

GARY SIMMONS

Born 14 April 1964, New York

Lives and works in New York and Los Angeles

EDUCATION

1990 Master of Fine Arts, The California Institute of Fine Arts, Valencia, CA

1988 Bachelor of Fine Arts, School of Visual Arts, New York

ONE-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2010 *Gary Simmons: Midnight Matinee*, Metro Pictures, New York, 18 February-
20 March

2008 *Gary Simmons: Smoke*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, 18 October -
15 November

Gary Simmons: Night of the Fires, Metro Pictures, New York, 6 September
- 4 October

Gary Simmons: Crawling Along the Edge of a Straight Razor, Cais Gallery,
Seoul, South Korea, 24 June - 22 July

2007 *Gary Simmons*, Anthony Meier, San Francisco, 2 October - 2 November

Gary Simmons: House of Pain, Simon Lee Gallery, London, England, 4 May
- 9 June

2006 *Gary Simmons: 1964*, Bohlen Foundation, New York, NY, 11 March - 26
May

2005 *Gary Simmons: Diggin' in the Crates*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles,
21 May - 25 June

2004 *Gary Simmons: Criminal Slang*, Metro Pictures, New York, 9 September -
23 October

2003 *Gary Simmons: Wishing*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, 3 - 31 May

2002 *Gary Simmons*, CAIS Gallery, Seoul, Korea, 23 October - 23 November

Gary Simmons, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 14 February - 19
May. Traveled to: SITE Santa Fe, 21 June - 10 September; The
Studio Museum in Harlem, 9 October 2002 - 5 January 2003

2001 *Gary Simmons: Wishful Drinking*, Metro Pictures, New York,
15 September - 20 October

Gary Simmons: Ghost House, Ruby Ranch, Las Vegas, NM, in conjunction
with Site Santa Fe, NM, 19 May

- 2000 *Gary Simmons: Country Grammar*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, 25 November - 23 December
Gary Simmons, Laure Genillard Gallery, London, Great Britain, April - 13 May
Wake, web exhibition, www.diacenter.org, The Dia Center, New York
- 1999 *Currents 80: Gary Simmons*, The St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO 10 December 1999 - 27 February 2000
The Forest For The Trees, Metro Pictures, New York, 5 December 1998 - 16 January 1999
- 1998 *If Memory Serves*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, 30 May - 3 July
Gary Simmons: Desert Blizzard, The Gallery of the Department of Art & Art History, Dana Arts Center, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY, 5 - 28 February, exhibition catalogue
- 1997 *Wall Drawings*, Kunsthau, Zurich, Switzerland, 9 September - 11 November, exhibition catalogue
Gary Simmons, Montgomery Glasoe Fine Art, Minneapolis, MN
Gary Simmons, Galeri Charlotte Lund, Stockholm, Sweden
Gary Simmons: Gazebo, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, 9 February - 7 May
- 1996 *Boom, Bang!*, Galerie Philippe Rizzo, Paris, exhibition catalogue
Gary Simmons, Metro Pictures, New York
- 1995 *Gary Simmons: Erasure Drawings*, Lannan Foundation, Los Angeles, exhibition brochure
Gary Simmons, The Contemporary, New York
Gary Simmons, Metro Pictures, New York
Gary Simmons, with Glenn Ligon, The Fabric Workshop/Museum, Philadelphia, PA, 23 March - 31 May,
Gary Simmons, with Glenn Ligon, Beaver College Art Gallery, Glenside, PA, 23 March - 24 April
- 1994 *Directions: Gary Simmons*, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C., 17 November 1994 - 12 February 1995, exhibition brochure
- 1993 *Gary Simmons*, Metro Pictures, New York
Gary Simmons, Galerie Philippe Rizzo, Paris
- 1992 *The Garden of Hate*, Whitney Museum at Philip Morris, New York, exhibition brochure
Gary Simmons, Jason Rubell Gallery, Miami
Gary Simmons, Roy Boyd Gallery, Santa Monica
- 1991 *Gary Simmons*, Simon Watson Gallery, New York
Gary Simmons, Roy Boyd Gallery, Santa Monica
- 1990 *Gary Simmons*, White Columns, New York
- 1989 *Gary Simmons*, Roy Boyd Gallery, Santa Monica

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 *NeoHooDoo: Art of a Forgotten Faith*, Miami Art Museum, Miami, 22 February-13 September
30 Seconds off an Inch, The Studio Museum, New York, 12 November-14 March 2010
Collecting History: Highlighting Recent Acquisitions, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 12 July-19 October
La nada y el ser (Nothingness and Being), Fundación/Colección Jumex, Ecatepec, Mexico, 23 April – ; curated by Shamim M. Momin
Sites, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, 19 February-3 May
Reading Standing Up, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, 31 January – 6 March
- 2008 Gwangju Biennale, Korea
NeoHooDoo: Art for a Forgotten Faith, The Menil Collection, Houston, 27 June – 21 September
The Softness in the Rock: Hope in Disappointing Times, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Fitzroy Victoria, Australia
- 2007 *For the Love of the Game, Race and Sport in America*, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum, Hartford, CT, 9 June – 21 October
Collected Identities: Gifts from the Blake Byrne Collection, Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University, Durham, NC, 19 April – 30 September
Comic Abstraction: Image-Breaking, Image-Making, Museum of Modern Art, New York, 4 March – 11 June
- 2006 *The Constant Possibility of Erasure*, Dorsky Gallery, New York, 19 November 2006 -29 January 2007
Wallpaper Lab, Lennon, Weinberg, Inc., 7 September – 14 October, curated by Ron Keyson
Studio in the Park, organized by BravinLee, Riverside Park, New York, 6 May – 16 September
- 2005 *Looking at Words: The Formal Presence of Text in Modern and Contemporary Works on Paper*, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, 28 October - 3 December
Past Presence: Childhood and Memory, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, 7 July – 13 October
Double Consciousness: Black Conceptual Art Since 1970, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, 22 January – 17 April (catalogue)
Eye Tattoos, Quint Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA, 21 January – 19 February
- 2004 *Remembering*, Sweeney Art Gallery, UC Riverside, CA, 1 October – 11 December
100 Artists See God, The Jewish Museum San Francisco, San Francisco, 3 March – 27 June. Traveled to Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA, 31 July – 3 October 2004; Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, England, 19 November 2004 – 9 January 2005; Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, Virginia Beach, VA, 9 June – 4 September 2005; Albright College Freedman Art Gallery, Reading, PA, 29 September – 8 January 2006; Cheekwood Museum of Art, Nashville, TN, 4 February – 16 April 2006 – curated by John Baldessari & Meg Cranston

- Social Studies*, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL,
2 April - 23 May (catalogue)
- 2003 *Raid the Icebox*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, 22 March – 26 April
Whiteness, A Wayward Construction, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach,
CA
Supernova: Art of the 1990s from the Logan Collection, San Francisco
Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA (catalogue)
- 2001 *Seeing or Believing*, Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, 9 June – 28 July
I'm Thinking of a Place, UCLA Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA,
23 January – 15 April
- 2000 *Art on the Line Comes Inside*, Main Line Art Center, Haverford, PA
Point of Reference, Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, MA
- 1999 *Videodrome*, Public Access Gallery, New Museum of Contemporary Art,
New York, 24 October
Drawn by. . ., Metro Pictures, New York
At Century's End, Museum of Contemporary Art, Lake Worth, FL
Billboard, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams
Heaven, Kunsthalle, Dusseldorf, Germany
American Century, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Shoes, Frederieke Taylor TZ'Art, New York
Rapture, Bakalar Gallery and Huntington Gallery, Massachusetts College of
Art
- 1998 *The Campaign Against Living Miserably*, Royal College of Art Galleries,
London, 1 - 21 May
Drawings...Second Annual Invitational, Meyerson & Nowinski, Seattle, WA
- 1997 *Heart, Mind, Body, Soul: American Art in the 1990's*, Whitney Museum
of American Art, New York
Coming Home Again, Visual Arts Gallery, New York
No Small Feat, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, IL
Trade Routes: History and Geography, 2nd Johannesburg Biennale,
Johannesburg, South Africa, 12 October - 18 January
Drawings, Meyerson and Nowinski, Seattle, WA, 3 July - 17 August
Karl Blossfeldt, McCollum / Simmons, S.L. Simpson Gallery, Toronto,
Canada
Now on View II, Metro Pictures, New York
Gothic, The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA, exhibition
catalogue
No Place (Like Home), Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN, 9 March - 8
June, exhibition brochure
New York: Drawings Today, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA,
17 January - 4 June
- 1996 *Inklusion, Exklusion: Kunst im Zeitalter von Postkolonialismus und globaler
Migration*, Graz, Austria, 22 September - 26 October,
exhibition catalogue
Fragments: Proposta per a una colleccio de fotografia contemporanea ,
Museu d'Art Contemporani, Barcelona, exhibition catalogue

- A/drift*, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, New York,
20 October - 5 January
Friedrich Petzel, New York
Metro Pictures, New York
Aer 27 '96, Basel International Art Fair, Galerie Philippe Rizzo
Getekend, Amerikal, MK Espositieruimte, Rotterdam, Netherlands,
exhibition catalogue
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Under Capricorn: Art in the Age of Globalization, Stedelijk Museum,
Eindhoven, Netherlands, exhibition catalogue
Defining the 90's: Consensus Making in New York, Los Angeles, and Miami,
Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL
Imagined Communities, Oldham Art Gallery, London, exhibition catalogue
- 1995
Metro Pictures, New York
Configura 2 - Dialog Der Kulturen - Erfurt 1995, Erfurt, Federal Republic of
Germany, exhibition catalogue
- 1994
Black Male: Representations of Masculinity in Contemporary American Art,
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Traveled to:
Armand Hammer Gallery, University of California at Los Angeles,
exhibition catalogue
Summer Academy, PaceWildenstein Gallery, New York
Labor and Leisure, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI
Lousy Fear, Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago, IL, Metro Pictures, New York
Urban Paradise: Gardens in the City, Paine Webber Art Gallery, New York
- 1993
The Theater of Refusal: Black Art and Mainstream Criticism, Fine Arts
Gallery, University of California, Irvine, exhibition catalogue
Metro Pictures, New York
Contacts Proofs, Jersey City Museum, NJ
Thread Waxing Space, New York
1993 Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York,
exhibition catalogue
- 1992
Wall Drawings, The Drawing Center, New York
Dissent, Difference, and the Body Politic, Portland Art Museum, OR.
Traveled to: Otis Parsons School of Design, Los Angeles,
exhibition catalogue
Songs of Innocence/Songs of Experience, Whitney Museum of American
Art at Equitable Center, New York
Back Talk, Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago, IL
How It Is, Tony Shafrazi Gallery, New York
The Big Nothing or Le Presque Rien, The New Museum of Contemporary
Art and French Cultural Services, New York
The Politics of Difference: Artists Explore Issues of Identity,
University Art Gallery, University of California, Riverside
A Paper Trail, Berland/Hall, New York
Structural Damage, BlumHelman Warehouse, New York
- 1991
Schwarze Kunst: Konzepte zu Politik und Identitat, Neue Gesellschaft

- fur Bildende Kunst, Berlin
Someone Or Somebody, Meyers/Bloom Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
The Subversive Stitch, Simon Watson Gallery, New York
Interrogating Identity: The Question of Black Art, Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York. Traveled to: Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis, MN; Madison Art Center, WI; Center for Fine Arts, Miami, FL; Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin, OH; Duke University Museum of Art, Durham, NC, exhibition catalogue
- 1990 *Total Metal*, Simon Watson Gallery, New York
Official Language, San Francisco Art Institute Galleries, San Francisco
All Quiet on the Western Front?, Espace de Dieu, Paris, France
Spent: Currency, Security and Art on Deposit, New Museum of Contemporary Art at Marine Midland Bank, New York
Membership Has Its Privileges, Lang & O'Hara, New York
Earth, Krygier/Landau Contemporary Art, Santa Monica, CA
- 1989 American Fine Arts, Co., New York

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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30 Seconds off an Inch, The Studio Museum, Harlem, p. 49.
Wylie, Charles. "Words and Images." *Dallas Cowboys Star Gameday*, 1 November, p. 147-148.
Paterson, Carrie. Review. *Artillery* (January/February), <http://www.artillerymag.com>
- 2008 *An Unruly History of the Readymade*, Fundación Jumex, Mexico City
30 Americans, The Rubell Family Collection and D.A.P., New York, p. 138-143.
Decter, Joshua. "Gary Simmons: Metro Pictures." *Artforum* (December), p. 197-298.
"It Was All A Blur," V Magazine (Winter), p. 55.
Knight, Christopher. "Behind 'Smoke,' fiery message," *Los Angeles Times* (Calendar), Friday, 7 November, p. E18.
Cohen, David. "Painting's Post-Feminist Form & Sculpture's Matron Saint." *NYSun.com*, 17 September
- 2007 *Crawling Along the Edge of a Straight Razor*, CAIS Gallery, Seoul, p. 53.
Museum of Modern Art: Highlights Since 1980, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, p. 156.
Baker, Kenneth. "An Aesthetic Appreciation of quarries." *The San Francisco Chronicle*, 6 October
Impulse: Works on Paper From the Logan Collection Vail, San Francisco, p. 260 – 261.

- Riley, Cheryl R. "Gary Simmons: The Art of Erasure," *Ebony*, April, p. 108-112.
- Smith, Roberta. "Visions That Flaunt Cartoon Pedigrees." *The New York Times*, 2 March 2007, E27, 34.
- Marcoci, Roxana. *Comic Abstraction: Image-Breaking, Image-Making*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, p. 108-113.
- 2006 Heartney, Eleanor. "Gary Simmons at the Bohlen Foundation." *Art in America*, October, p. 188.
- Martegani, Micaela. "Review: Gary Simmons at the Bohlen Foundation." *tema celeste*, September/October Issue 117, p. 78, illus.
- 2003 Kerr, Marilyn. "Gary Simmons: If These Walls Could Talk." *Flash Art*, January-February 2003, pp. 98-100, illus.
- 2002 Judith Russi Kirshner. "Review: Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago." *Artforum*, Summer 2002, p. 170, illus.
- Tracey Hummer. "The Persistence of Memory." *Smock*, Winter 2002, Volume 2, No.1, pp.52-53, illus. p.52-53.
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- 1998 Isé, Claudine. "Gary Simmons." *Art Issues*, September/October 1998, 44.
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- "Dark Art at the ICA." *The Boston Phoenix*, 18 April 1997.
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- Schwendener, Martha. "Catch My Drift." *Time Out*, 12 December 1996, 40.
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59.

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- 1994 Gardner, Paul. "Light, Canvas, Action: When Artists Go to the Movies." *Artnews*, December 1994, 124-129.
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- 1993 Agboton-Jumeau, Jean Charles. "Gary Simmons and M. Franklin Sirmans at Galerie Rizzo." *Forum International*, October/November 1993, 133.
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- 1993, 228 - 232.
- Knight, Christopher. "Crushed By Its Good Intentions." *Los Angeles Times*, 10 March 1993, sec. F, p. 1, 8-9.
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- 1993 Biennial Exhibition*. Exhibition catalogue, essays by Homi K. Bhabha, Coco Fusco, B. Ruby Rich, Avita Ronell, Elizabeth Sussman, Thelma Golden, John G. Hanhardt, Lisa Phillips, and David A. Ross, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, 1993.
- 1992 Ramirez, Yasmin. "Gary Simmons." *Art in America*, December 1992, 116. *Gary Simmons: The Garden of Hate*. Exhibition brochure, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, 1992. Interview by Thelma Golden.
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AWARDS AND GRANTS

2007 USA Gund Fellowship
1991 Penny McCall Foundation Grant
1990 National Endowment for the Arts Interarts Grant

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York
Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
Judith Rothschild Foundation, New York
Jumex Collection, Mexico City
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
Museum of Modern Art, New York
National Museum of Modern Art, Seoul
Peter Norton Family Foundation, California
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia
Portland Art Museum, Portland, Oregon
The Rubell Collection, Miami
The Saint Louis Art Museum, St. Louis
San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York