



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 2017, Katz celebrated his 90th 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