

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Melvin Edwards

Born: Houston, Texas, 1937

Lives and works in New York and New Jersey, and Dakar, Senegal

Education

1965

BFA, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Solo Exhibitions (selected)

2021

Public Art Fund, City Hall Park, New York

2020

Melvin Edwards, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

2019–2020

Melvin Edwards: Crossroads, Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland; travelling to Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, California; and University of Southern California Fisher Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California (touring)

Melvin Edwards, auroras, São Paulo, Brazil; travelling to Museu da República, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Museu de Arte Moderna da Bahia (MAM), Salvador, Brazil; Museu Nacional da República, Brasília, Brazil and Museu Afro Brasil, São Paulo, Brazil (touring)

2019

Melvin Edwards: Painted Sculpture, Alexander Gray Associates, New York

2018

Lynch Fragments, MASP, São Paulo, Brazil

2017–2018

Melvin Edwards: Festivals, Funerals and New Life, David Winton Bell Gallery, Brown University, Rhode Island

2017

Melvin Edwards, Galerie Buchholz, Berlin, Germany

Melvin Edwards: In Oklahoma, Alexander Gray Associates, New York

2016

Melvin Edwards: Haptic, Alexander Gray Associates, New York

Melvin Edwards, Oklahoma Contemporary, Oklahoma

2015–2016

Melvin Edwards: Five Decades, Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, Texas; travels to Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey; and Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio (touring)

2014

Melvin Edwards, Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, France

Melvin Edwards, Alexander Gray Associates, New York

Melvin Edwards, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

2012

Melvin Edwards, Alexander Gray Associates, New York

Stephen Friedman Gallery

2010

Melvin Edwards: Sculptures 1964–2010, Alexander Gray Associates, New York

2005

Melvin Edwards, Georgia Southern University, Georgia

Melvin Edwards, CDS Gallery, New York

2002

Melvin Edwards, Dieu Donne, New York

2001

Melvin Edwards, Hunterdon Museum of Art, New Jersey

2000

Melvin Edwards, Corroborations, Works of the 1990s, CDS Gallery, New York

The Prints of A Sculptor, Jersey City Museum, New Jersey

Conversation with Igun, Bayly Art Museum, University of Virginia, Virginia

Melvin Edwards: Lynch Fragments and Larger Works, Miami University Art Museum, Ohio

1998

Melvin Edwards: Lynch Fragments, Flint Institute of Arts, Michigan

1996

The Way of Fire, CDS Gallery, New York

Melvin Edwards: Lynch Fragments, Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey

1995

Melvin Edwards Sculpture: A Thirty-Year Retrospective 1963–1993, McNay Art Museum, Texas

Melvin Edwards, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indiana

Melvin Edwards, Porter Troupe Gallery, California

Melvin Edwards, Parchman Stremmel Gallery, Texas

1994

Melvin Edwards Sculpture: A Thirty-Year Retrospective 1963–1993, Frost Art Museum, Florida

Melvin Edwards Sculpture: A Thirty-Year Retrospective 1963–1993, Hood Museum of Art, New Hampshire

Melvin Edwards, CDS Gallery, New York

1993

Melvin Edwards Sculpture: A Thirty-Year Retrospective 1963–1993, Neuberger Museum of Art, New York

Melvin Edwards Lynch Fragments, Museum of Fine Arts, Massachusetts

Lynch Fragments, CDS Gallery, New York

1992

Melvin Edwards, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Iowa

Mel Edwards: "The Lynch Fragment Series", Eugene Johnson Gallery of Art, Minnesota

1991

Lynch Fragments: Selected Small Sculptures by Mel Edwards, Hammonds House Galleries and Resource Center of African-American Art, Georgia

Project 1: Melvin Edwards: The "Lynch Fragment Series", Oklahoma City Art Museum on the Fairgrounds, Oklahoma

Mel Edwards: Sculptures/Drawings, Tomasulo Gallery, New Jersey

1990

Sculpture by Melvin Edwards, Franklin and Marshall College, Pennsylvania

Melvin Edwards Sculpture: Fragments of a Decade 1980–1990, Montclair State College Art Gallery, New Jersey

Melvin Edwards Sculpture, De Luce Gallery Northwest Missouri State University, Montana

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Melvin Edwards: Recent Sculpture, CDS Gallery, New York

1989

Sculpture of Melvin Edwards, Korn Gallery, Madison College, New Jersey
Memories Forming the Future: Sculpture of Melvin Edwards, Colgate University, New York
Melvin Edwards Sculpture, Extension Gallery, New Jersey

1986

Mel Edwards Sculpture, Atrium Gallery, Connecticut

1985

Mel Edwards: Lynch Fragment Series, Robeson Center Gallery, New Jersey
The Sculpture of Mel Edwards, Atrium Gallery, Connecticut
Drawings, Monoprints, and Maquettes by Melvin Edwards, Jersey City Museum, New Jersey

1984

The Sculpture of Melvin Edwards, UNESCO, Paris, France

1983

Mel Edwards: Drawings for Southern Sunrise, Winston-Salem State University, North Carolina

1982

The Sculpture of Melvin Edwards, Sculpture Center Gallery, New York

1981

Sculpture by Mel Edwards, New Jersey State Museum, New Jersey

1980

Melvin Edwards: Recent Sculpture, Fragments, and Larger Works, 55 Mercer Gallery, New York
Sculpture by Mel Edwards, Lusaka, Zambia American Cultural Center, Kenya, Africa
Melvin Edwards, YM-YMHA Greene Lane, Union, New Jersey

1979

Melvin Edwards, Johnson Atelier, New Jersey

1978

Melvin Edwards, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

1974

Lines, Carpenter Gallery, New Hampshire

1972

Melvin Edwards, Wright State University, Ohio

1970

Melvin Edwards, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

1969

Melvin Edwards, Andrew Dickinson White Museum of Art, New York

1968

Melvin Edwards, Walker Art Center, Minnesota
Melvin Edwards, Bardsdall Art Center, California

1965

Melvin Edwards, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, California

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Group Exhibitions (selected)

2021

Grief and Grievance: Art and Mourning in America, New Museum, New York, USA
Kalunga, Transmission Gallery, supported by Glasgow International, Glasgow, Scotland

2020–2021

Future Food. Food for the World of Tomorrow, Deutsches Hygiene-Museum, Dresden, Germany

2020

25 Years, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England
Museum for Preventative Imagination–Editorial, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea di Roma (MACRO), Rome, Italy
Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Massachusetts; Frye Art Museum, Seattle, Washington D.C. and Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, Utah

2019–2020

Afrocologies: American Reflections, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut
Theater of Operations: The Gulf Wars 1991–2011, MoMA PS1, New York
Generations: A History of Black Abstract Art, Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland
Walking Through Walls, Gropius Bau, Berlin, Germany
LA Blacksmith, California African American Museum, California
Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, de Young Museum, San Francisco, California
African American Art in the 20th Century, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington D.C.; travelling to Dubuque Museum of Art in Dubuque, Iowa; Cornell Fine Arts Museum in Winter Park, Florida; Westmoreland Museum of American Art, Greensburg, Pennsylvania

2019

Where the Oceans Meet, Museum of Art and Design at Miami Dade College, Miami, Florida
Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, California; travelling to Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, South Carolina and Kalamazoo Institute of Arts (KIA), Kalamazoo, Michigan
Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, The Broad, Los Angeles, California
Solidary & Solitary: The Joyner/Giuffrida Collection, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

2018

Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn
A Gathering: Sculpture from the Collection, Neuberger Museum, Purchase College, State University of New York, New York
Lydia Cabrera and Édouard Glissant: Trembling Thinking, Americas Society, New York
On Edge, Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, Connecticut
Paper/Print: American Hand Papermaking, 1960s to Today, International Print Center (IPCNY), New York
Art of Protest, Fralin Museum of Art, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
Give Up the Ghost, Baltic Triennial 13, Vilnius, Lithuania
Working Metal in 20th-Century Sculpture, Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, Stanford, California
O Triângulo Atlântico, 11^a Bienal do Mercosul, Museu de Arte do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil
A Page from my Intimate Journal (Part I), Gordon Robichaux, New York
Third Space/shifting conversations about contemporary art, Birmingham Museum of Art, Alabama
The Long Run, Museum of Modern Art, New York

2017–2018

An Incomplete History of Protest: Selections from the Whitney's Collection 1940–2017, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

Stephen Friedman Gallery

2017

Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power, Tate Modern, London, England

20/20, The Studio Museum in Harlem and the Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA

Say it Loud: Art, History, Rebellion, The Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit

AfroFantastic: Black Imagination and Agency in the American Experience, Cornell Fine Arts Museum, Rollins College, FL

Third Space / shifting conversations about contemporary art, Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama

Space Force Construction, V-A-C Foundation with the Art Institute of Chicago, Palazzo delle Zattere, Venice, Italy

Black Feast, Simon Lee Gallery, New York

2016

Not New Now, Marrakech Biennale, Morocco

The Lasting Concept, curated by Rob Halverson, Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, Portland

Postwar: Art between the Pacific and the Atlantic 1945 - 1965, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany

Exposition d'artistes Caraïbeens et des Amériques, Institut du Tout-Monde, Paris, France

2015

Twentieth Anniversary Exhibition, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

Glenn Ligon: Encounters and Collisions, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, England

56th International Art Exhibition - All the World's Futures, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy

Black SoCal: Art in Practice in an Evolving Landscape, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy

A Constellation, The Studio Museum, Harlem, New York

Not New Now, Marrakech Biennale, Marrakech, Morocco

2014-2015

Witness: Art and Civil Rights in the Sixties, Brooklyn Museum, New York; travelling to Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, Texas; and Hood Museum of Art, New Hampshire

2014

Beyond the Spectrum: Abstraction in African American Art, 1950-1975, Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, New York

Viewpoints: 20 Years of Adderly, Bakalar and Paine Galleries, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, Massachusetts

2013

African American Art Since 1950: Perspectives from the David C. Driskell Center, Taft Museum of Art, Ohio

Assembly Required: Selections from the Permanent Collection, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Blues for Smoke, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

2012

Blues for Smoke, Museum of Contemporary Art, California

Now Dig This! Art and Black Los Angeles, 1960-1980, MoMA PS1, New York

Paper Space: Drawings by Sculptors, Inman Gallery, Texas

African American Art Since 1950: Perspectives from the David C. Driskell Center, David C. Driskell Center, Maryland

Pacific Standard Time: Crosscurrents in L.A. Paintings and Sculpture 1945-1970, Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany

African American Art: Harlem Renaissance, Civil Rights Era, and Beyond, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington D.C

Magical Visions: Ten Contemporary African American Artists, Mechanical Hall Gallery, Delaware

2011

Paper Trails: Selected Works from the Collection, 1934-2001, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Inside & Out: Melvin Edwards and Peter Saul, Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Georgia

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Pacific Standard Time: Crosscurrents in L.A. Paintings and Sculpture 1945-1970, J. Paul Getty Center, California
Now Dig This! Art and Black Los Angeles, 1960-1980, Hammer Museum, California
Sculpted, Etched and Cut: Metal Works from the Permanent Collection, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

2010

Abstract Relations, David C. Driskell Center, Maryland
Art in Embassies Exhibition, U.S. Embassy Residence, Warsaw, Poland
Art Collection of the United States Embassy, U.S. Embassy, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
What Matters, Worcester Art Museum, Massachusetts
Americanana, Hunter College, New York

2008

Melvin Edwards, Museu Afrobrasil, São Paulo, Brazil

2006

Energy/Experimentation: Black Artists and Abstraction 1964-1980, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
L.A. Object and David Hammons Body Prints, Tilton Gallery, New York

2005

The Bristol-Myers Squibb Sculpture Project, Bristol-Myers Squibb Park, New Jersey
Something to Look Forward To, Heckscher Museum, New York
Reaction (1945-1963), Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, California
African American Masters: Highlights from the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Utah

2004

Something to Look Forward To, The Phillips Museum of Art, Pennsylvania
How Sculptors See, Worcester Art Museum, Massachusetts
African American Masters: Highlights from the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Melvin Edwards, Cincinnati Art Museum, Ohio

2003

African American Masters: Highlights from the Smithsonian American Art Museum, New
Watts: Art & Social Change in Los Angeles, 1965-2002, Haggerty Museum of Art, Wisconsin

2001

Expanding on a Legacy: American Art From the Montclair Art Museum, UBS Paine Webber Art Gallery, New York
American Identities: A New Look, Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York
Material and Matter, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

2000

Welded Sculpture of the Twentieth Century, Neuberger Museum of Art, New York
Public Voices, Private Visions: African American Art 2000, Rockland Center for the Arts, New York
Melvin Edwards, Project Row Houses, Houston, Texas

1999

26 Sculptors in Their Environments, Rockland Center for the Arts, New York

1998

Histories (Re)membered, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York
African American Art from the New Jersey State Museum Collection, New Jersey State Museum, New Jersey
Stages of Creation: Public Sculpture by National Academicians, National Academy Museum and School of Fine Arts, New York
Sculpture From New Jersey, New Jersey Center for the Visual Arts, New Jersey
Sculpture: New Jersey, Ramapo College Art Gallery, New Jersey
Twentieth Century American Sculpture at the White House, The White House, Washington D.C
Tragic Wake: The Legacy of Slavery and the African Diaspora in Contemporary American Art, Spirit Square

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Center for Arts and Education, North Carolina

1997

Melvin Edwards, CDS Gallery, New York

1996

Texas Modern and Post-Modern, Museum of Fine Arts, Texas

1995

Editions, Skoto Gallery, New York

Melvin Edwards, Richard Hunt, Lester Johnson, Stephen Proconiar Editions 1974–1991, Pharos Gallery, New York

The Listening Sky, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Civil Rights Now, Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, North Carolina

The Iguana Hat: The Artist's Quest for Symbols of the Self, SciosNova, Florida

1994

Dream Singers, Story Tellers: An African American Presence, New Jersey State Museum, New Jersey

Melvin Edwards, Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton, New Jersey

25th Anniversary Exhibition, Cinque Gallery, New York

1993

The Mask in Contemporary Art, Sewall Art Gallery, Texas

New Jersey Arts Annual, The Newark Museum, New Jersey

Recollections/Resistances/Reconstruction, Hillwood Art Gallery, New York

1992

Present Tense, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Union Art Gallery, Wisconsin

The Expanding Circle: A Selection of African-American Art, The Gallery at Bristol-Meyers Squibb, Princeton, New Jersey

The Order of Things: Toward a Politic of Still Life, Real Art Ways at Widener Gallery, Connecticut

John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Gifted Visions: African American Artists, Lyman Allyn Museum, Connecticut

Bridges and Boundaries: African-Americans and American Jews, The Jewish Museum, New York

Three Voices: Thirty Years of Afro-American Expression, Shircliff Gallery of Art, Indiana

In Plural America: Contemporary Journeys Voices and Identities, The Hudson River Museum, New York

Warriors: The Guerreros, Atrium Gallery, Connecticut

Dream Singers, Story Tellers: An African-American Presence, Fukui Fine Arts Museum, Fukui, Japan

1991

Sculpture: Seven Artists of the 90's, CDS Gallery, New York

Espiritu & Materia; Estetica Alternativa Norteamericana, Museo de Artes Visuales Alejandro Otero, Caracas, Venezuela

Discarded, Rockland Center for Arts, New York

The Harlem Renaissance Remembered, Brownson Art Gallery, New York

Spirit Calls, Artworks Gallery, Connecticut

Spiritual Cargo: Shamanistic Manifestations, Atrium Gallery, Connecticut

Artists of Conscience: 16 Years of Social and Political Commentary, Alternative Museum, New York

African American Works on Paper from the Cochran Collection, New Visions Gallery, Georgia

1990

The Blues Esthetic: Black Culture and Modernism, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Formulation and Representation: Recent Abstract Sculpture, Bertha and Karl Luebsdorf

Steelworks, USX Tower, Pennsylvania

CDiverse Representations 1990, The Morris Museum, New Jersey

The Decade Show: Frameworks of Identity in the 1980s, Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art, New York

Inaugural Exhibition, Abington Art Center Sculpture Garden, Pennsylvania

Stephen Friedman Gallery

A Force of Repetition, New Jersey State Museum, New Jersey
New History: Sculptural Installations, Atlanta College Art Gallery, Georgia
Legacies: African American Artists, New Jersey Center for Visual Art, New Jersey
Painted Forms: Recent Metal Sculpture, Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris, New York

1989

Bronze and Steel: Sculpture by Melvin Edwards and Robert T. Cooke, Pyramid Gallery, New York
Introspective: Contemporary Art by Americans and Brazilians of African Descent, California African American Museum, California
Traditions and Transformations: Contemporary Afro-American Sculpture, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York
Afro American Abstractions in Printmaking, California African American Museum California
The Blues Aesthetic: Black Culture and Modernism, Corcoran Gallery, Washington D.C
Melvin Edwards, Newton Art Center, Massachusetts

1988

Committed to Print, The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Sculpture: Inside, Outside, Walker Art Center, Minnesota
Affinities: Idioms/Aesthetics/Intents, Jamaica Art Center, New York
Traces of History: Art of Afro-America, Robeson Gallery, New Jersey
The Law & Order Show, Gladstone Gallery, New York
Outside In, New York Cultural Center, New York
Making The Main Stream, Melvin Gallery, Florida
Public Art, California African American Museum, New York
Committed to Print, The Museum of Modern Art, New York

1987

The Law & Order Show, Gladstone Gallery, New York
The Afro-American Artist in the Age of Cultural Pluralism, The Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey
Outside In, New York Cultural Center, New York
Making the Mainstream, SVC Fine Arts Gallery, Florida
Public Art, The Museum of African American Art, Los Angeles, California

1986

Black Visions, City Hall, New York
Liberty and Justice, Alternative Museum, New York
Irons in the Fire, Memorial Arch at Grand Army Plaza, New York
Contemporary Sculpture Selection, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
Inaugural, Socrates Sculpture Park, New York

1985

Traditions and Conflict: Images of a Turbulent Decade, 1963-1973, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

1984

Since the Harlem Renaissance, Center Gallery, Pennsylvania
Art: For and Against, Thorpe Intermedia Gallery, New York
Celebration: Eight Afro-American Artists Selected by Romare Bearden, Louis Abrons Arts of Living Center, Henry Street Settlement, New York
Contra-Apartheid, UNESCO, Paris, France
East-West: Contemporary American Art, California Afro-American Museum, Los Angeles, California
Artists in Celebration of Black History Month, Trenton State College Art Gallery, New Jersey
Sculpture, Gallery of Murphy Fine Arts Center, Maryland
Sticks and Stones: Modern and Post-Modern Sculpture, Kenkeleba House, New York
Sculpture from Rutgers, Robeson Center Gallery, New Jersey
New Jersey Arts Inclusion Program 1978-84, Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, New Jersey
Melvin Edwards, Amelie A. Wallace Gallery, New York
3 Artists in Celebration of Black History Month, Trenton State College Art Gallery, New Jersey

Stephen Friedman Gallery

1983

Var for New York, Futura Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden
The War Show, University Art Gallery, New York
5 Sculptors, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York
Art in Public, Chicago Sculptural Society, Illinois
Celebrating Contemporary American Black Artists, Fine Arts Museum of Long Island, New York
4 Sculptors, Sid Deutsch Gallery, New York
Young Talent Awards 1963–83, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
Environmental Sculpture, Chicago Sculptural Center, Illinois

1982

Mayor Byrnes' Mile of Sculpture, Navy Pier, Illinois
The 4 Directions, Gallery of the American Indian Community House, New York
Sacred Artifacts: Common Objects of Devotion, Alternative Museum, New York
Ritual and Myth: A Survey of African American Art, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
Works on Paper, Woodson Regional Library, Illinois
Black Artists: Recent Attitudes II, California State University, California
Visual Politics, Alternative Museum, New York
Afro-American Abstraction, Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, California

1981

Mel Edwards and Greg Edwards: Sculpture and Works on Paper, University Art Gallery, New York
Outdoor Sculpture at the Aquarium, Niagara Falls, New York
Melvin Edwards, Cinque Gallery, New York
Focus Southern Africa: Details of the Struggle, Countee Cullen Library, New York
Melvin Edwards, Westbeth Gallery, New York

1980

Melvin Edwards, YW-YMHA, Green Lane, Union, New Jersey
Sculpture Today: Tradition and Non-Traditional, The Art Gallery: University of Maryland, Maryland
Afro-American Abstraction, P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York
Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, California

1979

3 Sculptors, The Bronx Museum of Arts, New York
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

1977

Melvin Edwards, Florida International University, Florida
Melvin Edwards, Henry O. Tanner Gallery, New York
Drawn and Matched, The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Environmental Sculpture, Robert Moses Plaza, Fordham University at Lincoln Center, New York
The Concept as Art, Just Above Midtown Gallery, New York
Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture: FESTAC '77, Lagos, Nigeria
Melvin Edwards, Fisher Gallery, California

1976

Resonance: Williams/Edwards/Gilliam, Morgan State University, Maryland

1975

76 Jefferson, The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Sculpture Invitational, Gallery Ariadne, New York
Melvin Edwards, Cinque Gallery, New York

1974

Gilliam / Edwards / Williams: Extensions, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum, Connecticut
Melvin Edwards, Carpenter Gallery, New Hampshire

Stephen Friedman Gallery

1973

Melvin Edwards, Arnot Art Museum, New York
Sculpture Three: New York Artists on Tour, World Trade Center, New York

1972

Edwards, Gilliam, Williams, Wabash Transit Gallery, Illinois
New York Artists at Storm King, Storm King Art Center, New York

1971

Artist as Advocate, The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Melvin Edwards, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Connecticut
Whitney Annual – Contemporary American Sculpture, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

1970

Paperworks, The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Melvin Edwards, The William Benton Museum of Art, Connecticut
Dimensions of Black Art, La Jolla Museum of Art, California
Melvin Edwards, Rental Gallery, The Museum of Modern Art, New York

1969

California Crafts Survey, Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego, California
Five + 1, Frank Bowling, Melvin Edwards, Al Loving, William T. Williams, Daniel L. Johnson, Jack, Whitten Art
Gallery, New York
X to the 4th Power, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

1968

New Voices, American Greeting Gallery, Pan Am Building, New York
Thirty Contemporary Black Artists, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota

1967

Melvin Edwards, San Fernando Valley State College, California
Melvin Edwards, Esther Bear Gallery, California

1966

Melvin Edwards, Esther Bear Gallery, California
The Negro in American Art, University of California, California

1965

Melvin Edwards, Esther Bear Gallery, California
Melvin Edwards, Richard Grey Gallery, Illinois
Five Younger Los Angeles Artists, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California

1962

Annual, La Jolla Museum of Art, California

Catalogues and Publications (selected)

2020

25 Years, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

2019

Melvin Edwards: Painted Sculpture, Alexander Gray Associates, New York (catalogue)
Melvin Edwards: Lynch Fragments, MASP, Brazil (catalogue)

Stephen Friedman Gallery

2017

Melvin: In Oklahoma, Alexander Gray Associates, New York (catalogue)
Third Space: Shifting Conversations About Contemporary Art, Al-Khudhairi, Wassan, ed., Birmingham Museum of Art, 2017, p. 181.

2015

Melvin Edwards: Five Decades, Nasher Sculpture Center, Texas (catalogue)
20 Years, essays by Stephen Friedman and Sarah Thornton, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

2014

Melvin Edwards, Alexander Gray Associates, New York (catalogue)
Carbone, Teresa A. and Kellie Jones, Witness: Art and Civil Rights in the Sixties, Brooklyn Museum and The Monacelli Press, New York

2012

Magical Visions: Ten Contemporary African American Artists, Newark, Mechanical Hall Gallery, University of Delaware, Delaware

2004

Wake Up Our Souls: A Celebration of Black American Artists, ed. Tonya Bolden, Abrams Books for Young Readers, New York, p114

2000

Melvin Edwards: The Prints of a Sculptor, Jersey City Museum, New Jersey (catalogue)

1993

Melvin Edwards Sculpture: A Thirty-Year Retrospective, The Neuberger Museum of Art, New Jersey
Mosquera, Gerardo, Melvin Edwards, Ante America, Banco de la Republica, Bogotá, Columbia

1992

The Expanding Circle: A Selection of African American Art, The Gallery at Bristol-Myers Squibb, Princeton, New Jersey
Gifted Visions: African American Artists, Lyman Allyn Art Museum, New London, Connecticut
In Plural America: Contemporary Journeys, Voices and Identities, The Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, New York
Melvin Edwards, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Melvin Edwards: The Lynch Fragment Series, Bethel College, St. Paul, Minnesota
Vansen, Leslie, Present Tense, The University of Wisconsin, UMW Fine Arts, January
Brenson, Michael, "The Pressure of Voices." Dream Singers, Story Tellers: An African American Presence, Fukui Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan; New Jersey State Museum, New Brunswick and the Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Canning, Susan M., The Order of Things: Toward a Politic of Still Life, CaThe Widener Gallery at Trinity College and Real Art Ways, Hartford, Connecticut

1991

Abrams, Joyce, Discarded, The Emerson Gallery, Rockland Center for the Arts, West Nyack, New York
Espiritu & Materia: Estética Alternativa Norteamericana, essays by Jorge Gutierrez and Lucila Anzola, Caracas, Venezuela, Museo de Artes Visuales Alejandro Otero, Venezuela
Sculpture Update, Feinberg, Jean E. Bertoia, Buchanan, Edwards, Mitchell, Diggs Gallery, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Spriggs, Edward S. Lynch, Fragments: Selected Small Sculpture by Mel Edwards, Hammonds House Galleries and Resource Center of African-American Art, Atlanta, Georgia
The Harlem Renaissance Remembered, Brownson Art Gallery, New York

1990

Abington Art Center Sculpture Garden, The Inaugural Exhibition, Abington Art Center, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Edwards, Susan, Formulation and Representation: Recent Abstract Sculpture, The Bertha and Karl Leubsdorf Art Gallery, Hunter College, New York

A Force of Repetition, The New Jersey State Museum, Trenton, New Jersey

Gear, Josephine, Painted Forms: Recent Metal Sculpture, Whitney Museum of Art at Phillip Morris, New York

Pace, Lorenzo, Melvin Edwards Sculpture: Fragments of a Decade: 1980–1990, Montclair State College Art Gallery, New Jersey

Patton, Sharon F., The Decade Show: Frameworks of Identity in the 1980s, Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art; The New Museum of Contemporary Art; The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Two Generations of Sculptors: New Jersey, The Gallery at Bristol–Meyers Squibb

1989

Bronze and Steel Sculpture by Melvin Edwards and Robert T. Cooke, Pyramid Gallery, New York

Drewal, Henry J. and David C. Driskell, Introspectives: Contemporary Art by Americans and Brazilians of African Descent, Afro-American Museum Foundation, Los Angeles, California

Traditions and Transformations: Contemporary Afro-American Sculpture, essay by George Nelson Preston, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York

1988

Affinities: Idioms: Aesthetics/Intents, Jamaica Arts Center, Queens, New York

1984

Sticks and Stones: Modern/Post-Modern Sculpture, Kenkeleba House, Inc., New York

Celebration: Eight Afro-American Artists Selected by Romare Bearden, Henry Street Settlement Urban Life Center, New York

1982

Hammond King, Leslie, Ritual and Myth: A Survey of African American Art, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

1980

Sculpture Today: Traditional and Non-Traditional, College Park, Maryland

1978

Goode-Bryant, Linda and Marcy S. Phillips, Contextures, Just Above Midtown, Inc, New York

Melvin Edwards: Sculptor, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Campbell, Marty Schmidt, Melvin Edwards: Sculptor, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

1977

Environmental Sculpture, Fordham University, New York

1974

Extensions: Gilliam/Edwards/Williams, Wadsworth Atheneum Galleries, Hartford, New York

1973

Photographers, Sculptors, Painters, Printmakers 1972–73, Visual Artists selected for CAPS award, Harlem Double Circles

1971

Doty, Robert, Contemporary Black Artists in America, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

1970

Artist as Advocate, The Museum of Modern Art, New York

Melvin Edwards: Works, statement by William T. Williams, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

1969

Bowling, Frank, Five Plus One, Stony Brook Department of Art, State University of New York

X to the Fourth Power, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

Stephen Friedman Gallery

1968

30 Contemporary Black Artists, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis

1965

Five Younger Los Angeles Artists, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California

Public Artwork

2017

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia

2012

Column of Memory, Santiago de Cuba, Cuba

2008

Transcendence, Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania

2003

Transformations in the Light, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio

1993

Safe Journey, Department of Motor Vehicles, Eatontown, New Jersey

1991

Passage, Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, New York

Tomorrow's Wind, Thomas Jefferson Park, New York

1990

Asafokra, The Utsukushi-Ga-Hara Open-Air Museum, Nagano Prefecture, Japan

1989

Confirmation, Joseph P. Addabbo Federal Building, Jamaica Queens, New York

1987

Education Is an Open Book, Livingston College of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey

1986

Gate of Ogun, Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, New York

Along the Way, Peat, Marwick, and Mitchell, Montvale, New Jersey

1985

Holder of the Light, Lafayette Gardens, Jersey City, New Jersey

1983

Southern Sunrise, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

1982

Out of the Struggles of the Past to a Brilliant Future, Mount Vernon Plaza, Columbus, Ohio

1970

Double Circles, Bethune Towers, New York

1969

Homage to My Father and the Spirit, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

Stephen Friedman Gallery

1967

Homage to Billie Holiday and the Young Ones of Soweto, Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland

Grants and Awards

2020

United States Artists Fellowship, Chicago

2014

Honorary Doctorate, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston

2006

Rockefeller Foundation Research Award for Work on Sculpture and Architecture

2000

Papermaking Fellowship, Dieu Donne

1998

Grant for Artist Residency for Inauguration of Print Workshop for Goree Institute, Senegal
VanDer Zee Artist Award

1997

Phillis Wheatley Award for Life's Work in Sculpture

1995

Artist Award, Studio Museum in Harlem
National Endowment for the Arts Grant

1994

Joan Mitchel Foundation Award

1993

Historic Hudson Valley "African American Heritage Award" for Art
The Fujisankei Biennale Grand Prize, The Utsukushi-ga-hara Open-Air Museum

1989

Fulbright Fellowship to Zimbabwe

1985

New Jersey State Arts Council Individual Artist Grant

1984

National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artist's Fellowship

1975

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Award

1973

New York State Council on the Arts Creative Artists Public Service Fellowship

1971

National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artists Fellowship

1969

Cassandra Foundation Award
Santa Barbara Art Association Small Sculpture Award

Stephen Friedman Gallery

1967

Long Beach Museum of Art Award

1965

Los Angeles Contemporary Art Council Award

1964

John Hay Whitney Fellowship

1958

Scholarship to Los Angeles County Art Institute

Public Collections

Birmingham Museum of Art, Alabama
Cantor Arts Center, Stanford University, California
Long Beach Museum of Art, California
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California
Martin Luther King, Jr. Promenade, California
Winston-Salem State University, North Carolina
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Connecticut
Alfond Collection of Contemporary Art, Cornell Fine Arts Museum, Florida
Center for the Arts, Florida
Miami University, Florida
The Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois
The Center Gallery, Bucknell University, Pennsylvania
James E. Lewis Museum of Art, Maryland
University of Maryland, Maryland
Worcester Art Museum, Massachusetts
Detroit Institute of Arts, Michigan
Flint Institute of Arts, Michigan
Mott-Warsh Collection, Michigan
Bethune Towers, New York
Bronx Museum of Art, New York
Brooklyn Museum, New York
Chase Manhattan Bank, New York
Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, New York
Joseph P. Addabbo Federal Building, New York
Kingsborough Community College, New York
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Museum of Modern Art, New York
National Academy Museum, New York
Neuberger Museum of Art, New York
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
Thomas Jefferson Park, New York
The Schomberg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York
Lafayette Gardens, New Jersey
Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey
New Jersey State Museum, New Jersey
Newark Museum, New Jersey
Peat, Marwick, and Mitchell, Montvale, New Jersey
Rutgers University, New Jersey
Mount Vernon Plaza, Ohio
Lafayette College, Pennsylvania
The Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Texas

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington D.C

Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington D.C.

University of Virginia, Virginia

Tate, London, England

United States Embassy, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Museo de Artes Visuales Alejandro Otero, Caracas, Venezuela