

Roy McMakin
Biography

1956
Born in Lander, Wyoming
Lives and works in San Diego, California

EDUCATION

1982
MFA, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA

1979
BA, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA

1975–77
Portland Museum of Art School, Portland, OR

RESIDENCIES

2010
Artpace, Artist-in-Residence program, San Antonio, TX

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

1980
Built-Ins and Love in a Charles Eames Chair
(performance), Sushi, San Diego, CA
Things from or for Somebody's Home, Mandeville
Annex Gallery, University of California at San Diego,
La Jolla, CA 2014
Domestic Furniture by Roy McMakin, Lora Reynolds
Gallery, Austin, TX, September 13–November 15

1981
Supine in the Arroyo (performance), Sushi,
San Diego, CA

1982
Inside, Michael Dunsford Gallery, San Diego, CA
A House, Sushi, San Diego, CA
Not Home, MFA Exhibition, Mandeville Annex Gallery,
University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA

1986
Tables, Drawings and Photographs, Quint Gallery, San
Diego, CA, May 31–July 5

1987
Everything: An Exhibition of Surfaces and Containers,
Quint Gallery, San Diego, CA, (written about on
February 5) –February 28

1987–88
Roy McMakin: Domestic Furniture Co. Prototypes (Alcove
Series), La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, La
Jolla, CA, November 20, 1987–January 10, 1988

1992
*Domestic Furniture: Products & Prototypes of Roy
McMakin*, Felicita Center for the Arts, Escondido, CA

1997
Roy McMakin, Marc Foxx, Los Angeles, CA, November
22–December 20

1999
How Do I Know How You Know?, Seattle Art Museum,
Seattle, WA, June 3–October 31

2000
When is a door a jar? Marc Foxx, Los Angeles, CA,
September 9–October 7

2001
Space, Feature Inc., New York, NY, January 19–
February 24
2 to, Quint Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA,
February 23–March 17

2003
*a bookcase, a sculpture, some drawings and a belt
buckle*, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA, October
9–November 15
*A Table, Two Chairs, A Small Chest, One Large Painting
and Several Drawings*, Quint Contemporary Art, La
Jolla, CA, May 31–July 19

2003–2004
A Door Meant as Adornment, The Museum of
Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California, March
23–June 29, 2003; traveled to Henry Art Gallery,
Faye G. Allen Center for the Visual Arts, University of
Washington, Seattle, WA, February 7–May 9, 2004

2004

Roy McMakin: Chest, Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA, September 18–October 28

2005

Residential Line, Matthew Marks Gallery, New York, NY, September 17–October 29

Lequita Faye Melvin, Matthew Marks Gallery, New York, NY, September 17–October 29

Roy McMakin: A Slat-back Chair, San Diego State University Art Gallery, San Diego, CA, April 4–May 11

2006

Actual, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA, November 16–December 22

Roy McMakin: Furniture, Marc Selwyn/Domestic, Los Angeles, CA, March 4–April 19

2006–07

Paintings with Chairs and Sculptures of Chairs, Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR, September 30, 2006–January 14, 2007

2007

Roy McMakin: A White Table and A Black Table, Each Depicted in Photographs and Sculpture, Quint Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA, September 7–October 13

2007–08

Roy McMakin: A Breadbox and Mug, Each Depicted in Sculpture and Photography, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, TX, December 1, 2007–January 19, 2008

2008

Purplish, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA, October 2–November 8

For, Matthew Marks Gallery, New York, NY, May 3–July 3

Some Things, James Kelly Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM, June 19–August 16

2009

Roy McMakin, Bellevue Community College, Bellevue, WA, February 18–March 18

Joy and Reffry: A Collaborative show by Roy McMakin and Jeffrey Mitchell, Pulliam Gallery, Portland, OR, September 2–September 26

Another Kountry, Established & Sons Gallery, London, February 4–March 31

2010

Five Chairs and Ten Tables, Ambach and Rice, Seattle, WA, November 5–December 5

Roy McMakin: When is a Chair Not a Chair?, Christina Grajales Gallery, New York, NY, May 6–July 2

In and On, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, TX, March 24–May 15

2010–11

Other Chest of Drawers & Other People, International Artist-in-Residence: New Yorks 10.3, Artpace, San Antonio, TX, November 18, 2010–January 9, 2011

2012

A Few Drawings I Made for a Show at Lora's Gallery, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, TX, June 30–August 11

I Continue to Believe in the Potential of Expressing Sorrow and Hope Through Furniture, Western Bridge, Seattle, WA, April 28–July 28

Two Chairs, Two Chests of Drawers, Two Pieces of Fabric and Two Tables, Ambach and Rice, Los Angeles, CA, January 7–February 4

Roy McMakin: Middle, Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT, January 29–June 10

2013

Roy McMakin: Some Drawings and a Table, Quint Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA, August 3–September 7

Roy McMakin: Two Chairs (one green, one black), a Chest of Drawers, a Table, a Little Stool, a Photograph and a Few Drawings, Anthony Meier Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA, February 21–March 29

2016

Roy McMakin: A Table, Garth Greenan Gallery, New York, September 29–November 12

2019

a Bed, a Chair, a Chest of Drawers, a Lamp, a Table, and a Window, Garth Greenan Gallery, New York, January 10 – February 16

Roy McMakin, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, September 7–November 9

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

1982

Carol Mavor and Roy McMakin, Jewish Community Center Gallery, San Diego, CA

1984

Significant Others, Patty Aande Gallery, San Diego, CA, September 8–October 6

Contextual Furnishings: Isermann, McMakin, Vaughn, Mandeville Annex Gallery, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA, April 20–May 20

Three from Paris, Three from LA, Angles Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

1985

A San Diego Exhibition: Forty-Two Emerging Artists, La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA, March 23–April 28

To the Astonishing Horizon, LAVA (Los Angeles Visual Arts), Los Angeles, CA, LAVA is a coalition of 33 showcases, the show was at the Los Angeles Design Center in LA from January 21–February 15 and was part of LAVA's fourth annual weekend festival that last from January 26–27

Wood, Quint Gallery, San Diego, CA, June 22–July 27

1986

New Visions in Contemporary Art: The RSM Company Collection, March 21–May 4

1997

Marc Foxx, Los Angeles, CA, June 7–July 5
Quint Gallery, La Jolla, CA, March 7–April 4

1997–98

Simple Form, Henry Art Gallery, Faye G. Allen Center for the Visual Arts, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, November 13, 1997–February 1, 1998

1998

Yoyogaga, Feature Inc., New York, NY, November 10–November 28

Home Sweet Home, Transamerica Building, San Francisco, CA

LA Current: The Canvas is Paper, Armand Hammer Museum of Art and Culture Center, Los Angeles, CA, June–September (call: Exhibition Registration and Preparation (310) 443-7071)

2000

National Design Triennial: Design Culture Now, Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution, March 7–August 6

Fast Forward: The Shape of Northwest Design, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA, March 25–June 18

2000–01

Against Design, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, February 4, 2000–April 16, 2000; Palm Beach Institute for Contemporary Art, Lake Worth, FL, June 18, 2000–September 3, 2000; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, La Jolla, CA, January 21, 2001–May 2, 2001; Kemper, Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO, June 22, 2001–September 2, 2001

2001

Best of the Season: Selected Highlights from the 2000–01 Manhattan Exhibition Season, The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT, September 23–December 30

Contemporary Collectors XVI, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, CA, January 18–May 1

Marc Foxx, Los Angeles, CA, March 30–April 24

Fast Forward: The Shape of Northwest Design, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA, March 25–June 18

2003

Small Scale Sculpture and Anonymous Tantra Paintings on Paper, Feature Inc., New York, NY, May 10–June 14

Fright Wig, Feature Inc., New York, NY, November 1–December 19

Mighty Graphitey, Feature Inc., New York, NY, June 19–August 8

2003–05

Baja to Vancouver: The West Coast and Contemporary Art, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle WA, October 9, 2003–January 4, 2004; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, CA, January 22, 2004–May 15, 2004; Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, British Columbia, June 6, 2004–September 6, 2004; CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, California College of Arts, San Francisco, CA, October 6, 2004–January 10, 2005

2004–05

Specific Objects: The Minimalist Influence, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, La Jolla, CA, September 25, 2004–September 3, 2005

2006

Furnishing Assumptions, Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA, July 13–August 19

2007

As It Seems, Susan Hobbs Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, September 6–October 20
Useless, Project 4, Washington, D.C., August 3–?
Viewfinder, Henry Art Gallery, Faye G. Allen Center for the Visual Arts, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, July 14–December 30

2007–08

Out of this World: Shaker Design Past, Present, and Future, Shelburne Museum, Shelburne, VT, June 16–October 28, 2007; The Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts, Design and Culture, New York, NY, March 13–June 15, 2008

2009

QUINT: Three Decades of Contemporary Art, California Center for the Arts Museum, Escondido, CA, August 15–December 31

2010

Design Miami/Basel 2010, Messe Basel, Basel, Switzerland, June 14–19
Double Up Double Up, Quint Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA, June 11–July 3
Pleasure Point: Celebrating 25 Years of Contemporary Collectors, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, CA, February 19–May 22

2011

Behind What It's in Front Of: Sculptures and Videos by Roy McMakin and Paintings by John McLaughlin, Quint Contemporary, La Jolla, CA, May 21–July 16

2012

Temporary Structures, Walter and McBean Galleries, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA, September 14–December 15
Figuring Color, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston MA, February 17–May 20

2013

Against the Grain: Wood in Contemporary Art, Craft and Design, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY, March 19, 2013–September 15, 2013

2016–2017

John McLaughlin Paintings: Total Abstraction, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, November 13, 2016–April 16, 2017

2017–2018

Inaugural Exhibition, The Bunker, West Palm Beach, December 2, 2017–2018

2018

Welcome to the Dollhouse, Museum of Contemporary Art Pacific Design Center, West Hollywood, January 20–April 8
The Agency of Art, University Art Gallery, University of California San Diego, April 12–May 17
Three Gallery Artists, Garth Greenan Gallery, New York, July 12–August 10

2018–2019

One Day at a Time: Manny Farber and Termite Art, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, October 18, 2018–March 11, 2019

2020–2021

Energy in All Directions, Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, October 10, 2020–June 13, 2021

2022

Four Sculptors: Sarah Braman, Kenji Fujita, Roy McMakin, Richard Rezac, Philadelphia Art Alliance, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 8–June 3

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Hammer Museum of Art, University of California, Los Angeles
Henry Art Gallery, Seattle
Los Angeles Museum of Art
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego
Museum of Modern Art, New York
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

Selected Bibliography

BOOKS AND CATALOGUES

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- Appel, Kevin, Steven Beyer, and Mark Robbins. *Against Design*. Philadelphia: Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, 2000.
- Batolucci, Marisa, Cathy Lang Ho, Raul Cabra, and Dung Ngo. *American Contemporary Furniture*. New York: Universe Publishing, 2000.
- Best of the Season: Selected Highlights from the 2000–01 Manhattan Exhibition Season*. Ridgefield: The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, 2001.
- Gatta, Kevin and Claire Mowbray Golding. *Communicating through Graphic Design*. Worcester, Massachusetts: Davis Publications, 2020.
- Gross, Kim Johnson, Jeff Stone, and Julie V. Iovine. *Home*. New York: A.A. Knopf: 1993.
- Isermann, Jim, Roy McMakin, Nick Vaughn, Gerry McAllister, Brent Riggs, Barbara Lindeman. *Contextual Furnishings: Isermann, McMakin, Vaughn*. La Jolla: Madeville Art Gallery, University of California, 1984.
- Landis, Dylan. *Metropolitan Home: American Style*. New York: C. Potter, 1999.
- McMakin, Roy. *Apex: Roy McMakin*. Portland, OR: Portland Art Museum, 2006.
- McMakin, Roy. *Roy McMakin: Drawings December 9, 2002 – January 9, 2003*. New York: Feature Inc., 2003.
- McMakin, Roy. *Roy McMakin: Paintings with Chairs & Sculptures of Chairs*. Portland, OR: Portland Art Museum, 2006.
- McMakin, Roy. *The Art of Roy McMakin: When is a Chair not a Chair?* New York: Skira Rizzoli, Matthew Marks Gallery, 2010.
- McMakin, Roy and Jan Tumlrir. *Charming Homes for Today: Drawings by Roy McMakin, 1996–2002*. New York: Feature Inc., 2003.
- McMakin, Roy and Jeffrey Mitchell. *Joy and Reffry: A Two Volume Catalog*. Portland, OR: Pulliam Gallery, 2009.
- McMakin, Roy and Michael Darling. *Roy McMakin: A Door Meant as Adornment*. Los Angeles: The Museum of Contemporary Art, 2003.
- McMakin, Roy and Trevor J. Fairbrother. *How Do I Know How You Know?* Seattle: Seattle Art Museum, 1999.
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- Porter, Jenelle, Jeremy Sigler, Kathy Butterly, Félix González-Torres, Roy McMakin, and Sue Williams. *Figuring Color: Kathy Butterly, Félix González-Torres, Roy McMakin, Sue Williams*. Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz, 2012.
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PERIODICALS

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- Hagberg, Eva. "Take to the Floor." *Wallpaper* (October 2010): 124.
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