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## Cristea Roberts Gallery

43 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JG  
+44 (0)20 7439 1866  
info@cristearoberts.com  
www.cristearoberts.com

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## Artist Biography

## Barbara Walker MBE

Born 1964, Birmingham, UK  
Lives and works in Birmingham, UK

### Education

1993-96 BA Art and Design, University of Central England  
Birmingham, UK  
2003-04 Post Graduate Certificate in Education (F.E),  
Wolverhampton University, UK

### Selected Solo Exhibitions

2025 *Being Here*, Arnolfini, Bristol, UK  
2024 *Being Here*, The Whitworth, Manchester, UK  
2022 *Vanishing Point*, Cristea Roberts Gallery, London, UK  
2019/21 *Place, Space and Who*, Turner Contemporary, Margate,  
UK  
2018 *Vanishing Point*, Jerwood Gallery, Hastings, UK  
2017 *Out of the Dark*, Drawing Room, London, UK  
2016 *Shock and Awe*, Midlands Art Centre, Birmingham, UK  
2015 *Sub Urban: New Drawings*, James Hockey Gallery,  
University of Creative Arts, Farnham, UK  
2014 *Pause*, C&C Gallery, London, UK  
2013 *As Seen*, Tiwani Contemporary, London, UK  
*Here and Now*, Wallner Gallery, Lakeside Arts Centre,  
Nottingham, UK  
2012 *Pursuit of the Real*, Deptford X Fringe, London, UK  
2011 *Show and Tell*, The New Art Gallery Walsall, Walsall, UK  
2009 *Louder Than Words*, Vane Contemporary Art, Newcastle  
upon Tyne, UK  
2007 *Louder Than Words*, Midlands Art Centre, Birmingham,  
UK  
2006 *Louder Than Words*, UNIT 2, London Metropolitan  
University, London, UK  
2005 *Testimony*, Queens Hall Gallery, Hexham, Northumberland,  
UK; *Testimony*, Suffolk College, Ipswich, UK  
2002 *Private Face*, EMACA, Nottingham, UK  
*Private Face*, Midlands Art Centre, Birmingham, UK  
*Private Face*, 198 Gallery, London, UK  
2000 *Communication*, The Usher Gallery, Lincoln, UK

### Selected Group Exhibitions

2024 *Untold Lives: A Palace at Work*, Kensington Palace,  
London, UK  
*Acts of Creation: On Art and Motherhood*, Hayward  
Touring – Arnolfini, Midlands Art Centre, Millennium  
Gallery, Sheffield, Dundee Contemporary Art, UK  
*Entangled Pasts, 1768–Now*, The Royal Academy of Arts,  
London, UK  
*The Time is Always Now: Artists Reframe the Black  
Figure*, National Portrait Gallery, London, UK, The Box,  
Plymouth, UK, North Carolina Museum of Art,  
Philadelphia Museum, USA  
2023 *Life Between Islands, Caribbean – British Art, 1950s to*

*Now*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Canada  
*Black Atlantic: Power, People, Resistance*, The Fitzwilliam  
Museum, University of Cambridge, UK  
*Summer Exhibition 2023*, The Royal Academy of Arts,  
London, UK  
*Leda and the Swan: A Myth of Creation and Destruction*,  
Victoria Miro, London, UK  
*Turner Prize 2023*, Towner Gallery, Eastbourne, UK  
*Thinking Historically in the Present*, Sharjah Biennial 15,  
Sharjah, United Arab Emirates  
*Dialogues Across Disciplines*, Ruth and Elmer Wellin  
Museum of Art, New York, USA  
*Finding Family*, Foundling Museum, London, UK  
*New Acquisitions: Paul Bril to Wendy Red Star*, British  
Museum, London, UK  
2022 *A Line Around an Idea: ways of knowing through  
contemporary drawing practices*, The Glucksman,  
University College Cork, Cork, Ireland  
*June Mostra*, British School of Rome, Italy  
*Shifting Perspectives*, Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds, UK  
*Broken Angel*, Coventry Cathedral, Coventry, UK  
*Exchanges*, The Whitworth, Manchester, UK  
*Space Is a Place: From Painting To Performance*, Bristol  
Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol, UK  
2021 *Life Between Islands, Caribbean – British Art, 1950s to  
Now*, Tate Britain, London, UK  
*A Fire in My Head*, Art Exchange, University of Essex,  
Colchester, UK  
*Summer Exhibition 2021*, The Royal Academy of Arts,  
London, UK  
*Where We Are Now*, Sunderland Museum & Winter  
Gardens, Sunderland, UK  
*Art for Life: an exhibition made with keyworkers*, Firstsite,  
Colchester, UK  
*Drawing Biennial 2021*, Drawing Room, London UK  
2020 *Portrayals*, Arts Council Collection, Banbury Museum  
and Art Gallery, Banbury, UK  
*Everyday Heroes*, Hayward Gallery, Southbank Centre,  
London, UK  
*Unquiet Moments: Capturing the Everyday*, MA Curating  
the Art Museum, Courtauld of Art, London, UK (online)  
*Between The Sun and The Moon*, Lahore Biennale 02,  
Pakistan  
2019 *Open Your Eyes*, Art Exchange, University of Essex,  
Colchester, UK  
*Super Black*, an Arts Council Collection National Partner  
exhibition, Firstsite Gallery, Colchester, UK  
*Radical Drawing: Works From Coventry and The  
Courtauld*, The Herbert Art Gallery, Coventry, UK  
*Frederick Douglass: Embers of Freedom*, SCAD Museum  
of Art, Georgia, USA  
*Photographs | Contemporary Art: Recent Gifts and  
Acquisitions*, Yale Center for British Art, Connecticut, USA  
*Get Up, Stand Up Now*, Somerset House, London UK

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### Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 2018 *Summer Exhibition 2019*, The Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK  
*Protest and Remembrance*, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK  
*Women Power Protest*, Birmingham Museum Gallery, Birmingham, UK
- 2018 *Zeichen*, MEWO Kunsthalle, Memmingen, Germany  
*A Slice through the World: Contemporary Artists' Drawings*, Drawing Room, London and Modern Art Oxford, UK  
*Reformation*, Guest Projects, London, UK  
*Walls Have Ears: 400 Years of Change*, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
*The Gallery of Small Things*, Dakar Biennale, Senegal, Africa
- 2017 *The Gallery of Small Things*, Cultural & Design Festival, Nigeria, Africa  
*Jerwood Drawing Prize*, Jerwood Space, London, touring to Norwich, Bath and Canterbury, UK  
*Vicennial*, Vane Contemporary Art, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK  
*Diaspora Pavilion - International Curators Forum*, Palazzo Santa Marina, Venice, Italy  
*Untitled: Art on the conditions of our time*, New Art Exchange, Nottingham, UK  
*Everything Exists Now*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London, UK
- 2016 *Jamaican Pulse: Art and Politics from Jamaica and the Diaspora*, Royal West of England Academy, Bristol, UK
- 2015 *Salon 2015*, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, UK  
*Ten*, Vane Contemporary Art, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK  
*Figur|e|ation*, galleryELL, New York, USA (online)  
*Annale 2015*, Article Gallery, Birmingham School of Art, UK  
*One Day, Something Happens: Paintings of People*, a Hayward Touring and Arts Council Collection exhibition, Leeds Art Gallery, touring to Nottingham, Southport, Eastbourne, UK and Drogheda, Ireland
- 2014 *For the Record*, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK
- 2013 *Downtime*, Ort Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
*End of the Line*, Paper Gallery, Manchester, UK  
*Luminous Language*, Launch F18, New York, USA  
*Berlin / Birmingham / Beyond*, Clarke Gallery, Midlands Art Centre, Birmingham as part of Allotment 10 plots, UK  
*Bread and Roses*, Fehily Contemporary, Melbourne, Australia
- 2011 *Mostyn Open 11*, Mostyn, Llandudno, Wales, UK
- 2010 *Meaning of Style: Black British Style, and the underlying political, social environment*, The New Art Exchange, Nottingham, UK
- 2009 *Birmingham Seen*, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK

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- 2008 *East International 09*, Norwich, UK  
*Rotate*, Contemporary Art Society (with Vane Contemporary Art), London, UK  
*Art of Birmingham II 1940–2008*, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
*Newcastle Gateshead Arts Fair*, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK  
*Open West Midlands 08*, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, UK  
*Hawkins & Co.*, Contemporary Urban Centre, Liverpool, UK  
*Say It As It Is*, Signal Gallery, London, UK
- 2006 *Families*, Oxford House Gallery, London, UK  
*Birmingham Artsfest 06*, Birmingham, UK
- 2004 *Royal Birmingham Society of Artists*, Birmingham, UK
- 2003 *True Stories*, Museu de Arte Contemporanea, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
*True Stories*, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
*True Stories*, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
Human Condition, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK
- 2002 *Intervention Project*, Birmingham, UK
- 2000 *Black Artists Exhibition*, Q-arts, Derby, UK
- 1999 Ingoldby Estate, Community Arts Project, Birmingham, UK  
*Central Collective*, Roundhouse Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
Woodbridge Gallery, Birmingham, UK
- 1998 Woodbridge Gallery, Birmingham, UK
- 1996 Custard Factory, Birmingham, UK
- 1995 Women's Festival, University of Central England, Birmingham, UK

### Selected Public Collections

- UK Arts Council England, London  
Barts Health NHS Trust, London  
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham  
Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol  
British Museum, London  
Facebook, London  
Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge  
Government Art Collection, London  
Guest Project Collections, London  
Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry  
Jerwood Collection, London  
Katrin Bellinger Collection, London  
Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds  
Leicester Museum and Art Gallery, Leicester  
Pallant House Gallery, Chichester  
Tate, London  
The Usher Gallery, Lincoln  
US Embassy, London  
The Whitworth, Manchester  
Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Wolverhampton
- USA Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania  
Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art, New York  
The Wadsworth Atheneum, Connecticut  
Yale Center for British Art, Connecticut
- UAE Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah

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### Commissions

- 2024 Soft Power, The Whitworth, Manchester, UK
- 2022 *Burden of Proof*, Sharjah Biennial 15, Sharjah Art Foundation, UAE  
*Broken Angel*, Coventry Cathedral, Coventry, UK
- 2021 *A Fire in My Head*, University of Essex, Colchester, UK
- 2020 *Vital Arts*, 100 Rooms, Brent Hospital Trust London, UK  
*Everyday Heroes*, Hayward Gallery, Southbank Centre, London, UK  
*Alchemy*, Tollinton Market, Lahore Biennale 02, Pakistan  
US Embassy Collection, London, UK
- 2019 *Place, Space, and Who*, Turner Contemporary, Margate, UK
- 2017 *Facebook AIR Program*, Rathbone Office, London, UK
- 2010 *ABCD Phoenix Park Commission*, Wolverhampton Art Gallery/Wolverhampton City Council
- 2009 *The Meaning of Style*, the New Art Exchange, Nottingham, UK
- 2003 *True Stories*, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Wolverhampton, UK

### Awards

- 2023 Shortlisted for the Turner Prize 2023, UK  
Elected to The Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK  
Historian of British Awards Book Awards, UK
- 2022 Nominated, Paul Hamlyn Visual Arts Award, UK
- 2020 Paul Hamlyn Foundation Artist Bursary Award, UK  
Nominated, Freelands Foundation Awards, UK  
Bridget Riley Drawing Fellowship, British School of Rome, Italy
- 2019 Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE)  
Nominated, Paul Hamlyn Visual Arts Award, UK
- 2017 Evelyn Williams Drawing Award in association with the Jerwood Charitable Foundation  
Drawing Room Bursary Award, nominated by Sonia Boyce and Jonathan Watkins  
Artist in Residence, Palazzo Pisani a Santa Marina, Venice, Italy  
Nominated, Freelands Foundation Awards, UK
- 2016 Diaspora Platform, International Curators Forum, in partnership with University of the Arts London, UK
- 2008 The Triangle Trust International Residency, South Africa  
Ford Foundation, Grant for Residency at the Bag Factory Artist Studio, South Africa  
Sovereign European Art Prize, nominated by Judith King
- 2002 Collide Arts Programme, Birmingham City Council, UK  
Arts Council England, West Midlands, Creative Ambitions Award, UK
- 2001 Arts Council, West Midlands, Creative Ambitions Award, UK
- 2000 Millennium Awards, Birmingham, UK

### Books

- 2024 *Barbara Walker: Being Here*, texts by Mora J. Beauchamp Byrd, Eddie Chambers, Alice Correia, Leanne Green, Rianna Jade Parker, Poppy Bowers and Hannah Vollam. The Whitworth, UK  
ISBN 978-0-903261-83-8.
- 2021 *Barbara Walker*, texts by Paul Gilroy, Sarah Martin and Aicha Mehrez, interview with the artist by Courtney J. Martin.  
Turner Contemporary, UK  
ISBN 978-1-9996088-3-5.