

RENA BRANSTEN

G A L L E R Y

RUTH ASAWA

Born in Norwalk, CA, 1924

Died in San Francisco, CA, 2013

INTERMENT

1944 Rohwer Relocation Center, Rohwer, AR

EDUCATION

1957 Studied Kobo Daishi calligraphy with Zen Master Hodo Tobase

1951-52 San Francisco State College (courses in silk-screening, life drawing, painting, lettering, and commercial design)

1947 Volunteer art teacher, Toluca, Mexico

1946 Black Mountain College, Black Mountain, NC. Studied with Josef Albers, Ilya Bolotowsky, Merce Cunningham and Buckminster Fuller

1944-46 Milwaukee State Teachers College, Milwaukee, WI

1944-45 Su Universidad de Mexico, Mexico

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2015 *Home and Away: The Printed Works of Ruth Asawa*, Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena, CA

2012 *Ruth Asawa: Organic Meditations*, Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, TX

2009-10 *Ruth Asawa: Drawing in Space*, Asheville Art Museum, Asheville, NC

2009 *Ruth Asawa - Interstices: Sculptures and Drawings*, Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2007-8 *Ruth Asawa: Shapes and Shadows*, Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2006-07 *The Sculpture of Ruth Asawa: Contours in the Air*, de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA

2005-06 *Ruth Asawa: 2005 Exhibition*, Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2003 *Ruth Asawa: Sculpture, Drawings, Lithographs*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2001-2002 *Completing the Circle*, Fresno Art Museum, Fresno, CA; Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA

1996 J.J. Brookings Gallery, San Francisco, CA

1987 San Francisco City College Art Gallery

1979 Santa Cruz County Building, Santa Cruz, CA

Cabrillo College, Aptos, CA, Cedar Street Gallery, Santa Cruz, CA

1978 The Fresno Art Center, Fresno, CA

1973 The Van Doren Gallery, San Francisco, CA

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GALLERY

1965 The Baxter Gallery, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA
Pasadena Museum of Art, Pasadena CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2015-16 *Artists of Black Mountain College: Woven and Intertwined*, Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
- 2015 *America is Hard to See*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Pathmakers: Women in Art, Craft, and Design, Midcentury to Today, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY
- 2014 *The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps, 1942-1946*, Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA
Mingei: Are You Here?, Pace New York, New York, NY
To Be A Lady, Sundaram Tagore Gallery, Singapore
- 2013-14 *Black Mountain College: Shaping Craft + Design*, Black Mountain College Museum Arts + Center, Asheville, NC
- 2013 *Mingei: Are You Here?*, Pace London, London, UK
The Armory Show 2013, New York, NY
- 2012-13 *To be a Lady: an exhibition featuring forty-five women in the arts*, NORTE MAAR for Collaborative Projects in the Arts, Rouses Point, NY
- 2011 *Elements: The Beauty of Chemistry*, Science Gallery, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, traveled to Bergamo Scienza, Bergamo, Italy
Black Mountain College, Loretta Howard Gallery, New York, NY
- 2010-11 *The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps, 1942-1946*, Renwick Gallery, National Museum of American Art, Washington, D.C.
- 2008-09 *Life? Biomorphing Forms in Sculpture*, Kunsthhaus Graz am Universalmuseum Joanneum, Austria
- 2006 *Drawings: The Hand of the Artist*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles CA
Shifting Dimensions: Sculptors on Paper, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles CA
- 2005 *California Gold*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles CA
- 2004 Twenty-Fifth Anniversary, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles CA
- 2003 *Vital Forms, American Art in the Atomic Age, 1940-1960*, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, New York
- 2002 *Parallels and Intersections: Art/Women/California, 1950-2000*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose CA
Ruth Asawa: Completing the Circle, Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA

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- Parallels and Intersections: Art/ Women/ California, 1950-2000*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
- 2001 *Ruth Asawa: Completing the Circle*, the Fresno Art Museum, Fresno, CA
Leading the Way: Visionary Asia American Woman Artists of the Older Generation, Gordon College in Wenham, MA
- 2000 *Made in California: Art, Image and Identity, 1900-2000*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
Raumkörper Netze und Andree Gebilde, the Kunthsalle, Basel, Switzerland
Made in California: Art, Image and Identity, 1900-2000, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 1999 *Art in Stone: Prints from the Tamarind Lithography Workshop, 1960-1970*, Norman Simon Museum, Pasadena, CA
- 1997 *The Fabric of Life: 150 years of Northern California Fiber Art History* San Francisco State University Art Department Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1996 *Generations--the Lineage of Influence in Bay Area Art*, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA
- 1995 J.J. Bookings Gallery, San Francisco, CA
With New Eyes, the University of Michigan and the San Francisco State University Gallery: Detroit, MI and San Francisco, CA
- 1993 *Pacific Rim*, Japan California Crafts Museum, San Francisco, CA
- 1992 *Bay Area Greats*, Syntax Gallery, Palo Alto, CA
- 1991 *The Search for Self*, Lillian Paley Center for the Visual Arts, Oakland, CA
- 1990 *Drawing from Experience: Artists over Fifty*, the Euphrat Gallery at De Anza College, Cupertino, CA
Strength and Diversity: Japanese-American Women 1885-1990, The National Japanese American Historical Society and the Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
- 1988 *Passages: a Survey of California Women Artists*, Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA
- 1986 *Legends in Fiber*, Octagon Center for the Arts, Ames, IA
In the Advent of Change: 1945-6, Fresno Arts Center and Museum: Fresno, CA
- 1984 *Japanese-American Women Artists, Fiber and Metal*, Evergreen Galleries, Olympia, WA
- 1982 *Three Masters: New Works*, The Fiberworks Gallery, Berkley, CA
- 1981 *Remember: It's Only Artwork from the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art*, Civic Arts Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA
- 1974 *An Exhibition of Artwork by Students of Josef Albers*, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 1973 *Ruth Asawa: A Retrospective View*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA

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- 1972 *American Women: 20th Century*, Lakeview Center for the Arts and Sciences, Peoria, IL
- 1970 *Painters and Sculptors of San Francisco: The Expo 70 Presentation of the San Francisco Art Commission*, San Marco Gallery at Dominican College, San Rafael, CA
- 1969 *Recent Drawings: Ruth Asawa*, Capper Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Los Angeles County Fair, Los Angeles, CA
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1968 *The National Invitational Crafts Exhibition*, University of New Mexico Art Museum, Albuquerque, NM
- 1967 *Media Explored*, International Gallery, Memphis, TN
Made with Paper, Museum of Contemporary Crafts, New York, NY
San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
Sculpture 1967, Esther Bear Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA
Capper Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1966 *The 5th Biennial National Religious Arts Exhibition*, Cranbook Academy of Art Galleries, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Contemporary Prints from Northern California, IBM Gallery, New York, NY
161st Annual Exhibition of American Painting and Sculpture, Pennsylvania Academy of The Fine Arts, PA
- 1955 *Annual Exhibition: Paintings, Sculpture, Watercolors, Drawings*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1959 *Third Pacific Coast Biennial*, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
Recent Sculpture USA, Organized by the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
78th Annual Painting and Sculpture Exhibition, San Francisco Art Association, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. San Francisco, CA
- 1958 *Annual Exhibition: Paintings, Sculpture, Watercolors, Drawings*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1956 *20th Annual Drawing and Print Exhibition*, San Francisco Art Association, San Francisco, CA
75th Annual Paintings Exhibition, San Francisco Art Association, San Francisco, CA
An Exhibition of Japanese Household Objects in Cooperation with the Japan Committee on International Design, Design Research, Cambridge, MA
University of Illinois Biennial, the American Exhibition, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1955 *Annual Exhibition: Paintings, Sculpture, Watercolors, Drawings*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Sao Paulo Biennial, Sao Paulo, Brazil

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- 1954-58 *One person exhibitions at Peridot Gallery, New York, NY*
- 1954 *Four Artists, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA*
- 1953 *One person exhibition at Design Research, Cambridge, MA*
- 1950 San Francisco Art Association Annual, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1949 Addison Gallery, Andover, MA (Curated by Josef Albers)
- 1948 Wire Baskets exhibited at Black Mountain College, Black Mountain, NC

AWARDS

- 2001 Distinguished Woman of 2001, Fresno Art Museum's Council of 100
- 1998 Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, San Francisco State University
Honorary Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Wisconsin
- 1997 Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, San Francisco Art Institute
The Precita Eyes Mural Center Lifetime Achievement Award
- 1996 The Ministry of Nursing Homes Art with Elders Honor Award
Distinguished Urban Artist, San Francisco State University Creative Arts Department
- 1995 Gold Ring Lifetime Achievement Award, The Asian American Art Foundation
Golden Apple Lifetime Achievement Award, The San Francisco Education Fund
The International Network of Performing and Visual Arts Schools, Artist-mentor in Visual Arts Award
- 1993 The Woman's Caucus for the Arts Honor Award
- 1990 The Cyril Magnin Award, San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
- 1989 Arts Award, Asian Heritage Council
- 1983 Honorary Masters Degree, the Academy of Arts College, San Francisco, CA
- 1974 Honorary Doctorate Degree, California College of Arts and Crafts
Fine Arts Gold Metal, the American Institute of Architects
Robert Kirkwood Award, the San Francisco Foundation
- 1968 Dymaxion Award
- 1965 Tamarind Lithography Fellowship
- 1959 Woman's Board of the Oakland Museum's Association Purchase Award

COMMISSIONS

- 2002 Garden of Remembrance, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA
- 1994 Japanese American Internment Memorial, San Jose, CA
- 1988 Beromger Winery, St. Helena, CA
- 1987 Old Courthouse Square, Santa Rosa, CA
- 1986 Hampshire Properties, Bayside Plaza, San Francisco, CA

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- 1984 Father Boeddeker Park, San Francisco, CA
Parc 55 Wyndham Hotel Motor Court Entry, San Francisco, CA
- 1977 Debartelo Corporation, Mission Viejo, CA
- 1976 Nihonmachi Mall, San Francisco, CA
- 1974 Japanese Tea Garden, San Francisco, CA
- 1971 Civic Plaza, Phoenix, AZ
- 1970-73 Hyatt Hotel, San Francisco, CA
- 1969 Bethany Center Senior Housing Inc., San Francisco, CA
- 1968 San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco, CA
- 1966-68 Ghirardelli Square, San Francisco, CA
- 1965 Fox Plaza, San Francisco, CA
- 1965 J.L Hudson, Detroit, MI

COLLECTIONS

- de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA
- Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
- San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
- Solomon Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY
- Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, MA
- Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, MA
- Busch-Reisinger Museum, Cambridge, MA
- Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, UT

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