
Cristea Roberts Gallery

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

Artist Biography

Gillian Ayres (1930 - 2018)

Gillian Ayres was one of the leading British abstract painters of her generation. She studied at Camberwell College of Art (1946-1950), and was one of the first Young Contemporaries. She taught at St. Martin's College of Art and the Royal Academy of Art, and was made a Royal Academician in 1991. As well as the vibrant, heavily worked canvases Gillian Ayres is best known for, she was also a dedicated print maker. Gillian Ayres was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2011. In 2017 the National Museum Cardiff hosted a major survey of work she produced while living in Wales during the 1980's. In April the definitive monograph on Gillian Ayres was published, this is the first major publication on the artist's life and work in more than a decade and a half. Ayres died aged 88 in North Devon, England, on 10 April 2018.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Spotlight: Gillian Ayres*, Tate Britain, London, UK
I See Nature Like I See Paint, Mark Rothko Art Centre, Daugavpils, Latvia
Gillian Ayres: Song Beneath the Stars, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
- 2018 *Gillian Ayres*, PIFO Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2017 *Sailing Off the Edge*, China Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA), CHN
Gillian Ayres, Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens, Penzance
Gillian Ayres, National Museum Cardiff, Cardiff, Wales
Gillian Ayres: New Paintings and Woodcuts, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
- 2015 *Gillian Ayres: New Paintings and Works on Paper*, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
- 2014 *Gillian Ayres: New Works and Woodcuts*, Burton Art Gallery, Bideford, Devon, UK.
- 2012 *Gillian Ayres: Works on Paper 1990-2011*, touring exhibition; Victoria Art Gallery, Bath, Turnpike Gallery, Leigh, Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, Exeter, UK
Gillian Ayres: Paintings and Works on Paper 2010-2012, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
Gillian Ayres, Jerwood Gallery, Hastings, UK
- 2010 *Gillian Ayres* (Room 23), Tate Britain, London, UK
New Painting and Prints, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK
Gillian Ayres, (Room 23), Tate Britain, London, UK
Retrospective, John Moores Painting Prize Show, Seongnam Arts Centre, Seongnam, Korea
- 2009 *At the Edge: British Art 1950-2000*, Gallery Two, Three & Four, Rochdale, UK

- 2007 *New Paintings, Prints and Monoprints*, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
- 2006 *Passion for Paint*, National Gallery, London, UK (touring)
New and Recent Paintings, Hillsboro Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
How to Improve the World, Hayward Gallery, London, UK
- 2005 *At This Stage*, Southampton City Art Gallery, UK
- 2004 Royal West of England Academy, Bristol, UK
Surface Tensions, Norwich City Art Gallery, UK
- 2002 Eigse Carlow Arts Festival, Ireland
- 2001 *New Works*, Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
- 1999 *New Paintings*, Gimpel Fils, London, UK
Alan Cristea Gallery, London, UK
De La Warr Pavillion, Bexhill-on-Sea, UK
- 1997 Sackler Galleries, Royal Academy of Arts
- 1995 Solo Room, Tate Gallery, London, UK
- 1991 Solo tour of work shown at the Seventh Triennale, India
- 1989 Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol, UK
- 1983 Retrospective, Serpentine, Gallery, London, UK
- 1981 Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, UK
- 1978 Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK
- 1967 *British Painting: the New Generation*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 1965 Kasmin Gallery, London, UK
- 1964 Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol, UK
- 1962 *British Art*, touring exhibition, Denmark
British Painting, San Francisco Museum of art, Dallas, Museum of Art, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, USA
- 1956 Gallery One, London, UK

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- AU Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
- BR Museum of Modern Art, Brasilia
Olinda Museum, Sao Paulo
- IN British Council, New Delhi
- UK Arts Council of England
British Museum, London
Tate Gallery, London
The British Council Collection, London
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Brighton Museum & Art Gallery
Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds
Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool
- USA Museum of Modern Art, New York
Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, Connecticut