durden's 'The Eye of Horus' steals the show at Cranbrook Art Museum. Work by Scott Hocking and James Benjamin Franklin is also featured in the museum's fall season." *Detroit Metro Times*, 9 November 2022, [article link](#)
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- Klug, Emma. "Artist James Benjamin Franklin Shows New Work at Reyes Finn." *Hour Detroit*, 18 January 2022, [article link](#), reproduction.
- DeVito, Lee. "Artist James Benjamin Franklin exhibits massive, vibrant works at Detroit's Reyes | Finn gallery: The Scene, Staff Pick." *Detroit Metro Times*, 12 January 2022, [article link](#)
- 2021 Moldan, Tessa. "Zona Maco Art Week: Shows to See." *OCULA*, 23 April 2021, [article link](#), reproduction.
- Weis, Natalie. "At KMAC. Review of *A Layered Approach*." *UnderMain Magazine*, 10 October 2021, [article link](#), reproductions.
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- 2019 Yerebakan, Osman Can, "Studio Visit: James Benjamin Franklin." *BOMB Magazine*, 23 August 2019, [article link](#), August, reproductions.
- Groce, Nia, "How Emerging Initiatives Are Highlighting Detroit's Evolving Arts Scene." *Hypebeast*, 26 July 2019, [article link](#), reproduction.
- Yerebakan, Osman Can, "See Highlights from the Second Annual Detroit Art Week." *Galerie Magazine*, 19 July 2019, [article link](#), reproduction.
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- Dafoe, Taylor, and Tim Schneider. "Best Buys: Eight Artists at Independent to Collect for Under \$15,000 (If You're Lucky and Move Fast)." *Artnet news*, 7 March 2019, [article link](#), reproduction.
- 2018 Ober, Cara, "If Armory Fairs Were Dog Show Contestants." *Bmoreart*, 14 March 2018 [article link](#), reproduction.
- Heinrich, Will, "The Don't-Misses at Two Art Fairs." *New York Times Art Review*, 9 March 2018 [article link](#).
- Olesen, Ivy, "Nada New York features porcelain hot dogs and commanding chat bots." *The Art Newspaper*, 9 March 2018 [article link](#).
- McMahon, Katherine, "A Tour of NADA New York 2018." *Artnews*, 8 March 2018, [article link](#), reproduction.
- 2014 Micchelli, Thomas, "Points of Contact: Small Works, Giant Steps." *Hyperallergic*, 8 February 2014 [article link](#), reproduction.
- Gopnik, Blake, "DAILY PIC." *On Art*, 6 February 2014, [article link](#), reproduction.
- 2013 Gallagher, James, "Anonymity." *Secret Behavior*, Issue 01, Fall/Winter, pages 32, 33, & 36.
- Nolan, Joe, "Crawl Space, A Monthly Look at the Art Crawl." *Nashville Scene*, Vol.32, No.17, 30 May - 5 June, page 33.
- 2011 Vettorazzi, Paola, "Spaghetti and Beachballs." *Juliet Art Magazine*, Issue 153, June-September, page 98.
- Gelmi, Claudia, "Intorno ai 30 anni: Oltre Oceano e nella vicina Rovereto Lanaro e i Baechler boys da Raffaelli." *Corriere Del Trentino*, *Cultura & Tempo libero*, 11 March, page 13, reproduction.
- 2010 Mullarkey, Maureen, "At the Galleries: Consider the Oyster." *City Arts*, Vol.2, Issue 16, 13-16 October, reproduction.
- 2009 Knowles, Patrick, "Mutant Anxiety: Angst woes in colorful veins." *San Francisco Chronicle*, 31 December.
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- 2008 Davis, Lee Baxter, "Goings On About Town: Art, Galleries-Chelsea." The New Yorker, 11 February 2008 issue
- 2007 Thomson, Alice, "Phantasmania: Tough Times For Tough Art." The Kansas City Star Art Review, 16 June, reproduction.
- 2006 LeBlanc, Mark, "James Franklin at Acuna Hansen." Beautiful/Decay, Issue: Q, reproduction.
- Stockton, Cindy Moore, "Suffocating Desire." NYArts Magazine, September/October Issue, reproduction.
- 1997 Cotter, Holland, "Art Review: The Experimenters". New York Times, 10 January 1997, page, A22.
- 1996 Daniel, Mike, "New York visits deep in the art of Texas." The Dallas Morning News, 1 November.

Group Exhibition Catalogues

- 2011 The Open Daybook: Mark Batty Publisher; Edited by David P. Earle
Spaghetti and Beachballs: Studio D'Arte Raffaelli, Trento, Italy, Essay by Max Fierst
- 2007 Phantasmania: Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO, Elizabeth Dunbar curator
Poets on Painters: Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS, Katie Geha curator
(traveling exhibition)
- 2006 New American Paintings: Principal Juror -Tumelo Mosaka, Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art,
Brooklyn Museum, Pacific Coast Edition, Book #67