

JOHN T. ACORN

Retired Head, Department of Visual Arts and History
College of Architecture, Clemson University
Clemson, SC

Born: November 1, 1937, Paterson, New Jersey

EDUCATION

Hochschule Fur Bildende Kunst, West Berlin, Germany, Post Graduate Study, Major-Sculpture, 1969-70

Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, MFA-Master of Fine Arts, Major-Sculpture, 1959-61

Montclair State College, Upper Montclair, New Jersey, B.A. Fine Arts, 1955-59

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Clemson University, College of Architecture, Professor, Head of Department of Visual Arts and History, 1976-1997

Clemson University, College of Architecture, Associate Professor, 1961-1976

Penland School of Crafts, Penland North Carolina,
Visiting Scholar, Guest Artist-Instructor, Summer Sessions.

PUBLIC ART/COMMISSIONS:

- 1963 *Seed Structure*, Crosrol Carding Co., Greenville, SC
- 1967 *Interactive Forces*, Hampton III Gallery, Taylors, SC
Life Force, Wesleyan Foundation, Clemson, SC
- 1969 *Freedom*, Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC
- 1972 *Life Cycle*, So. Carolina National Bank, Greenville, SC
- 1975 *Earth, Sea, Sky*; Easley Old Market Square, Easley, SC
Warp and Weft, City Hall, Greenville, SC
- 1976 *Landscape*, Greenville County School District Administration Office, Greenville, SC
Tree of Life, Temple Beth Hillel, Wynnewood, PA
Tree of Life, Congregation Shaarey Zedek, Lansing, MI
- 1978 *Earth, Sea, Sky*; East Jefferson General Hospital, Metairie, LA
- 1980 *Tree of Life*, Ahavath Achim Synagogue, Atlanta, GA
- 1981 *Trees and Rocks*, Gunnin Library, Lee Hall, Clemson University, Clemson, SC
- 1982 *Digital*, Digital Equipment Corporation Facility, Greenville, SC
- 1983 *The Tree*, Harvin Clarendon County Library, Manning, SC
- 1985 *Aerial Landscape Reflection*, Charleston International Airport, Charleston, SC
- 1986 *Woven Structure - Vertical and Horizontal*, Liberty Life Insurance Co., Greenville, SC

- Earth, Sea, Sky*; Humanities Building, University of SC at Sumter, SC
- 1998 *Ship in Two Halves*, Lee Hall, Clemson University, Clemson, SC and Overseas Center, Genoa, Italy
- 2002 *Friday Flyers*, Campus of Clemson University, Clemson, SC
- 2004 *The Big One that got It's Way*, Anderson County Arts Warehouse, Anderson, SC
- 2005 *Walking on Art*, Anderson County Arts Warehouse, Anderson, SC
- 2008 *Veterans Monument*, Simpsonville, SC
- 2013 *Orbital Trio*, NOMA Square, Greenville, SC
- 2014 *Ten Artispheres*, Greenville, SC

EXHIBITIONS

- 1958 *First Inclusion in Competitive Sculpture/painting exhibition*, Newark, NJ
- 1961 One of two man Exhibition. Hanamura Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 1962 *SC Artists Guild Annual Exhibition*. Greenville Museum of Art, Greenville, SC
- 1963 *3rd South Coast Annual Painting and Sculpture Exhibition*. Sarasota Art Association, Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL
- 53rd Annual Exhibition Conn. Academy of Fine Art. New Britain Museum of American Art, Hartford, CT
- 14th Annual NE Exhibition. Silvermine Guild of Artists, New Canaan, CT
- Selected for inclusion in American Sculpture and Painting Exhibition, Pennsylvania Academy of the Arts
- One of a Three Man Show. Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC
- SC Artists Guild Annual Exhibition. Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC
- 1964 Selected for inclusion in the Annual New England Exhibition, Silvermine Guild of Artists, New Canaan, CT
- John Acorn - Recent Sculpture - Fifteen Steel Welded Sculpture Pieces. Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC
- 159th Annual Exhibition of American Oil Painting and Sculpture, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia
- One of a Three Man Show, Asheville Art Museum, Asheville, NC
- 5th Annual Piedmont Purchase Exhibition. Mint Museum, Charlotte
- Exhibition of Sculpture. Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC
- One Man Exhibition of Sculpture. Mint Museum, Charlotte
- Piedmont Drawing and Print Exhibition. Mint Museum, Charlotte
- SC Artists Guild Annual Exhibition. Gibbs Museum of Art, Charleston, SC
- 1965 6th Annual Piedmont Painting and Sculpture Exhibition. Mint Museum, Charlotte
- 1966 5th Biennial National Religious Art Exhibition. Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- First Central South Exhibition. Tennessee Art League and Parthenon of Nashville, TN
- 7th Annual Piedmont Painting and Sculpture Exhibition. Mint Museum, Charlotte
- Southern Sculpture: 66. Southern Association of Sculptors. 7 Exhibit sites in AL, AK, GA, MS & TN
- Small Southern Sculpture. Moore Hall Art Gallery, Pembroke State Coll., Pembroke, NC
- One of "Eight Southern Sculptors." Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
- 1967 Kentucky Guild Train, Traveling Exhibit 1967. The Kentucky Guild of Artist and Craftsmen, Birmingham, AL
- Southern Sculpture: '67; 21st Ann. Exhibit of SC Artists, Gibbs Gallery, Charleston, SC

- 4th Annual Gardens Art Exhibition, Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA
 22nd Southeastern Annual Exhibition; High Museum of Art, Atlanta
 Southern Sculpture: 67, National Competitive Sculpture Exhibition. Asheville Art Museum, Asheville, NC
 Piedmont Invitational Painting and Sculpture Exhibition; Mint Museum, Charlotte.
- 1968 14 Annual Drawing and Small Sculpture Show, Ball State Univ. Art Gallery, Muncie, IN
- 1969 SC Artists Guild Annual Exhibition
- 1971 Southern Small Sculpture: 71. Southern Association of Sculptors; University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
 John Acorn; One-man exhibition; Sprague Library, Montclair State College, Upper Montclair, NJ
- 1972 "Mainstreams, USA" National Competition. Marietta College, Ohio
 Stowe Galleries, Cunningham Fine Arts Center, Davidson College, Davidson, NC.
- 1974 National Sculpture Travelling Exhibition
 41st Southeastern Annual, Winston-Salem, NC
- 1975 Southeastern Annual, Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston Salem, NC
- 1976 Southeast Painting and Sculpture Exhibition; Mint Museum
- 1979 Two-Man Exhibition. ("Profile Series") Augusta College, Augusta, GA
 Profiles. Anderson County Art Center, Anderson, SC
- 1980 One Man Exhibition. Winthrop College, Rock Hill, SC
 One Man Exhibition. Artistic Sass Gallery, Hilton Head, SC
- 1983 One Man Exhibition. Artistic Sass Gallery, Hilton Head, SC
- 1984 Art of the South, Palazzo Venezia, Rome, Italy
 84 SC Arts Commission Exhibition. Lee Hall Gallery, Clemson Univ. Clemson, SC
 Visual Arts Faculty Exhibition, Lee Hall Gallery, Clemson University, Clemson, SC
- 1985 Four Clemson Sculptors, Museum of York County, SC
 10th Annual Juried Exhibition. Anderson County Arts Center, SC
- 1986 State of the Arts, Invitational, Columbia Museum of Art, SC
- 1987 SC Guild of Artists Annual Exhibition, Anderson County Arts Center, Anderson, SC
 Artistic Sass Gallery, Hilton Head, SC
- 1988 SC Guild of Artists Annual Exhibition, Spartanburg Gallery of Art
 Governor's School Faculty & Staff exhibition, Thompson Gallery, Furman University
 Faculty Exhibition, Lee Hall Gallery, College of Architecture, Clemson University, Clemson, SC
 One Man Exhibition, Anderson College Gallery, Anderson, SC
 SC Arts Commission Exhibition, SC State College Gallery, Orangeburg
- 1990 John Acorn + Tom Dimond. Columbia College, Goodall Gallery
 40th Annual Juried Exhibition and Anniversary Retrospective. Guild of SC Artists. SC State Museum, Columbia, SC.
- 1991 Source/Resource. Hampton III Gallery, Taylors, SC
- 1995 John Acorn: Camouflage Man + Reflections of the 20th Century, Winthrop College, Rock Hill, SC
- 1995 John Acorn & Tom Durham. Piccolo Spoleto Invitational, Gaillard Auditorium, Charleston
- 1996 Bulls Bay Hardware and Supply Company Exhibition, McClellanville, SC
 Camouflage Man and Reflections on the Twentieth Century, Anderson County Arts Center, SC
- 1996 Governor's School for the Arts, Furman University
- 1997 Masks and Camouflage Men, Hampton III Gallery, Taylors, SC
- 1998 Triennial Exhibition, SC Arts Commission, Columbia, SC (6 Camouflage men)

- 1999 100 Years/ 100 Artists Exhibition of 20th Century Artists. SC State Mus., Columbia, SC
John Acorn: Past Time 1999. One-man exhibition at Greenville Cty. Museum of Art, SC.
- 2000 Troubleshooting - Gun Violence. Invitational Exhibition, Tryon Center for the Visual Arts, Charlotte, NC
Past and Present Work of John Acorn. Red Door Gallery, Anderson, SC
Upstate Summer Gala Exhibition, SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities. Greenville, SC
- 2002 John Acorn: Prints, Plates, Fishheads and Figurines. Burroughs-Chapin Art Museum, Myrtle Beach, SC.
See How We Are, prints and sculpture, Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC
- 2003 John Acorn: New Work, Hampton III Gallery, Taylors, SC (mask series)
Design and Art in Public Places. Anderson County Arts Center and AnMed Health
- 2005 John Acorn, One Man Exhibition. Glance Gallery, Raleigh, NC
Quilts, Vignettes, Wanderings. Hampton III Gallery, Taylors, SC
- 2006 Thirty Years: the Pickens County Museum Art Collection. Pickens, SC
- 2007 Collateral Damage. Lee Hall Gallery, Clemson
- 2008 Trailer Nail Art + Phases of the Moon, Hampton III Gallery, Taylors, SC
Selections from the Palmetto Bank Collection, Spartanburg Museum of Art
Jurors' Invitational Exhibition. Belton Center for the Arts, Belton, SC
One-man exhibition of recent work. Lee Hall Gallery, Clemson University, Clemson, SC
Print Exhibition of monotypes from Kingsnake Press, Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC
- 2010 Milestones Celebrating 70 and Beyond. Invitational Exhibition, Burroughs-Chapin Art Museum, Myrtle Beach, SC
ABC Exhibition - Acorn, Blair and Callahan. Goodall Gallery, Columbia College, Columbia, SC
- 2011 50 Works/ 50 Year, Hampton III Gallery, Taylors, SC
- 2012 John Acorn: Project Pistols, 701 Center for the Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC
John Acorn: Project Pistols, Cox Hall, Pendleton, SC
Abstract Art in South Carolina: 1949-2012
- 2013 Under Fire, Riverworks Gallery, Greenville, SC
- 2014 Building a Universe, South Carolina State Museum
Pistol Project, Clemson Little Theater
- 2015 The Sculptor's Voice, BRAHM, Blowing Rock, NC
Wondering and Wanderings, Belton Center for the Arts, Belton, SC
- 2016 ArtFields, Lake City, SC
John Acorn - Sculptor, Cassilhaus, Chapel Hill, NC
Sunsets and Fish, Hampton III Gallery, Taylors, SC
- 2017 John Acorn: Selections from Across the Street, Cox Hall, Pendleton, SC
John Acorn. Sift Curated Gallery, Clausen Bakery; McMillan Pazdan Smith, Architects, Greenville, SC
- 2018 España Conexiones de Arte, A Group Exhibition by John Acorn, Yelitza Diaz, David Locke and Also Muzzarelli, Anderson Arts Center, Anderson, SC
ArtFields, Lake City, SC

AWARDS

Fulbright Scholar, Creative Arts-Sculpture, Hochschule Fur Bildende Kunst, West Berlin,

Germany, 1969-70

Recipient of the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award in Recognition of Outstanding Contribution to the Arts in South Carolina -- SC Arts Commission, Columbia, SC, 1998

American Institute of Architects Award for Art-in-Architecture, SC Chapter, 1975

Inducted into the Clemson University College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities Hall of Fame for his dedication to enriching the experience of every individual at Clemson University.

First Award, permanent collection of Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC, 1963

Merit Award, 16th Birmingham Festival of Arts, Birmingham, AL, 1967

Second Award, Southern Sculpture: '67; 21st Annual Exhibit of SC Artists, Gibbs Gallery, Charleston, SC .

Award, National Sculpture Exhibition, USA Traveling Exhibition (Sponsored by Southern Assoc. of Sculptors)

Award for Permanent Collection of Springs Mills, Inc. 10th Annual Exhibition, 1968

Award in *14th Annual Drawing and Small Sculpture Show*, Ball State University Art Gallery, Muncie, IN

Purchase Award for Permanent Collection of the State of SC (Artists Guild Exhibition), 1969

Artist in Residence, MacDowell Colony, Peterborough, NH, 1971

Honorable Mention Award, April 28, 1972. Guild for Religious Architecture

Award for Sculpture, "Mainstreams, USA" National Competition. Marietta College, OH, 1972

Award and Purchase for 41st Southeastern Annual, Winston-Salem, NC, 1974

Appointed Commissioner to SC Arts Commission, Governor's Appointment, 1974-77

Silver Medal, Tau Sigma Delta "Outstanding Work in the Allied Arts", 1976

Winner of National Sculpture Competition for wall relief, East Jefferson General Hospital, Metairie, LA, 1978

Merit Award 10th Annual Juried Exhibition. Anderson County Arts Council, 1985

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC

Asheville Museum of Art, Asheville, NC

Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC

South Carolina State Museum, Columbia, SC