

Albert Irvin

1922 Born 21st August in London



Albert Irvin OBE RA was born in 1922 in London where he lived and worked all his life. In the early 1940's Irvin attended Northampton School of Art. His studies were interrupted when he was called up, serving as a navigator in the Royal Air Force during the war. After being discharged he enrolled at Goldsmiths College in London. Much later in 1962, Irvin returned to Goldsmiths where he taught for twenty years.

Irvin has exhibited extensively throughout Europe and in Australia and America.

His works are in many public collections including The Art Gallery of New South Wales in Sydney, The British Council, The Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Manchester City Art Gallery, Tate London and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

Significant Dates

- 1940 Northampton School of Art
- 1946-50 Goldsmiths' College School of Art, University of London
- 1962-83 Teaching at Goldsmiths' College School of Art, London
- 1968 Arts Council Award to visit USA
- 1975 Arts Council Major Award
- 1998 Elected Royal Academician
- 1999 Elected Honorary member of Royal West of England Academy
- 2012 Honorary Fellowship, Plymouth College of Art
- 2013 OBE award for services to the visual arts

Selected Solo Exhibitions since 1980

- 2018 Albert Irvin, The Late Works 2000-2014, Gimpel Fils, London
- 2015 *Albert Irvin RA OBE, Painting the Human Spirit*, Gimpel Fils, London, UK
Albert Irvin, Gouaches and Prints, University Gallery & Baring Wing, Northumbria University Gallery, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK
- 2013 *Albert Irvin, Crosstown*, Advanced Graphics, London, UK
- 2012 *Albert Irvin*, Borris House, Barrow River Arts Festival, Ireland
Albert Irvin: 90th Year Celebration Paintings and prints, Bohun Gallery
Albert Irvin at 90: a survey exhibition, Clifford Chance, London

3812 gallery

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- Fidelio*, Gimpel Fils, London
Royal Oak, Monoprints, Advanced Graphics London, London
- 2011 *Print Retrospective*, University Gallery and Baring Wing,
University of Northumbria, Newcastle
Inextinguishable, Gimpel Fils, London
Albert Irvin RA: From Holyrood to Stratford, Sir Hugh Casson Room, Royal Academy, London
- 2010 *New Work*, Gimpel Fils, London
Print Retrospective, Advanced Graphics London/ Kings Place, London
Tabard: Albert Irvin, Churchill College, Cambridge
- 2009 *Albert Irvin: A Retrospective*, University Gallery and Baring Wing, University of Northumbria,
Newcastle
Albert Irvin, Galerie Gimpel & Müller, Paris
- 2008 *Albert Irvin*, Manton Wing staircase display, Tate Britain, London
Albert Irvin, Peppercanister, Dublin
Recent Prints, Advanced Graphics London
Albert Irvin: A Retrospective, Kings Place Gallery
Albert Irvin: Six Paintings, Kings Place Foyer
- 2007-08 *Urban Journey*, Gimpel Fils, London
- 2006 *New Works*, Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin
- 2005/6 *New Editions and Monoprints*, Advanced Graphics, London
- 2004/5 *Midsummer*, Gimpel Fils, London
- 2003 *Paintings and Prints*, Storey Gallery, Lancaster
Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin
- 2002 *Four Score*, Gimpel Fils, London
Malerei, Galerie Stuhler, Berlin
- 2001 *Paintings & Prints 1991-2001*, West Cork Arts Centre, Skibbereen
- 2000 *Prints & Paintings 1980-2000*, Advanced Graphics, London
- 1999 Royal West of England Academy, Bristol
Orion Gallery, Brussels
- 1998 Abbaye Saint-André, Centre d'art contemporain, Meymac
Dean Clough Gallery, Halifax
Works on paper - touring German museums
Gimpel Fils, London, celebrating the launch of '*Albert Irvin - Life to Painting*', monograph, pub.
Lund Humphries, London.
- 1997 Galerie Stühler, Berlin
Galerie Wassermann, Berlin
- 1996/7 Gimpel Fils, London
- 1996 Millfield School, Somerset
Oriental Theatre, Clwyd
- 1995 Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin
- 1994 Powell Moya Partnership, London
Gimpel Fils, London
Wasserman Galerie, Munich
Chapter Gallery, Cardiff
Woodlands Art Gallery
- 1993 Campo Vlaamse Kaai, Antwerp
Bodilly Gallery, Cambridge
Flowers Graphics - Prints
Design for Diversions Dance Company
- 1992 Galeria Punto, Valencia
Chelmsford Cathedral Festival
Oxford Gallery
Galerie Klaus Lupke, Frankfurt
Gimpel Fils, London
Wolf At The Door, Penzance

- 1991 Playhouse Gallery, Harlow
Peter Scott Gallery, Lancaster University
Flowers East, London - Prints
- 1990 Serpentine Gallery, London
Gimpel Fils, London
Spacex Gallery, Exeter
Oriol and Chapter Galleries, Cardiff
Castlefield Gallery, Manchester
Gallery Monochrome, Brussels
- 1989 Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh
Carine Campo Gallery, Antwerp
- 1988 Gimpel & Weitzenhoffer Gallery, New York
- 1987 Carine Campo Gallery, Antwerp
- 1986 Gimpel Fils, London
Hendriks Gallery, Dublin
- 1985 Coventry Gallery, Sydney
Butler Gallery, Kilkenny Castle, Kilkenny
Arcade Gallery, Harrogate
- 1984 Gimpel Fils, London
Demarcation, Edinburgh Festival
Jersey Arts Council Gallery
- 1983 Third Eye Centre Gallery, Glasgow
Aberdeen Art Gallery
Ikon Gallery, Birmingham
- 1982 Gimpel Fils, London
Goldsmiths College Gallery, London
- 1981 Manchester Polytechnic Gallery
- 1980 Acme Gallery, London
Bede Gallery, Jarrow

Selected Group Shows since 1980

- 2017 *MONO - An Exhibition of Unique Prints*, Flowers Gallery, London, UK
Modern & Contemporary Prints, The Art Stable, UK
Collector's Choice, Gimpel Fils, London, UK
- 2013 *Royal Academy Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
Alan Davie RA and Albert Irvin RA, Gimpel Fils, London
London Group Centenary Exhibition, Pitzhanger Manor Gallery & House, London
British Prints, Gimpel Fils, London
The Horse that has Visions of Immortality, Gimpel Fils, London
- 2012 *Summer Exhibition*, Kings Space Gallery, London
Barrow River Arts Festival, Borris House, Ireland
Encounter: The Royal Academy in Asia, Singapore
Encounter: The Royal Academy in The Middle East, Doha
- 2011 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
- 2010 *Come to Richmond*, The Richmond Hill Gallery, Surrey
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London
Colour is the Keyboard, Gimpel Fils, London
- 2009 *Open Exhibition*, The London Group, London
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London
- 2008 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
The Colour Show, Hilton Young Fine Art, Penzance
- 2007 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
- 2006 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London

3812 gallery

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- Summer Exhibition*, Lemon Street Gallery, Cornwall
Realites Nouvelles, Paris
Painting by Other Means: Non-figurative works from the collection of the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Oriol Mostyn Gallery, Wales
- 2005 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
1979 Bloomberg SPACE, London
The Discerning Eye, Mall Galleries, London
- 2004 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
174th RHA Annual Exhibition, RHA Gallagher Gallery, Dublin
Tracing the Land, Gimpel Fils, London
- 2003 *The London Group*, Peter Clossick at The Gallery in Cork Street
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London
Cabinet Paintings, Compass Gallery, Glasgow
- 2001/2 *Square Root*, Sarah Myerscough Gallery, London
- 2001 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
Selection from Collection of Royal Bank of Scotland, City Art Gallery, Edinburgh
Works on Paper, Galerie Stuhler, Berlin
Zen and the Art of Cities, Rivington Gallery, London
Create Quarters, Museum of London
RWA, Bristol
RHA, Dublin
The London Group', Walk Gallery, London
- 2000 *Small is Beautiful*, Flowers East, London
Local Colour, Bury St. Edmunds Gallery
City Art Gallery, London
Summer Prospects, Orion Gallery, Ostend
5 British Painters, Flowers West, Los Angeles
Galerie Stuhler, Berlin
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London
The Discerning Eye, Mall Galleries, London
Advanced Graphics at Original Print Gallery, Dublin
- 1999 *The Discerning Eye*, Mall Galleries, London
Kunst Schmuck Kunst, Galerie Stuhler, Berlin
Compas Gallery, Glasgow
21, Spacex Gallery, Exeter
Small is Beautiful, Flowers West, Los Angeles
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London
- 1998 *The Discerning Eye*, Mall Galleries, London
25 Years of the Visual Arts, Bulter Gallery, Kilkenny
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London
- 1997 *The Subjects of Art*, Nat West Group Art Collection
- 1996 *Small is Beautiful*, Flowers East, London
- 1995 *Cabinet Art*, Jason and Rhodes, London
10 Years in Galerie Im Griechenbeisl, Vienna
British Abstract Painting, Atkinson, Millfield, Somerset
- 1994 *Here and Now*, Serpentine Gallery, London
Painters and Prints, Curwen Gallery, London
Castlefield 10th Anniversary, Castlefield Gallery and Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester
Contemporary Prints, Flowers Graphics
British Abstract Painting, Flowers East, London
Critics Choice, Clare Henry, NS Gallery, Glasgow
12 Contemporary British Printmakers, Karelian Republic Art Museum, Russia
- 1993 CCA Galleries, London
Flowers East Gallery, London
Egyptian International Print Triennale
The Byker Art Show, Newcastle
- 1992 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition (Invited artist), 1993, 1994
- 1995 Whitechapel Open (Invited artist)
- 1991-3 Courtauld Institute Loan Collection

- 1991: Bradford Print Biennale at Royal College of Art, London
Gimpel Fils - Bath Festival (with Alan Davie)
Downeen Collection, Co. Cork, Ireland
Guinness Hop Store, Dublin - European large format print-making
Goldsmiths' College, University of London, Centenary Exhibition (Selector)
Peter Stuyvesant Collection
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
- 1990 *Great British Art Show*, McLellan Galleries, Glasgow
- 1989 International Print Biennale, Ljubljana
The Experience of Painting, Laing Gallery, Newcastle, touring
- 1988 *Beattie, Hoyland, Irvin*, Sunderland
Presence of Painting, Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield, touring Carine Campo Gallery, Antwerp
European Biennale Graphic Art, Baden-Baden
- 1987 Royal Academy (prizewinner), and in 1988, 1989 [prizewinner], 1990 and 1991
- 1986 Bradford Print Biennale (prizewinner) and in 1990
- 1985 *Home and Abroad*, Serpentine Gallery
- 1984 ROSC '84, Dublin
- 1983 *Contemporary British Painters*, Madrid
- 1982 Hayward Annual
- 1980 Hayward Annual, Hayward Gallery, London
John Moores Liverpool, and in 1982 (prizewinner) 1987, 1989 and 1991, 1995

Selected Bibliography

- 2013 Officers of the Order of the British Empire (OBE), *The Art Newspaper*, July/August
Stewart Geddes Interviews Bert Irvin For Turps Banana, Turps Banana, Issue 13
- 2012 Market News, *The Daily Telegraph*, July
- 2010 The Indefatigable Albert Irvin, *Kings Place*, September-December
Mary Rose Beaumont, *Albert Irvin: The Complete Prints*
High Art With A Smile, *The Cambridge Student*, January
- 2009 Dale Atkinson / Albert Irvin, *The Guardian Guide*, 18-24 April
Albert Irvin; A Retrospective, *The Art Newspaper*, No.201, April
- 2008/09 Dr Alice Correia: Expressions of Hope (catalogue essay). *Albert Irvin: A Retrospective*, Kings Place Gallery, London and University Gallery, Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne,
Michael Glover: A painter who lets the sun shine into the city, (review of Albert Irvin; a retrospective, Kings Place Gallery, London). *The Independent*, December
Andrew Lambirth: Christmas round-up: Albert Irvin at Kings Place, *The Spectator*, 20-27 December
- 2008 *Albert Irvin: A Retrospective*, ex cat. (introduction by Mara-Helen Wood. Kings Place Gallery, London and University Gallery, Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne,
- 2007 *Urban Journey*, ex cat. Gimpel Fils, London
Bill Woodrow RA (ed.): *Royal Academy Illustrated 2007*, The Royal Academy of Arts, London, reproduction on p.38
- 2005 Andrew Lambirth: Look back with pleasure: 1979; Bloomberg Space, *The Spectator*, 27 August
- 2004 Allen Jones RA, with David Hockney RA (eds.): *Royal Academy Illustrated 2004*, The Royal Academy of Arts, London, reproduction on p.77
- 2003 Peter Chapman: Albert Irvin at the Peter Scott Gallery, Lancaster University. *The Independent*, January
Albert Irvin, ex cat. (including essay from *Four Score* by Aidan Dunne). Peppercanister Gallery, Dublin, October
Ciara Ferguson: A colourful character whose work explodes in a celebration of life, *The Sunday Independent (Ireland)*, October
- 2002 *Four Score*, ex cat. (essay by Aidan Dunne). Gimpel Fils, London, March/April
Judith Bumpus: Vibrant Vision. *RA Magazine*, Spring

- Patricia Wynn Davies: Albert Irvin: Artist at Work. *The Daily Telegraph*, April
Judith Bumpus: Albert Irvin, Painter. *The Art Newspaper*, May
- 2001 *Albert Irvin Paintings and Prints 1991 - 2001*, ex cat. (introduction by C  il  n Murray), including Q&A with artist, West Cork Arts Centre, Skibbereen, Ireland
Aidan Dunne: Turning his hand to the light. *The Irish Times*. August
- 2000 Virginia Boston: Movement Through Space. *Artists & Illustrators*, December
1999 Bill Hare: Albert Irvin - life to painting. *Contemporary Visual Arts*, issue 23
William Packer: Why age does not wither them. *Financial Times*, London, January
Frans Boenders: Familiar and Yet so Strange, (catalogue essay). Orion Art Gallery, Brussels
- 1998 *Albert Irvin*, ex cat. (introduction by Paul Moorhouse), Centre d'art contemporain, Meymac, France, July/October
Gaya Goldcymer-Taieb: Albert Irvin: Arpenteur du Sensible, (catalogue essay). *Albert Irvin*, Centre d'art contemporain, Meymac, France
Fran  oise-Claire Prodhon: Albert Irvin: Fragments d'une Oeuvre, (catalogue essay). *Albert Irvin*, Centre d'art contemporain, Meymac, France
Richard Milner: City People. *Evening Standard*, December
Paul Moorhouse: Albert Irvin - life to painting. Monograph, published by Lund Humphries, London
- 1996 *Ely*, ex cat. (introduction by Sacha Craddock), Gimpel Fils, London, November
- 1995 Paul Moorhouse: Albert Irvin's Paintings and the Methods of Music, (catalogue essay). *Albert Irvin: Painting and Prints 1980-1995*, Gallagher Gallery, Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, November/December
- 1994 *Albert Irvin*, ex cat. (introduction by A S Byatt). Gimpel Fils, London
- 1993 An Exuberance of Gesture (interview). *Storming Heaven, Stride*, no.35
- 1992 *Three Score and Ten*, ex cat. Gimpel Fils, London, November
Bill Hare: Don't Stop the Carnival - Albert Irvin at 70. *Contemporary Art*, Vol.1, No.2, Winter
- 1991 David Lillington: Visible Energy. *Frieze* (pilot issue)
- 1989 Interview with Mel Gooding. *The Experience of Painting*, ex cat. Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne (touring), January/July
Albert Irvin Paintings 1960 -1989, ex cat. (Foreword by Andrew Forge). Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh and Serpentine Gallery, London (touring) 1989/90
Paul Moorhouse: Strategy and Ecstasy: The Art of Albert Irvin, (catalogue essay). *Albert Irvin Paintings 1960 -1989*, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh and Serpentine Gallery, London (touring)
Alexander Moffat: Albert Irvin, (catalogue essay). *Albert Irvin Paintings 1960 -1989*, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh and Serpentine Gallery, London (touring)
- 1988 *Freeing the Spirit*, ex cat. (preface by Albert Irvin). Crawford Centre for the Arts, St Andrews and Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries.
- 1986 Interview with Mike Von Joel. *Artline*, February
Albert Irvin, ex cat. (introduction by Michael Tooby). Gimpel Fils, London and Hendriks Gallery, Dublin, April/September
Paul Moorhouse. *Artscribe International*, September/October
- 1985 Terence Maloon. *Sydney Morning Herald*, March 23
Paul Moorhouse. *Tate Gallery Catalogue of Acquisitions 1982-84*
Interview with Peter Hill, ex cat. Butler Gallery, Kilkenny Castle, Kilkenny, August
Albert Irvin Paintings 1981-85, ex cat. (introduction by William Packer). Coventry Gallery, Sydney
- 1984 ROSC '84, ex cat (artist's statement), Dublin
- 1983 *Albert Irvin '77-'83*, ex cat. (introduction by Mary Rose Beaumont). Third Eye Centre, Glasgow, (touring Aberdeen Art Gallery and Ikon Gallery, Birmingham), April
Alexander Moffat: A Fine Romance (catalogue essay). *Albert Irvin '77-'83*, Third Eye Centre, Glasgow (touring), April
Peter Hill. *Art Monthly*, June
William Packer. *Mercury*, Winter
- 1982 *Albert Irvin*, ex cat. (introduction by Caryn Faure Walker). Gimpel Fils, London, and Goldsmiths College Gallery, University of London, September
Margaret Garlake. *Art Monthly*, October
- 1980 *Albert Irvin Paintings 1979-80*, ex cat. (introduction by Tim Hilton). Acme Gallery, London, April
Ian Jeffrey: Albert Irvin. *Art Monthly*, May
Conversation with Jon Thompson. *Aspects No. 13*, Winter

3812 gallery

London | Hong Kong

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- 1979 Malcolm Quantrill: Aspects of environment: the work of Albert Irvin and Michael McKinnon'. *Art International*, May
- 1976 Interview with Stephen Carter. *Artscribe No.1*. January
Albert Irvin, ex cat. (Introduction by Cordelia Oliver). New 57 Gallery, Edinburgh and Aberdeen Art G Gallery, May/June
- 1974 *Albert Irvin Werke 1968-73, ex cat.* (Introduction by Hermann Wiesler). Städtische Kunstsammlungen, Ludwigshafen, July
One Magazine, (artist's statement). July
- 1971 Bernard Denvir: London Letter. *Art International*, March
Andrew Forge: Albert Irvin. *Studio International*, March

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Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Arts Council of Great Britain
Birmingham City Art Gallery
Blackburn Art Gallery
British Council
Huddersfield Art Gallery
Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin
Manchester City Art Gallery
Mappin Gallery, Sheffield
Neue Gallerie der Stadt Linz, Austria
New England Regional Art Gallery, NSW, Australia
Pensecola Museum, Florida
Schindler Collection, Zurich
Städtische Kunstsammlungen, Ludwigshafen, Germany
Stoke City Art Gallery
Stuyvesant Collection, Holland
Tate Gallery, London
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Wolverhampton Art Gallery