MASSIMODECARLO

# McArthur Binion
## Biografia

McArthur Binion (1946, Macon, Georgia) vive e lavora a Chicago, Illinois.

Dagli anni '70 ha cercato un'alternativa all'arte minimalista, attraverso la sua personale filosofia delle griglie pittoriche fuse con i suoi beni d'archivio, come le pagine delle sue rubriche telefoniche, le fotografie personali di famiglia o i documenti trovati della storia dell'Africa.

La ridotta combinazione di colori e forme di Binion racchiude non solo padronanza formale ma anche strati di significato, a partire dalla sua ricerca dell'eredità della pittura astratta modernista in relazione a un contesto più ampio, quello della necessità della società umana di lasciare tracce di sé e, al stesso tempo, per proiettarsi nel futuro. Il lavoro di Binion è fortemente politico, sebbene molto sottile. In effetti, il curatore Lowery Stokes Sims una volta ha descritto la serie DNA di Binion come "nozioni di consapevolezza di sé e scoperta di sé, una riflessione consapevole su se stesso e sul discorso storico a cui ha contribuito". I 40 anni di carriera di Binion sono stati una continua indagine sulla pittura astratta. L'inserimento distintivo dell'artista della narrativa e della storia personale e la sua enfasi sul contenuto differenzia il suo lavoro da una pratica minimalista più tradizionale.

Il lavoro di Binion è presente in diverse collezioni pubbliche e private tra cui il Whitney Museum dell'arte americana, New York; Studio Museum ad Harlem, New York; Museo di San Francisco di Arte Moderna, San Francisco; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museo Nazionale di Storia e Cultura Afroamericana, Washington, DC; Cranbrook Art Museum, Colline di Bloomfield; Istituto d'arte di Detroit, Detroit; Istituto di Arte Contemporanea, Boston; Kemper Museo d'Arte, Kansas City; Museo d'arte del Mississippi, Jackson; Museo di New Orleans di Arte, New Orleans; Strauss Family Collection, Santa Fe; Museo d'Arte di Toledo, Toledo.

**Esposizioni personali**

**2026**

2026 - Stuttering:Standing:Still II, Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA

**2025**

2025 - McArthur Binion: Notes on Form (Intimate Structures), Georgetown University Art Galleries, Washington D.C., USA
2025 - Rawness Dancing:With Intellect, Xavier Hufkens, Brussels, B

**2024**

2024 - McArthur Binion, Peter Marino Art Foundation, Southampton, NY, USA
2024 - McArthur Binion and Jules Allen: Me and You , Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA

**2022**

2022 - McArthur Binion: Self:Portraits, Library Street Collective, Detroit, USA
2022 - Visual:Ear / Paper:Work, Xavier Hufkens, Brussels, B
2022 - DNA:Study/(Visual:Ear), Lehmann Maupin, Seoul, ROK

**2021**

2021 - Modern:Ancient:Brown, Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
2021 - DNA:Orange:Work, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, F

**2020**

2020 - Modern Ancient Brown, Museo del Novecento, Firenze, I
2020 - DNA:WORK AND THE UNDER:CONSCIOUS DRAWING, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, USA. Catalogo

**2019**

2019 - McArthur Binion, Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
2019 - McArthur Binion, Ghosts: Rhythms & Haints, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, USA
2019 - Hand:Work:II, Lehmann Maupin, Hong Kong, HK
2019 - Hand:Work:II, Lehmann Maupin, Seoul, ROK
2019 - New:Work (Hong Kong), Massimo De Carlo, Hong Kong, PRC
2019 - Hand:Work , Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY, USA

**2018**

2018 - Ink: Work, Massimo De Carlo, Milano, I
2018 - Binion/Saarinen, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, USA
2018 - Ink: Work, Massimo De Carlo, Milano, I

**2017**

2017 - Route One: Box Two, Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, USA
2017 - DNA:Sepia, Massimo De Carlo, London, UK

**2016**

2016 - Seasons, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, USA

**2015**

2015 - McArthur Binion: Re:Mine, Galerie Lelong, New York, USA. Catalogo

**2014**

2014 - DNA Study, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, USA

**2013**

2013 - Ghost:Rhythms, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, USA

**2012**

2012 - Perspectives 177: McArthur Binion, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, USA

**2010**

2010 - Color Exploration: Simplicity in the Art of McArthur Binion, Univeristy of Maryland, University College Gallery, Adelphi, USA

**2009**

2009 - House : Work, Center Galleries at College for Creative Studies, Detroit, USA

**2008**

2008 - Simplicism II: The Gouaches, Audible Gallery, Experimental Sound Studio, Chicago, USA

**2005**

2005 - Simplicism, G. R. N'Namdi Gallery, Chicago; G. R. N'Namdi Gallery, New York, USA

**2004**

2004 - Simplicism, G. R. N'Namdi Gallery, Detroit, USA

**2001**

2001 - Modern : Ancient : Brown, Alley Culture, Detroit, USA

**1990**

1990 - Laconic : Love : Letters; K.V.C., Fisher Theater, New Center One, Detroit, USA

**1980**

1980 - The Juices: New Paintings, Anspacher Gallery, New York, USA
1980 - Drawings, Peg Alston Gallery, New York, USA

**Esposizioni collettive**

**2025**

2025 - Contemporary Conceptual Obstruction , Galerie Maximillian, Aspen, CO, USA
2025 - Nemo, Lehmann Maupin, Seoul, KR
2025 - Apparitions, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
2025 - Beyond Material, Lehmann Maupin, London, UK
2025 - New Symphony Of Time, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS, USA

**2024**

2024 - SpaceRace, Lehmann Maupin, London, UK
2024 - Culture of Creativity, Tiffany & CO flagship store, New York, NY, USA
2024 - Palimpsest, Mariane Ibrahim, Chicago, IL, USA
2024 - 15X15: Independent 2010-2024, Independent Art Fair, New York, NY, USA
2024 - Hlobo, and Brittney Leeanne Williams, Lehmann Maupin, London, UK
2024 - Beyond the Physical World: Abstraction from the Mott-Warsh Collection, MW Gallery, Flint, MI, USA

**2023**

2023 - McArthur Binion – Carl Andre, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, F
2023 - Multiplicity: Blackness in Contemporary American Collage, Frist Art Museum, Nashville, USA
2023 - Yuen Yeung, K11 Musea, Shanghai, PRC
2023 - Beyond Form, Lehmann Maupin, Palm Beach, USA
2023 - Neo Chicago, The Peninsula, Chicago, USA
2023 - Tracing Lineage: Abstraction and its Aftermath, Bruce Museum, Greenwich, CT, USA
2023 - GRAY at 60, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
2023 - Lee Bul, Angel Otero, Vaughn Spann, and Zhang Huan, Lehmann Maupin, Palm Beach, FL, USA

**2022**

2022 - Citing Black Geographies, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, New York, USA
2022 - Black Abstractionists: From Then 'til Now, Green Family Art Foundation, Dallas, USA
2022 - Borrow and Steal: Appropriation from the Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, USA
2022 - Sense of Place, Green Naftali, New York, USA
2022 - Fire Figure Fantasy: Selections from ICA Miami's Collection, Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, USA

**2021**

2021 - Black Art: in the Absence of Light, HBO Documentary, HBO
2021 - McArthur Binion - Sol LeWitt, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I
2021 - Building a Legacy: Chrysler Collects for the Future, Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, USA
2021 - The Medium is Memory, Lehmann Maupin, Taipei, RC
2021 - Art Basel Hong Kong, Hong Kong Convention Center, Hong Kong, PRC

**2020**

2020 - Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, USA
2020 - Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Frye Museum of Art, Seattle, USA
2020 - Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Utah Museum of Fine Art, Salt Lake Citry, USA
2020 - Listen to Your Eyes, Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar, NL
2020 - Making Community: Prints from Brandywine Workshop and Archives, Brodsky Center at PAFA, and Paulson Fontained Press, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, Philadelphia, PA, USA

**2019**

2019 - Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, USA
2019 - Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, USA
2019 - Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, USA
2019 - Expanding Narratives: The Figure and the Ground, Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago, USA
2019 - Personal to Political: Celebrating the African American Artists of Paulson Fontaine Press , Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History , Detroit, MI, USA
2019 - Beyond Infinity: Contemporary Art After Kusama , Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, Boston, MA, USA

**2018**

2018 - Expanding Narratives: The Figure and the Ground, Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL , USA
2018 - Something to Say: The McNay Presents 100 Years of African American Art, McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, TX , USA

**2017**

2017 - Color People, Rental Gallery, East Hampton, USA
2017 - VIVA ARTE VIVA, 57th Venice Biennale, Venezia, I
2017 - Dimensions of Black: a Collaboration with the San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art, Museum of Contemporary San Diego, San Diego, USA
2017 - New at NOMA: Recent Acquisitions in Modern and Contemporary Art, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, USA
2017 - From the Vault: Recent Gifts to the Collection, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, USA
2017 - Through the African American Lens, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, USA
2017 - Thought Patterns, Deborah Ronnen Fine Art, Rochester, USA
2017 - Above and Below the Surface: Eight Artists, Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, USA
2017 - Black and the Abstract, Part 2: Soft Curves/Hard Edges, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, USA
2017 - Picturing Mississippi, 1817-2017: Land of Plenty, Pain, and Promise, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, USA
2017 - Something to Say: The McNay Presents 100 Years of African American Art, McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, USA
2017 - Paper, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, USA
2017 - Picturing Mississippi, 1817-2017: Land of Plenty, Pain, and Promise, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, USA

**2016**

2016 - Circa 1970, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA
2016 - Through the African American Lens, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, USA
2016 - Recent Acquisitions, The Phillips Collection, Washington, USA
2016 - Viewpoints, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, USA
2016 - Chicago Invites Chicago, Galerie Lelong, New York, USA
2016 - Exhibition of Work by Newly Elected Members and Recipients of Honors and Awards, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, USA
2016 - Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, USA
2016 - Dimensions of Black: a Collaboration with the San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art, Museum of Contemporary San Diego, San Diego, USA
2016 - New at NOMA: Recent Acquisitions in Modern and Contemporary Art, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, USA
2016 - Chicago Invites Chicago, Galerie Lelong, New York, USA
2016 - Thought Patterns, Deborah Ronnen Fine Art, Rochester, NY, USA

**2015**

2015 - Piece by Piece: Building a Collection, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, USA

**2014**

2014 - Prospect.3: Notes for Now, New Orleans, USA
2014 - Another Look at Detroit: Parts 1 and 2, Marianne Boesky, New York, Marlborough Chelsea, New York, USA
2014 - Ice Fishing, Max Wigram Gallery, London, UK
2014 - When the Stars Begin to Fall: Imagination in the American South, Studio Museum, Harlem, New York, USA
2014 - Above and Below the Surface: Eight Artists, Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, USA
2014 - Black in the Abstract, Part 2: Soft Curves/Hard Edges, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, TX , USA

**2013**

2013 - Black in the Abstract, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, USA
2013 - Green Flower Street, a cura di TR, Tatiana Kourochkina Gallery, Instanbul Biennial, Istanbul
2013 - Xstraction, The Hole, New York, USA
2013 - Outside the Lines, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, USA

**2010**

2010 - Well Put Together II, Thomas McCormick Gallery, Chicago, USA

**2007**

2007 - 25th Anniversary Group Exhibition, G. R. N'Namdi Gallery, New York, USA
2007 - STUFF: International Contemporary Art from the Collection of Burt Aaron, The Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit, USA

**2002**

2002 - Americas Remixed, Comune di Milano, Milano, I
2002 - No Greater Love, Abstraction, Jack Tilton/Anna Kustera Gallery, New York, USA
2002 - The Bones of Clouds: Some Recent Experiences of Chance, Center Galleries, College for Creative Studies, Detroit, USA
2002 - Paths, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham, USA

**2000**

2000 - Art for Technology: A Reunion of Mural Artists, Martin Luther King Neighborhood Network, Detroit, USA

**1997**

1997 - T-race, Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago, USA

**1996**

1996 - Drawing in Chicago Now, 11th Street Gallery, Chicago, Illinois and Carleton College, Northfield, USA

**1992**

1992 - Drawings for Billboards, Focus Gallery, Detroit, USA

**1987**

1987 - Share the Memories, Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, USA

**1985**

1985 - David Hammons' House, Art on the Beach, Creative Time, Inc., New York, USA

**1984**

1984 - Affirmation of Life, Kenkeleba Gallery, New York, USA

**1983**

1983 - The Regentrified Jungle, Hamilton College, Clinton, New York; Wayne State University/NYC, Wayne State University, Detroit, USA
1983 - Modernist Trends, 22 Wooster Gallery, New York, USA

**1982**

1982 - Organized by Joe Lewis and Holly Solomon Gallery of New York, Mark Twain Bank, Kansas City, USA
1982 - Six Murals by Six Artists, Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center Gallery, Detroit, USA
1982 - Cranbrook USA: A 50-Year Survey of Alumni, Cranbrook Museum of Art, Bloomfield Hills, USA

**1978**

1978 - Detroit and Chicago: Art of the 70s, Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, USA

**1973**

1973 - McArthur Binion, Jonathan Borofsky and Mary Obering, Artists Space, New York, USA

**1972**

1972 - Michigan Biannual, Saginaw Museum of Art, Saginaw, USA

# Bibliography


**2021**

Getsy, David J.. "Gray Warehouse", *Artforum*, February 2021.

**2020**

"Black Lives Matter al Museo Novecento: via alla mostra d'arte 'Modern Ancient Brown'", *GoNews*, October 2020.
"Black Lives Matter: apre la mostra di McArthur Binion a Firenze", *Amica*, October 2020.
"Duel. McArthur Binion. Modern Ancient Brown", *Arte*, October 2020.
"McArhur Binion la storia è black", *la Repubblica - Robinson*, October 2020.
"McArthur Binion - Modern Ancient Brown", *Exibart*, October 2020.
"McArthur Binion: la nuova mostra al Museo Novecento di Firenze", *Turismo Itinerante*, October 30, 2020.
"Modern Ancient Brown - McArthur Binion", *Pittorica*, October 2020.
Ficicchia, Loredana. "Guarda e Leggi - c'è McArthur Binion", *Corriere Fiorentino*, October 24, 2020.
Franza, Carlo. "L'afroamericano McArthur Binion erede dell'astrattismo modernista ripensa il minimalismo e la sua storia personale tra arti visive e letteratura. La mostra al Museo Novecento di Firenze.", *il Giornale*, 2020.
Meloni, Bruna. "McArthur Binion è a firenze con la mostra Modern Ancient Brown", *MAM-e*, October 25, 2020.
Montanari, Laura. "Black Lives Matter anche nell'arte", *la Repubblica*, October 24, 2020.
Zarley, David. "McArthur Binion's 'Data-Driven' Design", *Frieze*, October 29, 2020.

**2019**

"Discovered After 70, Black Artists Find Success, Too, Has Its Price", *The New York times*, March 23, 2019.
"McArthur Binion: Modern Ancient Brown", *GoGoFirenze*, October 20, 2019.

**2017**

Gavin, Francesca. "The African-American artists exciting savvy collectors", *Financial Times*, June 9 2017.
Swirsky, Rebecca . "McArthur Binion, Massimo De Carlo, London, UK", *Frieze*, October 2017.

# Public Collections

## The Netherlands

Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar

## United Kingdom

Zabludowicz Collection, London

## United States of America

Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin
Ariel Mutual Funds, Chicago
Art Bridges Foundation, Bentonville
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan, Detroit
Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit
City of Detroit, Detroit
Cook County Hospital, Chicago
Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills
Detroit Institute of Arts, Michigan
Fidelity Investments Art Collection
Guggenheim Museum, New York
Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston
Joyner Giuffrida Collection, San Francisco
Kemper Museum of Art, Kansas City
McNay Art Museum, San Antonio
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson
Mott Warsh Collection, Flint
Museum, Winter Park
National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, D.C.
New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco
Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, D.C.
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
The Alfond Collection of Contemporary Art, Rollins College, Winter Park
The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.
Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo
Wayne State University, Detroit
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York