



Alyssa Monks

Brooklyn, NY

Born 1977 in Ridgewood, New Jersey, Alyssa Monks began oil painting as a child. She studied at The New School in New York and Montclair State University and earned her B.A. from Boston College in 1999. During this time she studied painting at Lorenzo de' Medici in Florence. She went on to earn her M.F.A from the New York Academy of Art, Graduate School of Figurative Art in 2001. She completed an artist in residency at Fullerton College in 2006 and has lectured at universities and institutions nationwide. She has taught Flesh Painting at the New York Academy of Art, as well as Montclair State University and the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts.

“Using filters such as glass, vinyl, water, and steam, I distort the body in shallow painted spaces. These filters allow for large areas of abstract design - islands of color with activated surfaces - while bits of the human form peak through. In a contemporary take on the traditional bathing women, my subjects are pushing against the glass “window”, distorting their own body, aware of and commanding the proverbial male gaze. Thick paint strokes in delicate color relationships are pushed and pulled to imitate glass, steam, water and flesh from a distance. However, up close, the delicious physical properties of oil paint are apparent. Thus sustaining the moment when abstract paint strokes become something else.”

“When I began painting the human body, I was obsessed with it and needed to create as much realism as possible. I chased realism until it began to unravel and deconstruct itself,” Alyssa states, “I am exploring the possibility and potential where representational painting and abstraction meet - if both can coexist in the same moment.”

Monks's paintings have been the subject of numerous solo and group exhibitions including “Intimacy” at the Kunst Museum in Ahlen, Germany and “Reconfiguring the Body in American Art, 1820–2009” at the National Academy Museum of Fine Arts, New York. Her work is represented in public and private collections, including the Savannah College of Arts, the Somerset Art Association and the collections of Howard Tullman, Danielle Steele and Eric Fischl.

Alyssa has been awarded the Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grant for Painting three times and is a member of the New York Academy of Art's Board of Trustees. She is currently represented by David Klein Gallery in Birmingham, Michigan. Alyssa currently lives and paints in Brooklyn, New York.

Blue Gallery

118 Southwest Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64108

816.527.0823 BlueGalleryOnline.com website

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b. November 27, 1977

EDUCATION

- Graduate School of Figurative Art, New York Academy of Art: MFA *cum laude* 2001
- Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA: BA *cum laude* 1999
- Lorenzo de' Medici, Art Institute of Florence: Spring 1998

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- *Small Works*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA 2012
- *Fixation*: David Klein Gallery, MI, 2010
- *Oil and Water*: DFN Gallery, NY, 2010
- *New Paintings*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA, 2009
- *New Paintings*: DFN Gallery, NY, 2009
- *Flesh Painting*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA 2008
- *New Paintings*: DFN Gallery, NY 2007
- *Next of Kin*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA 2007
- *Below the Surface*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA 2006
- *Dissolve*: DFN Gallery, NY 2006
- *New Paintings*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA 2005
- *New Paintings*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA 2004
- *New Paintings*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA 2003
- *Surfacing*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA, 2002

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- *The Looking Glass: Refraction through the Female Gaze*: Mirus Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 2013
- *Contemporary Realism*: Gallery 1261, Denver, CO, 2013
- *Single Fare*: RH Gallery, New York City, NY, 2013
- *Nudes*: Hespe Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 2013
- *Saturation*: Jensen Gallery, Sydney, Australia, 2012
- *Take Home a Nude*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2012
- *NYAA 6th Annual Summer Exhibition*: Flowers Gallery, NY, 2012
- *Nosebleed*: Fuse Gallery, NY, 2012
- *Rarity Summer Salon Show*: Rarity Gallery, Greece, 2012
- *Good for You*: David Klein Gallery, MI, 2012
- *The Ones*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2012
- *Heads*: Flowers Gallery, NY, 2012
- *Love is in the Air*: The Cell, NY, 2012
- *From What I Remember/From What I Forget*: Principle Gallery, VA, 2012
- *LA Art Show – Modern & Contemporary*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA, 2012
- *Art Miami*: David Klein Gallery, FL, 2011
- *ICONOMANCY*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2011
- *Take Home a Nude*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2011
- *Slideluck Potshow*: Slideluck, NY, 2011
- *Dark Water*: CoproGallery, CA, 2011
- *Paintworks*: Gowanus Ballroom, NY, 2011
- *Space Invaders*: Rose Contemporary, ME, 2011
- *Gallery Selections*: Hespe Gallery, CA, 2011
- *NYAA 5th Annual Summer Exhibition*: Flowers Gallery, NY, 2011
- *Breach of Privacy*: Carmichael Gallery, CA, 2011
- *Rarity Summer Salon Show*: Rarity Gallery, Greece, 2011
- *Triple Threat*: Island Weiss Gallery, NY, 2011
- *Naked*: Jensen Gallery, Sydney, Australia, 2011
- *Forces of Nature*: Brian Farrell's Space at Chelsea Modern, NY, 2011
- *San Francisco Fine Art Fair*: Hespe Gallery, CA, 2011
- *Art Chicago*: Hespe Gallery, IL, 2011
- *Single Fare 2: Please Swipe Again*: Sloan Fine Art, NY, 2011
- *The Armory Show – Modern*: David Klein Gallery, NY, 2011

- *(I've Got a Secret)*: Forbes Galleries, NY, 2011
- *Songs*: Fuse Gallery, NY, 2011
- *(I've Got a Secret)*: Forbes Galleries, NY, 2011
- *LA Art Show*, Los Angeles, CA, 2011
- *Uncovered*: Eden Rock Gallery, St. Barth's, French West Indies, 2010
- *Deck the Walls*: New York Academy of Art, NY 2010
- *Slideluck Potshow*: Slideluck, NY 2010
- *Compact: Impact*: The Center for Contemporary Art, Bedminster, NJ, 2010
- *Take Home a Nude*: New York Academy of Art, NY 2010
- *Body, Mind & Hair*: Rowan University Gallery, Glassboro, NJ 2010
- *Fresh Figures & Abstraction*: Scott White Contemporary Art, CA, 2010
- *Gallery Artists*: DFN Gallery, NY, 2010
- *Remnants*: Fuse Gallery, NY, 2010
- *Flashpoint: Alyssa Monks & Tom Birkner*: The Noyes Museum, Stockton College, NJ, 2010
- *San Francisco Fine Art Fair*: Scott White Contemporary Art, CA, 2010
- *Intimacy*: Kunst Museum Ahlen, Germany, 2010
- *Art Miami*: David Klein Gallery, FL, 2010
- *The Armory Show*: David Klein Gallery, NY, 2010
- *Between Realities*: Principle Gallery, VA, 2010
- *Water/Bodies*: Eden Rock Gallery, St. Barths, 2009
- *Bods, Rethinking the Figure*: Robert Kidd Gallery, MI, 2009
- *Baptized Catholic*: Artbreak Gallery, Brooklyn, NY, 2009
- *Portrait Invitational*: Blue Gallery, MO, 2009
- *Take Home a Nude*: New York Academy of Art, NY 2009
- *Reconfigured and Relocated*: DFN Gallery, NY 2009
- *Summer Stars*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA, 2009
- *Reconfiguring the Body in American Art, 1820–2009*: National Academy Museum of Fine Arts, NY, 2009
- *Art Hamptons*: DFN Gallery, NY, 2009
- *Abstract/Nature*: DFN Gallery, NY, 2009
- *Personal Territory*: David Klein Gallery, MI, 2009
- *Paper Beings*: Hespe Gallery, CA, 2009
- *New York Academy 2nd Biennial Alumni Association Exhibition: Figureworks Gallery, NY 2009*
- *Small Is Beautiful*: Flowers Gallery, NY, 2009
- *New Work by Gallery Artists*: DFN Gallery, NY, 2009
- *Dangerous Women*: DFN Gallery, NY 2008
- *Summer Exhibition*: New York Academy of Art, NY 2008
- *Take Home a Nude*: New York Academy of Art, NY 2008
- *Summer Exhibition*: New York Academy of Art, NY 2007
- *Wet*: DFN Gallery, NY 2007
- *Alumni Association Exhibition NYAA, Figureworks Gallery, Brooklyn 2006*
- *Small Works Show*: Sarah Bain Gallery, Anaheim 2006
- *Bridge Art Fair*: DFN Gallery, Miami Beach 2006
- *Art London*: Hespe Gallery, London, 2006
- *Group Exhibition*: DFN Gallery, NY 2006
- *Take Home a Nude*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2006
- *An Assessment of Contemporary Figuration*: David Klein Gallery, MI, 2006
- *Salon 2006*: New York Academy of Art, NY 2006
- *10th Anniversary Show*: DFN Gallery, NY 2005
- *7th Annual Realism Invitational*: Jenkins Johnson Gallery, CA, 2005
- *Still life*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA 2004
- *Figures*: J. Cacciola Gallery, NJ 2003
- *Take Home A Nude*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2003
- *Interiors*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA, 2002
- *8x10*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA, 2001



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- *Take Home A Nude*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2001
- *Diploma Project Exhibition*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2001
- *Separate Visions*: Sarah Bain Gallery, CA, 2001
- *Paint the Town Red*: Rene Lezard, NY, 2001
- *NYAA Student Exhibition*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 1999-2001
- *From Plaster To Master*: New York Academy of Art, NY, 2000
- *Tristan and America Exhibition*, NY, 2000
- *Credit Suisse Exhibition*, NY, 2000
- *MFA Exhibition*: Times Square Gallery/Hunter College, 2000

AWARDS

- New York Academy of Art Summer Exhibition, First Prize, Juried Exhibition, 2007
- Grant for Painting, Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation, Quebec, Canada, 2003, 2004, 2006
- Travel Grant to Normandy, France at the *Chateaux Balleroy: Forbes Foundation*, 2001
- Academic Scholarship Award: *New York Academy of Art*, 1999
- *Artplasion* grant: Boston College, 1999
- *Stylus* grant: Boston College, 1999

JUROR

Judged and Juried, East End Studio Gallery, Houston, TX, 2013

Juxtaposed, Six Summit Gallery, Ivoryton, CT, 2011

Connecticut Women Artists Exhibition, 81st Open Juried Show, John Slade Ely House, New Haven, CT, 2010

MEMBER

Board of Trustees, New York Academy of Art, 2010 -

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Ries, Patrícia, **Egoista**, vol.50, p. 102-108, December 2012.

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<http://issuu.com/humanizemagazine/docs/humanize13?mode=window&viewMode=doublePage>

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<http://www.revsmag.com/blog/2012/10/04/interview-with-painter-alyssa-monks/>

Zappitell, Brenda, *Inside The Artist's Studio: pt I*, **Professional Artist**, September, 2012, p.16

<http://www.myvirtualpaper.com/doc/professional-artist/pasept2012/2012073001/#16>

Malafrente, Allison, *The New York Academy of Art: Traditional Skills*, **American Artist**, September, 2012, p38

Menendez, Didi, *Interview: Alyssa Monks*, **Poets & Artists**, online, July 2012, p. 10-19

<http://poetsandartists.com/2012/07/01/july-2012/>

Marinho, Rafaela, *Artista Americana Alyssa Monks Cria Rostos Realistas Em Pinturas à óleo*, online, July, 2012

<http://gq.globo.com/cultura/artista-americana-alyssa-monks-cria-rostos-realistas-em-pinturas-a-oleo/>

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<http://news.yahoo.com/photos/artist-paints-photographic-portraits-slideshow/>

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<http://www.juxtapoz.com/Current/photoreal-paintings-by-alyssa-monks>



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Lee-Tulis, James, *Alyssa Monks Interview: Picture Perfect?*, **Departures Magazine Online**, December 2011

Ferrari, Linda, *Lady in the Water*, **Progetto-9**, December 2011.

Alyssa Monks: Metafora Claritatie in Difuziune, **Luxury Rich & Famous**, November 2011

Charlotte Strick, *Women by Women*, **The Paris Review**, Winter 2011, Issue 199

Alyssa Monks, **MISC Magazine**, Fall 2011

Karakoc, Ozan. *Alyssa Monks*, **Bak Magazine**, September 2011, Issue 16, p. 301, online, <http://online.bakmagazine.com/?issue=16>

Alyssa Monks, **Apocrifa Magazine**, June 2011, Issue 13, online, <http://apocrifa.com.mx/>

The Blind Architect, *Empty Kingdom Interview: Alyssa Monks*, **Empty Kingdom**, June 2011, online, <http://www.emptykingdom.com/main/featured/empty-kingdom-interview-alyssa-monks/>

Alyssa Monks, **Mental Shoes**, April 2011, online, www.mentalshoes.com/issues/mental_shoes_019.pdf.

Aylan, Buse, *Objektiften Firlayan Firca Darbeleri*, **Dinamik**, Bogazici University, Turkey, January 2011

Telem, Ainat & Ben Arzi, Liron, *Alyssa Monks*, **Home Design & Lifestyle**, December 2010

Between Realism and Abstraction: The Photorealistic Paintings of Alyssa Monks, **Culturazzi**, November 2010, online, <http://www.culturazzi.org/art/between-realism-and-abstraction-photorealistic-paintings-alyssa-monks>

Cuffe, Michael, *Alyssa Monks: Contemporary Oil Artist Interview & Studio Visit*, **Warholian.com**, October 2010, online, <http://warholian.com/?p=1163>

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Stanley, Caroline. *Alyssa Monks' Warped Wet Bodies*, **Flavorwire**, May 2011, online, <http://flavorwire.com/179574/gallery-alyssa-monks-warped-wet-bodies>

Fenton, Laura. *Exclusive: Alyssa Monks Talks about her Bathing Beauties*, **Flavorwire**, April 2011, online, <http://flavorwire.com/17668/exclusive-alyssa-monks-talks-about-her-bathing-beauties>

Rose, Joshua, *Alyssa Monks: Fixation*, **American Art Collector**, October 2010, online, <http://www.americanartcollector.com>

Colosi, Simone, *Intimate Observations: Alyssa Monks*, **Aesthetics Now**, October 2010, online, <http://aestheticsnow.com/flipbook/flipbook/view.php?id=4>

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Fresh Figures & Abstraction, Exhibition Catalog, online, Summer 2010
http://www.scottwhiteart.com/fresh_catalog.pdf

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Past Contributor: Alyssa Monks, **Poets and Artists**, May 2010, online, <http://issuu.com/didimenendez/docs/os15>.



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Baldwin, Rosecrans, *Come Hell by Alyssa Monks*, **The Morning News**, online, January 2008. http://www.themorningnews.org/archives/galleries/come_hell/05ch.php

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Alyssa Monks: The Texture of Light and Emotions, **The Panache Experience**, California, Vol. 17, issue 6.

COLLECTIONS

- Eric Fischl
- Howard Tullman
- Gerrity Lansing
- Danielle Steele
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- Fullerton College
- Seavest Collection
- Luciano Benetton