

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Denzil Forrester

Born: Grenada, West Indies, 1956
Lives and works in Cornwall, England

Education

1981–1983
MA Fine Art, Royal College of Art, London, England

1976–1979
BA (Hons) Fine Art, Central School of Art, London, England

1975–1976
Foundation, Central School of Art, London, England

Solo Exhibitions and Projects (selected)

2024
Two Islands, One World, Stephen Friedman Gallery and Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York, USA

2023
We Culture, Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, Florida, USA (catalogue)
With Q, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England
Duppy Conqueror, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, Missouri, USA (catalogue)

2021
Itchin & Scratchin, Spike Island, Bristol, England (touring)

2020
Itchin & Scratchin, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, England (touring)
Denzil Forrester in Rome, 30 Old Burlington Street, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

2019
Brixton Blue, TFL Commission, Brixton Underground Station, London, England
A Survey, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

2018
From Trench Town to Porthtowan, Jackson Foundation, St Just, England

2016
White Columns, New York, USA
Tramps, London, England

2002
Two Decades of Painting, The Edward Wilmot Blyden Project, 4 Victoria Street, Bristol, England

1996
Memory and Images, Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery, Peterborough, England

1995
Farewell to Shadowland, 198 Gallery, London, England

1991

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Dub Transition, Laing art Gallery, Newcastle; Usher Gallery, Lincolnshire; Smith Art Gallery, Stirling; Boundary Gallery, London; The Angel Row, Nottingham; and Lancaster Gallery, Coventry, England (touring)

1990

Dub Transition, Harris Museum & Gallery, Preston (touring)

1987

Limelight Club, New York, USA

1986

Drawing Exhibition, Commonwealth Institute, London, England

1983

Pagan Echoes, Riverside Studios, London, England

Group Exhibitions (selected)

2025

Lives Less Ordinary: Working-Class Britain Re-seen, Two Temple Place, London, England

The Power of Drawing: Marking 25 Years of the Royal Drawing School, Royal Drawing School, London, England

Revival, Galleria Francesca Minini, Milan, Italy

The Time is Always Now: Artists Reframe the Black Figure, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA (touring, catalogue)

2024

The Street: Curated by Peter Doig, Gagosian, New York, USA

Drawing the Unspeakable, Towner Eastbourne, England

Beyond the Bassline: 500 Years of Black British Music, British Library, London, England

The Time is Always Now: Artists Reframe the Black Figure, National Portrait Gallery, London, England; The Box, Plymouth, England; Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (touring, catalogue)

2023

The Place I Am, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

The Rejectionists: Collective Benefit Exhibition between Drawing Center and Pace, New York, USA

Thin Skin, Monash University Museum of Art, Cauldfield East, Australia (catalogue)

The Rejectionists: The Drawing Center Collective Benefit Exhibition with Pace, Pace Gallery, New York, USA

10 Years Anniversary Show – PART 2, Long Museum, Shanghai, China (catalogue)

Papertrail, Matthew Brown, Los Angeles, California, USA

A voice answering a voice, Tanya Leighton, Berlin, Germany

2022

Forecast Form: Art in the Caribbean Diaspora, 1990s-today, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA (catalogue)

Grayson's Art Club, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham, England

Dark Light, Realism in the Age of Post truth: Selections from the Aïshti Foundation Collection, Aïshti Foundation, Antelias, Lebanon

Is it morning for you yet?, 58th Carnegie International, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

because the night belongs to us, The Box, Plymouth, England

Captured Beauty, Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange, Cornwall, England

Legacies: London Transport's Caribbean Workforce, London Transport Museum, London, England

2021

Coventry Biennial: Hyper-Possible, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, England (catalogue)

Life Between Islands: Caribbean-British Art 50s – Now, Tate Britain, London, England (catalogue)

Mixing It Up: Painting Today, Hayward Gallery, London, England (catalogue)

Modern Conversations, Tate St Ives, Cornwall, England

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2020

25 Years, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England (catalogue)
Everything is Personal, Tramps, New York, USA
Frieze LIVE, curated by Victor Wang, 9 Cork Street, London, England
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England

2019

Get Up, Stand Up Now: Generations of Black Creative Pioneers, Somerset House, London, England
Artists | Steal From, Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, London, England

2017

Sputterances, Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Sixty Years, Collection Display: Walkthrough British Art, Tate Britain, London, England

2008

Quad, The Gallery in Cork Street, London, England

2007

Artists Doing It for Themselves, Burlington Arcade, London, England

2006

Artists Doing It for Themselves, Thurloe Road, London, England

2005

Artists Doing It for Themselves, Farringdon, London, England

2001

Fresh Art, Business Design Centre, London, England

2000

Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England
The Painting & Drawing Department, Morley Gallery, London, England
The Selectors, Madeleine Pearson Gallery, London, England

1997

Transforming the Crown: African, Asian and Caribbean Artists in Britain, 1966-1996, Caribbean Cultural Center, Bronx Museum of the Arts, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
Foundations of Fame, The London Institute, London, England

1996

Imagined Communities, Oldham Gallery, Oldham, England, John Hansard Gallery, University of Southampton, Southampton, England; Firstsite, Colchester, England; Walsall Museum and Art Gallery, Walsall, England; Royal Festival Hall, London, England; and Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, Scotland (touring)

1995

Royal Academy of Arts, London, England
The London Art Group, Barbican Art Gallery, London, England

1990

Rome Scholars 1980-90, Royal College of Art, London, England

1989

Caribbean Expressions in Britain, Leicester Museum & Art Gallery, Leicester, England

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1988

New Figurative Painters, The Orangery, London, England
Figuring Out the 80s, Laing Gallery, Newcastle, England
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England
Painters at the Royal College of Art, 150th Anniversary Show, Royal College of Art, London, England

1987

Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England

1986

From Two Worlds, Whitechapel Gallery, London, England
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England
Open Exhibition, Whitechapel Gallery, London, England

1985

Six Artists in Action, Madeleine Pearson Gallery, London, England
Rome Scholars Final Show, Academia Britannica, Rome, Italy
Bisonte Gallery, Florence, Italy
Wolfson College Gallery, Oxford, England

1984

Open Show, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, England
Five Artists in Action, Madeleine Pearson Gallery, London, England
Ten Artists, Accademia Britannica, Rome, Italy

1983

Black on Black, Creation for Liberation, London, England
Six Artists in Action, Madeleine Pearson Gallery, London, England
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England
Post Graduate Exhibition, Royal College of Art, London, England
Germinations, Trilateral Art Exhibition, London, England; Edinburgh, Scotland; Kassel, Germany and Lille, France (touring)

1982

Drawings and Prints, Madeleine Pearson Gallery, London, England
Four Man Show, Sadler's Wells Gallery, London, England
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England

1981

Six Man Show, Madeleine Pearson Gallery, London, England

1979

Basement Art Group, CYC Gallery, London, England
Graduate Exhibition, Central School of Art, London, England

1977

Basement Art Group, CYC Gallery, London, England

Publications

2024

The Time is Always Now: Artists Reframe the Black Figure, National Portrait Gallery, London, England
The Tenth Anniversary of the Long Museum, Long Museum, Shanghai, China

2023

Thin Skin, Monash University Museum of Art, Cauldfield East, Australia

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2022

Forecast Form: Art in the Caribbean Diaspora, 1990s-today, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA

Modern British Art: New Reflections, The Ingram Collection, Lund Humphries, London, England

2021

Mixing It Up: Painting Today, Hayward Gallery, London, England

Coventry Biennial: Hyper-Possible, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, England

The Anomie Review of Contemporary British Painting 2', Matt Price, Anomie Publishing, London, England

Life Between Islands: Caribbean-British Art 50s – Now, Tate Britain, London, England

2020

25 Years, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

2019

Get Up, Stand Up Now: Generations of Black Creative Pioneers, Somerset House, London, England

Denzil Forrester, foreword by Peter Doig, essays by Sam Thorne and Eddie Chambers, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, England

Awards

2021

South Bank Sky Arts Award, UK

Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE)

2019

Morley Fellowship, Morley College, London, England

2000

The Scottish Gallery Diana King Prize, Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, London, England

1987

Koren-Ferry International Award, Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, London, England

1986

Harkness Fellowship, New York, USA

1983

Scholarship, British School at Rome, Rome, Italy

Public Collections

Aïshti Foundation, Antelias, Lebanon

Arts Council Collection, England

Government Art Collection, England

Harris Museum & Art Gallery, Preston, England

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, Florida, USA

Long Museum, Shanghai, China

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA

Morley College, London, England

Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA

Tate, England

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