



Alex Katz, born 1927 in Brooklyn, New York as the son of Russian-Jewish immigrants, is one of the most important painters of our time. Katz studied at the Cooper Union School of Art from 1946 to 1949. He then attended the renowned Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. Skowhegan instilled Katz with a love for painting from life, a practice that remains essential to his work to this day. Katz explains that Skowhegan's *plein air* (in the open air) painting gave him "a reason to devote my life to painting."

From the 1950s onward, Katz developed a very independent painterly language which addresses the traditional genre of the landscape, as well as the portrait or figure painting. In the early 1960s, influenced by films, television, and billboard advertising, Katz began painting large-scale paintings, often with dramatically cropped faces. In 1965, he also embarked on a prolific career in printmaking. Katz would go on to publish many editions in lithography, etching, silkscreen, woodcut and linoleum cut. After 1964, Katz increasingly portrayed groups of figures. He would continue painting these complex groups into the 1970s, portraying the social world of painters, poets, critics, and other colleagues that surrounded him. In the 1980s, Katz took on a new subject in his work: fashion models in designer clothing. In the late 1980s and 1990s, Katz focused much of his attention on large landscape paintings, which he characterizes as "environmental." Rather than observing a scene from afar, the viewer feels enveloped by nearby nature. Alex Katz is perhaps most well-known for his many portraits of his wife and muse, Ada. He ... "calls his wife "the perfect model." "She's both a European beauty and an American beauty," he says. "She's like Dora Maar, the same kind of face, but then her smile is the American-beauty smile." (Leslie Camhi (2006) 'Painted Lady' *New York Times* Aug 27, 2006)

Alex Katz sees himself as a post-abstract painter who, in his realistic painting style, arranges the figure elements and sign elements in such a way that the observers combine them "in their heads" themselves. Katz is interested in the elementary question: What is reality? Taking this question as a starting point, he has spent the past 70 years repeatedly exploring possible ways with which "realism" can be redefined. Color and light play a central role in his works. Thus, even despite the ostensible realism, he pays less attention to the motif than to the look and style, i.e. the appearance. In 1968, Katz moved to an artists' cooperative building in the SoHo area of New York City, where he still lives with his wife Ada and works today. He continues to spend his summers in Lincolnville, Maine.

Alex Katz works have been collected and exhibited extensively in the US and around the world. In 2022, Katz celebrated his 95th birthday and a career that spans an impressive seven decades with more than 200 solo exhibitions, nearly 500 group exhibitions and over 100 public collections worldwide.



**SELECTED MUSEUM COLLECTIONS:**

Andover, MA, The Addison Gallery  
Athens, GA, Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia  
Atlanta, GA, The High Museum of Art  
Boston, MA, The Museum of Fine Arts  
Brunswick, ME, Bowdoin College Museum of Art  
Buffalo, NY, Albright-Knox Museum  
Cambridge, MA, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA, The Albert & Vera List of Arts Center, M.I.T.  
Chattanooga, TN, Hunter Museum of American Art  
Chicago, IL, The Art Institute of Chicago  
Chicago, IL, Chicago Arts Club  
Cincinnati, OH, Cincinnati Art Museum  
Cleveland, OH, Cleveland Museum of Art  
Denver, CO, Denver Art Museum  
Des Moines, IA, Des Moines Art Center  
Detroit, MI, The Detroit Institute of Art  
Fort Worth, TX, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth  
Greensboro, NC, Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
Hamilton, NY, The Picker Art Gallery, Colgate University  
Hanover, NH, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College  
Hartford, CT, Wadsworth Athenaeum  
Honolulu, HI, Honolulu Academy of Art  
Houston, TX, Museum of Fine Arts  
Houston, TX, Rice Museum, Rice University  
Iowa City, IA, University of Iowa Museum of Art  
Kansas City, MO, The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art  
Kansas City, MO, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art  
Lawrence, KS, Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas  
Lewiston, ME, Olin Art Center, Bates College  
Little Rock, AR, The Arkansas Art Center  
Los Angeles, CA, The Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
Madison, WI, Madison Art Center  
Malibu, CA, Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art, Pepperdine University  
Manitowoc, WI, Rahr West Museum  
Miami, FL, Miami-Dade Community College  
Milwaukee, WI, Milwaukee Art Museum  
New Orleans, LA, New Orleans Museum of Art  
New York, NY, The Brooklyn Museum  
New York, NY, The Grey Art Gallery, NYU Art Collection, New York University  
New York, NY, The Jewish Museum  
New York, NY, The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
New York, NY, The Museum of Modern Art  
New York, NY, Whitney Museum of American Art



**SELECTED MUSEUM COLLECTIONS (continued)**

New York, NY, Equitable Life Insurance  
New York, NY, American Adacemy and Institute of Arts and Letters  
New York, NY, Exxon Corporate Collection  
Norfolk, VA, Chrysler Museum  
Oberlin, OH, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College  
Omaha, NE, Joslyn Art Museum  
Philadelphia, PA, The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts  
Philadelphia, PA, Philadelphia Museum of Art  
Pittsburgh, PA, Carnegie Museum of Art  
Portland, ME, Portland Museum of Art  
Portland, OR, Portland Art Museum  
Princeton, NJ, Princeton University Art Museum  
Providence, RI, Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design  
Raleigh, NC, North Carolina Museum of Art  
Richmond, VA, Virginia Museum of Fine Art  
Rochester, MI, Meadow Brook Art Gallery, Oakland University  
Rockland, ME, William A. Farnsworth Library and Art Museum  
Salt Lake City, UT, Utah Museum of Fine Arts  
Scranton, PA, Everhart Museum  
Seattle, WA, Virginia Wright Fund  
Sioux City, IA, Sioux City Art Center  
Syracuse, NY, Joe & Emily Loe Art Gallery, Syracuse University  
Tampa, FL, University of South Florida Art Galleries  
Trenton, NJ, New Jersey State Museum  
Utica, NY, Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute of Art  
Waltham, MA, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University  
Washington, DC, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden  
Washington, DC, National Collection of Fine Arts  
Washington, DC, National Gallery of Art  
Washington, DC, National Portrait Gallery  
Washington, DC, The Phillips Collection  
Washington, DC, Smithsonian Institute  
Waterville, ME, Colby College Museum of Art  
Wilmington, DE, Delaware Art Museum  
Winston-Salem, NC, Wake Forest University  
Wichita, KS, Wichita Art Museum  
Worcester, MA, Worcester Art Museum  
AUSTRIA  
Vienna, Graphische Sammlung Albertina  
Vienna, Museum Moderner Kunst

**CANADA**

Toronto, The Art Gallery of Ontario



**SELECTED MUSEUM COLLECTIONS (continued)**

**ENGLAND**

London, Saatchi Collection  
London, The Tate Gallery  
Middlesbrough, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art

**FINLAND**

Helsinki, Atenium Taidemuseo  
Tampere, Sarah Hilden Museum of Art

**FRANCE**

Paris, Fondation d'Art Contemporaine  
Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou

**GERMANY**

Aachen, Neue Galerie  
Bad Hamburg, Altana Haus Museum  
Baden-Baden, Museum Frieder Burda  
Berlin, Staatliche Museen Preussischer Kulturbesitz Nationalgalerie  
Cologne, Collection Westdeutsch Spielbank  
Kleve, Museum Kurhaus  
Künzelsau, Museum Würth  
Munich, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek  
Munich, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Moderne Kunst  
Munich, Museum Bandhorst

**HOLLAND**

Museum Voorlinden

**ISRAEL**

Jerusalem, The Israel Museum

**JAPAN**

Hiroshima, Hiroshima City Museum  
Iwaki, Iwaki City Art Museum  
Tokyo, Museum of Contemporary Art

**KOREA**

Kyonqiu-Shi, Sonje Museum of Contemporary Art  
Seoul, Lotte Museum of Art  
Daegu Art Museum

**LUXEMBURG**

Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art Luxembourg



**SELECTED MUSEUM COLLECTIONS (continued)**

**MEXICO**

Mexico City, Museo Rufino Tamayo

**PORTUGAL**

Sintra, Berardo Museum Collection

**SCOTLAND**

Edinburgh, National Gallery of Scotland

**SPAIN**

Bilbao, Guggenheim Museum

Madrid, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia

Valencia, IVAM Centre Julio Gonzalez

**SWITZERLAND**

Lausanne, Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Art

Zurich, Daros Collection