

## Al Loving Biography

1935  
Born: Detroit, Michigan

2005  
Died: New York, New York

### EDUCATION

1959–1963  
University of Illinois, Urbana

1963–1965  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

1969  
*Alvin Loving*, Gertrude Kasse Gallery, Detroit, June  
15–July 7

1969–1970  
*Alvin Loving: Paintings*, Whitney Museum of American  
Art, New York, December 19, 1969–January 25, 1970

1970  
*Alvin Loving: Recent Paintings*, Gertrude Kasse Gallery,  
Detroit, September 12–October 7

1971  
*Alvin Loving*, William Zierler, Inc., New York, March  
6–27

1972  
*Alvin Loving*, William Zierler, Inc., New York, March  
11–April 1

1973  
*Alvin Loving*, William Zierler, Inc., New York, March  
3–31

1974  
*Alvin Loving*, Fischbach Gallery, New York, April 6–24

1976

*Alvin Loving*, Fischbach Gallery, New York, May–June 12

1977  
The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

1979  
Grippi/Zivian Gallery, New York

1984–1985  
*Al Loving: Mercer Street Series*, Onyx Gallery, New York,  
December 18, 1984–January 16, 1985

1986  
*Al Loving: Departures*, The Studio Museum in Harlem,  
New York, February 23–June 8

1987  
*Al Loving*, Frank H. McClung Museum, University of  
Tennessee, Knoxville, February 6–21

1988  
*James Little and Al Loving*, June Kelly Gallery, New York,  
June 11–July 1

1989  
*Alvin Loving: Life and Continued Growth Series*, Bronx  
Museum of the Arts, New York, April 20–May 29

1990  
*Al Loving: Redemption Songs*, June Kelly Gallery,  
New York, May 12–June 9

1991  
*Al Loving: Maker of Art*, National Academy of Sciences,  
Washington, D.C., April 10–June 15  
*Al Loving*, Sande Webster Gallery, Philadelphia,  
May 3–31

1992  
*Al Loving: Material Abstraction*, June Kelly Gallery,  
New York, November 5–December 1

1993  
*Al Loving: Rectangular Genesis*, Sande Webster Gallery,  
Philadelphia, March 3–30  
*Al Loving*, G.R. N’Namdi Gallery, Birmingham,

Michigan, September 17–October 17

1996

*Alvin Loving*, G.R. N’Namdi Gallery, Birmingham,  
Michigan, September 21–November 2

1997

*Al Loving in the Nineties: The Collaged Wallworks*, Fine  
Arts Center Galleries, University of Rhode Island,  
Kingston, January 21–March 8

1998

*Al Loving: Detwiller Visiting Artist*, Art Gallery, Williams  
Center for the Arts, Lafayette College, February 6–  
March 1

1998–1999

*Al Loving: Color Constructs*, Neuberger Museum of Art,  
Purchase College, State University of New York,  
September 27, 1998–January 24, 1999

1999

*Al Loving: Elegant Ideas*, G.R. N’Namdi Gallery,  
Birmingham, Michigan, April 30–June 4

2001

*Alvin Loving: Home*, G.R. N’Namdi Gallery, Detroit,  
September 13–October 20

2002

*Al Loving: Bird of Birds*, G.R. N’Namdi Gallery, Chicago,  
September 13–October 12

2004

*Formal Continuity: Works by Al Loving*, The University  
Museum, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale,  
February 9–March 1

*Al Loving: Lighter Than Air*, G.R. N’Namdi Gallery,  
Chicago, September 9–October 29

2005

*Al Loving: Color Weave*, Jeffrey Moose Gallery, Seattle,  
February 11–March 26

2005–2006

*Al Loving: Affirmations of Life*, Kenkeleba House,  
New York, December 6, 2005–January 11, 2006

2012

*Al Loving: Torn Canvas*, Garth Greenan Gallery,

November 8–December 29

2015

*Al Loving*, Garth Greenan Gallery, New York, May 21–  
June 27

2017–2018

*Spiral Play: Loving in the ‘80s*, Art+Practice, Los Angeles,  
April 22–July 29; The Baltimore Museum of Art,  
October 18, 2017–April 15, 2018

2018

*Space, Time, Light*, Garth Greenan Gallery, New York,  
October 25–December 21  
*Detroit in the World: Selections from a Detroit Art  
Connoisseur’s Collection*, Collected Detroit Gallery,  
December 6–

2019

*Spilling Over: Painting Color in the 1960s*, Whitney Museum  
of American Art, New York, March 29–September 2

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

1968

*Afro-American Art*, Detroit Institute of Arts

1969

*Afro-American Art After 1950*, Brooklyn College Art  
Gallery, City University of New York  
5+1, Art Gallery, State University of New York, Stony  
Brook, October 16–November 8; Art Museum,  
Princeton University, New Jersey, November 12–23

1970

*Lamp Black: African-American Artists, New York and Boston*,  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, May 19–

June 23

*L’art vivant aux États-Unis*, Fondation Maeght, Saint-  
Paul, France, July 16–September 30

1971

*Contemporary Black Artists in America*, Whitney Museum  
of American Art, New York, April 6–May 16  
*The Deluxe Show*, Deluxe Theatre, Houston,  
August 15–September 12

1972

*1972 Annual Exhibition: Contemporary American Painting*,  
Whitney Museum of American Art,

- New York, January 25–March 19
- 1973  
*1973 Biennial Exhibition: Contemporary American Art*,  
 Whitney Museum of American Art, New York,  
 January 10–March 18  
*Blacks: USA, 1973*, New York Cultural Center, New York  
 September 26–November 15
- 1975  
*Image, Color, and Form: Recent Paintings by  
 Eleven Americans*, Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio,  
 January 12–February 9  
*34th Biennial of Contemporary American Painting*, Corcoran  
 Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.,  
 February 22–April 6  
*Selected Works from the Dillard Collection: An Exhibition  
 of Works on Paper from the Weatherspoon Art Gallery,  
 University of North Carolina, Greensboro*, Montgomery  
 Museum of Fine Arts, Alabama, April 15–May 18
- 1977  
*'75, '76, '77: Painting, Part I*, Sarah Lawrence College Art  
 Gallery, Bronxville, New York, February 19–March  
 10; American Foundation for the Arts, Miami,  
 April–May; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati,  
 June–July
- 1979  
*Another Generation*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New  
 York
- 1981  
*Afro-American Abstraction*, Los Angeles Municipal  
 Art Gallery, July 1–August 30
- 1982  
*Color, Material, Form: Bowling, Loving, Mobr*, Currier  
 Gallery of Art, Manchester, New Hampshire,  
 January 9–February 14
- 1983  
*Seven American Artists*, Cleveland Museum of Art, January  
 11–February 13  
*New Work, New York: Newcastle Salutes New York*,  
 Newcastle Polytechnic Gallery, Newcastle-upon-  
 Tyne, United Kingdom, October 8–November 4
- 1984–1985  
*Since the Harlem Renaissance: 50 Years of  
 Afro-American Art*, Center Gallery, Bucknell  
 University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, April 13, 1984–  
 November 1, 1985
- 1985  
*Recent Acquisitions*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New  
 York
- 1987  
*New York, New Venue*, Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte,  
 North Carolina, April 10–May 31
- 1989  
*The Appropriate Object: Maren Hassinger, Richard Hunt,  
 Oliver Jackson, Alvin Loving, Betye Saar, Raymond  
 Saunders, John Scott*, Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo,  
 March 5–April 23
- 1990  
*Legacies: African-American Artists*, New Jersey Center for  
 Visual Arts, Summit, September 16–October 27
- 1991  
*The Search for Freedom: African-American Abstract Painting,  
 1945–1975*, Kenkeleba Gallery, New York, May 19–  
 July 14
- 2000  
*An Exuberant Bounty: Prints and Drawings by  
 African Americans*, Philadelphia Museum of Art,  
 February 5–April 16
- 2002  
*Six American Masters*, Sugar Hill Art Center, New York,  
 May 17–June 27  
*No Greater Love: Abstraction*, Jack Tilton/Anna Kustera  
 Gallery, New York, September 12–October 12
- 2003  
*Layers of Meaning: Collage and Abstraction in the Late 20th  
 Century*, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts,  
 Philadelphia, February 8–April 27
- 2004  
*Something to Look Forward to*, Phillips Museum of  
 Art, Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster,  
 Pennsylvania, March 26–June 27

2005

*The Chemistry of Color: African-American Artists in Philadelphia, 1970–1990*, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, January 11–April 10

2006

*Energy/Experimentation: Black Artists and Abstraction, 1964–1980*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, April 5–July 2

*Full House: Views of the Whitney's Collection at 75*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, June 29–September 3

2006–2007

*High Times, Hard Times: New York Painting, 1967–1975*, Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, August 6–October 15, 2006; American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center, American University, Washington, D.C., November 21, 2006–January 21, 2007; National Academy Museum, New York, February 13–April 22

2008–2009

*New Acquisitions: African-American Masters Collection*, Sheldon Art Museum, Lincoln, Nebraska, December 16, 2008–March 2, 2009

2009

*Target Practice: Painting Under Attack, 1949–1978*, Seattle Art Museum, June 25–September 7

2011

*Paper Trails: Selected Works from the Collection, 1934–2001*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, July 19–November 27

2012

*Full Spectrum: Prints from the Brandywine Workshop*, Philadelphia Museum of Art, September 7–November 25

2014

*Make It New: Abstract Painting from the National Gallery of Art, 1950–1975*, Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, Massachusetts, August 2–October 13

2015

*New Acquisitions*, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, February 11–June 7  
*America Is Hard to See*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, May 1–September 27

2016

*Marrakech Biennale 6*, Morocco, February 24–May 8

2016–2017

*Circa 1970*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, November 17, 2016–March 5, 2017

2017

*Expanding Tradition: Selections from the Larry D. and Brenda A. Thompson Collection*, Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia, Athens, January 28–May 7  
*'Elaine, Let's Get the Hell Out of Here'*, Nicelle Beauchene Gallery, June 29–August 18

*Recollection: Selections from the Permanent Collection*, Guild Hall, East Hampton, October 21–December 31, 2017

2017–2018

*Delirious: Art at the Limits of Reason, 1950–1980*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, September 13, 2017–January 14, 2018

2017–2020

*Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, 1963–1983*, Tate Modern, London, July 12–October 22, 2017; Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas, February 3–April 23, 2018; Brooklyn Museum of Art, September 14, 2018–February 3, 2019; The Broad Museum, Los Angeles, March 23–September 1, 2019; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, June 27–August 30, 2020

2018

*Reclamation! Pan-African Works from the Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection*, Taubman Museum of Art, Roanoke, Virginia, March 3–September 2  
*mark*, team (gallery inc.), New York, March 8–April 21  
*MoMA At NGV*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia, June 9–October 7  
The Beautiful Difference, Francine Kelly Gallery, Featherstone Center for the Arts, Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, August 12–September 3  
*Have We Met? Dialogues on Memory and Desire*, Stamps Gallery, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, August 28–November 30

2018–2019

*Pattern Decoration and Crime*, Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain, Genève, October 9, 2018–February 3, 2019; Consortium Museum, Dijon, France May 15–October 20, 2019

*Outliers and American Vanguard Art*, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., January 28–May 13, 2018; High Museum of Art, Atlanta, June 24–September 30, 2018; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, November 18, 2018–March 18, 2019

2019

*Alterance Gumbo/Al Loving: Catching the Holy Ghost*, Parrasch Heljnen Gallery, Los Angeles, February 12–March 23

*New York Centric*, Art Students League, New York, March 5–May 1

*Spilling Over: Painting Color in the 1960s*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, March 29–September 2

*Cut: Abstraction in the United States from the 1970s to the Present*, Frost Art Museum, Florida International University, June 1–August 25

*An Essential Presence: The Petrucci Family Foundation Collection of African-American Art*, Allentown Art Museum, Pennsylvania, June 2–September 1

*Landlord Colors: On Art, Economy, and Materiality*, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, June 21–October 6

*Painters Reply: Experimental Painting in the 1970s and Now*, Lisson Gallery, New York, June 27–August 10

2019–2020

*Black Refractions: Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem*, Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, South Carolina, May 24–August 18, 2019; Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Michigan, September 13–December 8, 2019; Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, January 23–April 11, 2021; Frye Art Museum, Seattle, May 22–August 15, 2021

*The Shape of Abstraction: Selections from the Ollie Collection*, St. Louis Art Museum, September 17, 2019–March 22, 2020

*Direct Message*, MCA Chicago, October 26, 2019–January 12, 2020

*Detroit Collects: Selections of African American Art from Private Collections*, Detroit Institute of Arts, November 12, 2019–March 1, 2020

*With Pleasure: Pattern and Decoration in American Art, 1972–1985*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, October 27, 2019–March 30, 2020; CCS Bard Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, June 26–November 28, 2021

2020

*My Way: The Gee's Bend Quiltmakers and Contemporary Abstraction*, Parts & Labor, Beacon, New York, June

27–August 9, 2020

*Young Artists: One*, Fridman Gallery, New York, July 7–September 9, 2020

2020–2022

*Robert Blackburn & Modern American Printmaking*, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri, September 12–November 11, 2020; Detroit Institute of Arts, March 20–June 13, 2021; Figge Art Museum, Davenport, Iowa, October 16, 2021–January 9, 2022; The Hyde Collection, Glens Falls, New York, January 29–April 24, 2022; Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, May 14–August 7, 2022

2021

*Creating Community: Cinque Gallery Artists*, the Art Students' League of New York, May 3–July 4

*The De Luxe Show*, Karma, New York, New York, August 12–September 25; Parker Gallery, Los Angeles, California, August 12–September 15

*Colliding with History: African American Works on Paper from the Collection of Wes and Missy Cochran*, The Ernest G. Welch School of Art & Design Gallery, Georgia State University, Atlanta, September 13–November 12

*Nanette Carter: 30 Years of Her Work: A Survey and Her Contemporaries Al Loving, Sam Gilliam, Gregory Coates*, N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, Detroit, Michigan, October 15, 2021–January 15, 2022

2021–2022

*Abstraction & Social Critique*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, Illinois, October 23, 2021–January 1, 2022

2022

*Al Loving: Emperor's Clothing*, Garth Greenan Gallery, New York, New York, March 24–May 7, 2022

2022–2023

*In the Balance*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York, October 19, 2022–March 5, 2023

*Revisiting 5+1*, Paul W. Zuccaire Gallery, Stony Brook, New York, November 10, 2022–March 31, 2023

2023

*Creative Haven: Black Artists of Sag Harbor*, Long Island Museum, Stony Brook, New York, February 17–August 27, 2023

*The Feminine in Abstract Painting*, Milton Resnick and

Pat Passlof Foundation, New York, New York, March 16–July 15, 2023

*Tales of Brave Ulysses: Al Loving, Howardena Pindell, Alan Shields, Richard Van Buren*, Garth Greenan Gallery and Van Doren Waxter, New York, New York, November 9 – December 16, 2023

*Papel Papel: Works on Paper*, Zürcher Gallery, New York, New York, November 10–December 23, 2023

2023–2024

*Glory of the World: Color Field Painting (1950s to 1983)*, NSU Art Museum, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, November 21, 2023–June 30, 2024

2024

*Century: 100 Years of Black Art at MAM*, Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, New Jersey, February 9–July 7, 2024

## SELECTED MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Akron Art Museum, Ohio

Cleveland Museum of Art

Cornell Fine Arts Museum, Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas

Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, New Hampshire

Detroit Institute of Arts

Empire State Plaza Art Collection, Albany

Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, New York

Guild Hall Museum, East Hampton, New York

Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Metropolitan Museum of Art

Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey

Museum of African-American Art, Detroit

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Museum of Modern Art

National Gallery of Art

Newark Museum, New Jersey

New Jersey State Museum, Trenton

Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia

Pérez Art Museum, Miami

Philadelphia Museum of Art

Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University

Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, Nebraska

St. Louis Art Museum

The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio

Tucson Museum of Art

University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

## Selected Bibliography

### BOOKS AND CATALOGUES

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- Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. *Luminosity: A Detroit Arts Gathering*. Detroit: Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 2025.
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- Cochran, Rebecca Dimling. *Colliding with History: African American Works on Paper from the Collection of Wes and Missy Cochran*. Exhibition catalogue. Atlanta: Georgia State University, 2021.
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## PERIODICALS

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