
Cristea Roberts Gallery

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Artist Biography

Barbara Walker MBE (b. 1964)

Barbara Walker MBE is a British artist based in Birmingham in the UK. She studied Art and Design at the University of Central England Birmingham and completed post-graduate studies at Wolverhampton University. Her work is informed by the social, political and cultural realities that affect her life and the lives of those around her. Growing up in the Black community in Birmingham, her experiences have directly shaped a practice concerned with issues of class and power, gender, race, representation and belonging. Her figurative drawings and paintings tell contemporary stories hinged on historical circumstances, making them universally understood and reflecting a human perspective on the state of affairs in her native Britain and elsewhere. Walker was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 2019.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *People of Colour: Black Portraiture Now*, National Portrait Gallery, London, UK
- 2023 Solo exhibition, Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, UK
Sharjah Biennial 15, Sharjah Foundation, United Arab Emirates
- 2022 *Vanishing Point*, Cristea Roberts Gallery, London, UK
Broken Angel, Coventry Cathedral, Coventry, UK
Space Is A Place: From Painting to Performance, Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol, UK
- 2021 *Life Between Islands - Caribbean British Art 50s - Now*
Tate Britain, London, UK
- 2020 *Everyday Heroes*, Hayward Gallery, Southbank Centre, London, UK
Between The Sun and The Moon, Lahore Biennale 02, Pakistan
- 2019 *Open Your Eyes*, Art Exchange, Essex, UK
Place, Space and Who, Turner Contemporary, Margate, UK
Frederick Douglass: Embers of Freedom, SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah Georgia, USA
Protest and Remembrance, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
- 2018 *Vanishing Point*, Jerwood Gallery, Hastings, UK
Zeichen, MEWO Kunsthalle, Memmingen, Germany
A Slice Through The World: Contemporary Artist's Drawings, The Drawing Room, London and Modern Art Oxford, UK
Reformation, Guest Project, London, UK
The Gallery of Small Things, Dakar Biennale, Senegal, Africa
- 2017 *The Gallery of Small Things*, Cultural & Design Festival, Nigeria, Africa
Vanishing Point, Jerwood Gallery, Hastings, UK
Diaspora Pavilion, 57th Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
- 2016 *Shock and Awe*, mac Birmingham, UK
Jamaican Pulse: Art and Politics from Jamaica and the Diaspora, Royal West of England Academy, Bristol, UK
- 2015 *Sub Urban: New Drawings*, James Hockey Gallery, University of Creative Arts, Farnham, UK

- 2015 *One Day Something Happens: Paintings of People*, A Hayward Touring and Arts Council Collection exhibition touring to Leeds, Nottingham, Southport and Eastbourne, UK, and Drogheda, Ireland.
- 2014 *Pause*, C&C Gallery, London, UK
- 2013 *As Seen*, Tiwani Contemporary, London, UK
Here and Now, Wallner Gallery, Lakeside Arts Centre, Nottingham, UK
End of the Line, Paper Gallery, Manchester, UK
Luminous Language, Launch F18, New York, USA
- 2012 *Pursuit of the real*, Deptford x Fringe, London, UK
Bread and Roses, Fehily Contemporary Art Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2011 *Show and Tell*, The New Art Gallery Walsall, Walsall, UK
Mostyn Open 11, Llandudno, Wales, UK
- 2009 *Louder Than Words*, Vane Contemporary Art, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Rotate, Contemporary Art Society (with Vane Contemporary), London, UK
- 2008 *Fragments*, The Bag Factory Residency, Johannesburg, South Africa
Hawkins & Co, Contemporary Urban Centre, Liverpool, UK
Say it as it is, Signal Gallery, London, UK
- 2007 *Louder Than Words*, Midlands Art Centre, Birmingham, UK
- 2006 *Louder Than Words*, UNIT 2, London Metropolitan University, London, UK
Families, Oxford House Gallery, UK
- 2005 *Testimony*, Queens Hall Gallery, Hexham, Northumberland, UK and Suffolk College, Ipswich, UK
- 2003 *True Stories*, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Wolverhampton, UK
True Stories, Museu de Arte Contemporanea, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2002 *Private Face*, Midlands Art Centre, Birmingham, UK
Private Face, 198 Gallery, London, UK
- 2000 *Communication*, The Usher Gallery, Lincoln, UK
Black Artists Exhibition, Q-arts, Derby, UK

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- UK The Usher Gallery, Lincoln
Arts Council England, London
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham
Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol
Facebook, London
Guest Project Collections, London
Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry
New Walk Museum & Art Gallery, Leicester
Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester
Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Wolverhampton
- USA Yale Center for British Art, Connecticut