

Deanna Sirlin

1958
(USA) AMERICAN

Deanna Sirlin is an American abstract artist best known for her gestural paintings and monumental installations. Her work prioritizes color. In her paintings, she explores how texture and composition affect color relationships. Through her installations, she dramatically alters physical environments, using color and light to challenge how viewers interact with space. She lives and works on a horse farm outside of Atlanta, Georgia.



Deanna Sirlin is an American artist best known for her paintings and monumental installations. Her work prioritizes color, luminosity and transparency. In her art, she explores how light and composition affect color relationships. Through her installations, she dramatically alters physical environments, using color and light to challenge how viewers interact with space.

Education

Sirlin began her art education at the Brooklyn Museum Art School. She earned her B.A. in Art from the State University of New York at Albany (SUNY), and her M.F.A. in Painting from Queens College. Sirlin is a Yaddo Fellow, and in 2016 was the Rothko Foundation International Painting Symposium Artist in Residence. Sirlin has been invited to be an Artist-in-Residence at the CINI Foundation in Venice, Italy in 2019 where she will create a new body of work.

Technique

Sirlin adopts any medium that allows her to explore the relationships color has with form, light, composition and the physical environment. Her paintings exude a multitude of layers, building to vibrant, complex, textural surfaces. Sirlin has adapted her imagery by using digital technology to create monumental works imbedded in glass for windows, covering buildings in the United States, and Italy, Turkey and Great Britain.

Inspirations

Sirlin has said, *"I think in terms of color, density, and the movement of stroke and light."* She endeavors to make work that reflects the way she likes to live. She infuses her work with a search for positivity and lust for life, and has described her paintings as having a particular *"pleasure of being."* She is inspired by opportunities to translate her work into new mediums and new environments. Her paintings helped inspire her large-scale installations. In turn, the ways light and space interplay with the work on those projects inspires the way she engages with paint. Digital technology also affects the way she approaches her work.

Deanna Sirlin Statement

In an interview with Quanda Rodriguez for Catalyst magazine, Sirlin said, *"For me, making art is a search for self. With each work, I am rediscovering and re-articulating myself. I continually dig deeper...But, most of all, these works express for me the pleasure of being in the world. I am reinventing that happiness in the language of color and light."*

Exhibitions

Work by Deanna Sirlin has been shown in solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States, as well as in France, Italy, Great Britain, Germany, Turkey, Latvia and China.

Collections

Works by Sirlin are included in numerous institutional and private collections, including that of the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia, the Mark Rothko Centre in Daugavpils, Latvia, the Shenzhen Institute of Fine Arts in Shenzhen, China, Kunsthaus Nurnberg, Germany, and the Museum of Contemporary Art Georgia.

Selected Public Art Commissions

Alpha Town Musicians Outdoor Sculpture, City of Alpharetta, GA

Flow Mural Program Office of Cultural Affairs City of Atlanta

Before You Leap Backlit and interactive transparencies, Emmett O'Brien

Technical High School, Ansonia, CT commissioned by the State of Connecticut

Magic Quilt Way-finding Project [Prototype], Birmingham Museum of Art,

REV Birmingham, Birmingham, AL

Hello Velo, Mural Program Office of Cultural Affairs City of Atlanta

The Billboard Project in Atlanta Peachtree St NW The Billboard Art Project, Richmond, VA 60 images

C-Flow Digital Vinyl on Concrete Steps, City of Atlanta

Faraway Near Exterior Glass Window, Pope and Land, Atlanta, GA

Liquid Universe Glass Wall, Terminus 200, Cousins Properties, Atlanta GA

Round the Clock at Fire Station #13 City of Atlanta, GA Transparency in windows

Falling Waters at Fire Station #18, City of Atlanta, GA exterior mosaic

Dance, Memorial Commission, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA

Fountain Mix, Atlanta Celebrates Photography, Woodruff Park, Atlanta
Punto di Fuga [Vanishing Point], Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Venice, Italy.
Revolutions Per Minute, Installation, New Orleans Museum of Art, LA
FLUX, Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, GA
Retracings, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA. Permanent Collection
Looking Forward, Looking Back, Spruill Oaks Northeast Regional Library, Fulton County, GA
Highway Pastoral, 1996 Olympics. Paintings animated on Georgia Institute of Technology Matrix
Billboard