

david lusk gallery

carroll cloar

b Earle, AR 1913

d Memphis 1993

education

Memphis College of Art, Memphis

Art Students League, New York

Rhodes College, Memphis

solo exhibitions

- 2014 *The Lithographs of Carroll Cloar*, Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, GA
- 2013 *Southern Raconteur*, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
The Crossroads of Memory: Carroll Cloar and the American South, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, traveling to Georgia Museum of Art, Athens and Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock
In His Studio: Carroll Cloar, University of Memphis Art Museum, Memphis
Crossing Place, The Carroll Cloar Drawing Collection, Christian Brothers University, Memphis
Carroll Cloar: Native Son, Crittenden County Collective, Mid-South Community College, West Memphis, AR
Early and Rare: Selections from the Carroll & Pat Cloar Collection, University of Memphis, Memphis
- 2012 *Carroll Cloar Returns to Belmont University*, Nashville
- 2011 *a rare group of previously unexhibited casein tempera paintings*, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
- 2010 *Family History: Paintings and Works on paper 1939-1959*, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
- 2007 David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
- 2005 *The Collector's Cloar*, Pine Bluff -The Arts & Science Center, Pine Bluff, AR
Recollection, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
- 2003 *carroll cloar: notable drawings from the 60's*, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
- 2002 *Dreams and Scenes: A Collection of Paintings, Drawings and Lithographs*, Greenville Arts Council, Greenville, MS
- 2001 *Carroll Cloar: Beginning Points Revisited*, Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR
Crossroads: The Drawings of Carroll Cloar, Christian Brothers University, Memphis
- 2000 *Works from the Estate*, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
- 1994 Kurts Bingham Gallery, Memphis
- 1993 Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis
- 1991 *Retrospective*, Memphis State University, Memphis
Kurts Bingham Gallery, Memphis
- 1989 Schmidt Bingham Gallery, New York
- 1988 *Retrospective from Arkansas Collectors*, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock
- 1987 Schmidt Bingham Gallery, New York
- 1983 Tennessee State Museum, Nashville
Forum Gallery, New York
- 1981 Forum Gallery, New York
- 1979 Forum Gallery, New York
- 1976 Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis
- 1973 *Carroll Cloar*, Kennedy Galleries, New York
- 1972 Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis
- 1968 State University of New York at Albany, Albany, NY
Alan Gallery, New York
- 1967 M.H. DeYoung, Memorial Museum, San Francisco
- 1966 Alan Gallery, New York
Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis

- 1963 Fort Worth Art Center, Fort Worth
- 1961 Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock
- 1960 High Museum of Art, Atlanta

group exhibitions

- 2018 *Daily Art*, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis and Nashville
- 2015 *Game Day*, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
- 2015 *Summer Reading*, David Lusk Gallery, Memphis
- 2010 *Art by Choice* Auction, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS
- 2006 *Katrina Benefit*, Lisa Kurts Gallery, Memphis
- 2004 Jackson Summer Art Salon, David Lusk Gallery, Jackson, MS
Work selected for participation in the *US Art in the Embassies* Program, on loan to the US Embassy in Damascus, Syria
- 2002 *Art of the 20th Century*, New York
A Century of Progress: Twentieth Century Painting in Tennessee, Cheekwood Museum of Art, Nashville
- 1992 *Southern Genre*, Kurts Bingham Gallery, Memphis
Selected Works 1935 - 1985, Kurts Bingham Gallery, Memphis
- 1991 *Form, Fantasy, Function*, Kurts Bingham Gallery, Memphis
- 1987 *Collector's Choice*, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS
- 1983-84 *Southern Artists*, Traveling Exhibition, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, NY; Whitney Museum of Art, New York, NY; Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, PA; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY

awards

- 1978 Honorary Doctorate Degree, Rhodes College, Memphis
- 1966 Purchase Award, The American Institute of Arts and Letters
Honorary Arkansas Traveler
Honorary Phi Beta Kappa
Library of Congress, Purchase Prize
Butler Institute, Purchase Prize
- 1946 Guggenheim Fellowship
- 1940 MacDowell Traveling Fellowship

museum collections

- Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, MA
- Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock
- Art Museum of Sunrise, Charleston, WV
- Brooklyn Museum of Fine Art, Brooklyn
- Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH
- Carroll Reese Museum, Johnson City, TN
- Cheekwood Museum, Nashville
- High Museum of Art, Atlanta
- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC
- Library of Congress, Washington, DC
- Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis
- Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
- Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS
- Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, AL
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, FL
- Neuberger Museum, Purchase, NY
- Newark Museum, Newark, NJ
- Rockford Art Gallery, Rockford, IL
- Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, MA

State University of New York, Albany, NY
Tennessee Fine Arts Center at Cheekwood, Nashville
Tennessee State Museum, Nashville
Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT
Whitney Museum, New York
Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, MA

Carroll Cloar (1913-1993)

Carroll Cloar was born on January 18, 1913, outside Earle, Arkansas. He lived on a cotton farm with his parents, two older brothers, and an older sister, who unfortunately died. Cloar was not particularly close to either of his parents. He was fearful of his father, and later he would paint his father as a large and intimidating man. His relationship with his mother was warmer, but still they were never very close. Cloar's mother did tell wild stories that influenced his painting.

As a young child Cloar went to school near his home, then attended high school in Earle, Arkansas. In high school, he won an art award from the James Lee Art Academy in Memphis that inspired him to pursue an art career. In 1930, Cloar moved to Memphis to go to Southwestern as well as James Lee Art Academy. He soon became overwhelmed with both loads of work, so Cloar decided to drop out of Lee Academy and continue with his English major at Southwestern. Cloar began to feel bored with his studies, so he changed from an English major to a Spanish major.

Cloar decided he wanted to become a cartoonist, so he moved to New York to work and study. He soon discovered that he was not meant to be a comic strip writer. However, Cloar did find that he had a talent for lithographs. He moved out west and he ended up in Mexico. While he was there he continued working on lithographs that were more about his life in Arkansas than of Mexico. The Second World War temporarily interrupted his work, but he did paint figures on bomber airplanes. After the war he returned to Mexico; a year later he moved back to New York. There Cloar signed with his first gallery.

Life Magazine published some of his lithographs underneath the title of "Backwoods Boyhood." The article was Cloar's first major recognition. It greatly influenced him to continue with the theme of Southern Culture, so he moved back to Memphis in 1955. There Cloar ensconced himself in Southern culture. He was also close to home which was a primary resource for painting themes. Cloar was interested in depicting childhood memories because he was searching for his own identity. Through the use of his memory and photographs he recreated a mystical childhood.

Carroll Cloar's paintings of Southern culture bring a whole new respect, image, and perspective of the South. Because Cloar's work had more meaning than just a painting of the South his paintings have a stronger feel than other artist who try to depict the South.

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