

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Channing Hansen

Hansen is a polymath, simultaneously pursuing interests in craft, science, and technology in his work.

Channing Hansen was born in 1972 in Los Angeles, California, USA, where he continues to live and work.

His large hand-knitted textiles are mounted on wooden stretchers and feature vibrant, abstract forms that undulate across their web-like surfaces. An extremely labour-intensive process, the artist skirts, washes, dyes, blends, and spins the wool himself.

The improvisatory appearance of Hansen's work is in fact predetermined by a computer algorithm that generates potentially infinite combinations of colour, fibre, pattern, and knit. Relying purely on the algorithm to prompt changes in form, the artist is unaware of how the finished work will look until it is complete. The resulting compositions are varied and complex; areas of dense, looped stitches within the works sit alongside open knots that reveal the stretcher bars and wall behind. Organic, amoeba-like forms intermingle with thin tendrils of yarn that dart across the surface of the textiles, interrupting solid blocks of vibrant colour. Reverberating with energy, Hansen generates a tension between chaos and order by containing these hallucinatory compositions within the confines of the picture plane.

In 2022, Hansen participated in group exhibitions including 'New Abstracts: Recent Acquisitions' at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California, USA, and 'We are LA: Contemporary Art from the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation' at Cal State University, Los Angeles, California, USA.

Notable solo exhibitions include: 'I, Algorithm', Susan Inglett Gallery, New York, USA (2021); 'Channing Hansen', Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Beverley Hills, California, USA (2019); 'Pattern Recognition', Simon Lee Gallery, Central, Hong Kong (2019); 'Morphogenesis', Stephen Friedman Gallery, London (2018); 'Fluid Dynamics', Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Beverly Hills, California, USA (2017); Stephen Friedman Gallery, London (2017); 'Self Portraits', CRG Gallery, New York, USA (2017); 'K2', Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Beverly Hills, California, USA (2016). Hansen's work was included in 'Made in LA', curated by Ann Philbin, at Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California, USA (2014).

Hansen's work is included in a number of prominent international collections including Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois, USA; Dallas Museum of Art, Texas, USA; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California, USA; Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, USA; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California, USA; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California, USA; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands and The Ahmanson Foundation, Los Angeles, California, USA.