

EDUCATION

Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT | 2009

M.F.A., Painting and Printmaking

Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD | 2007

B.F.A., Painting Major, Art History Minor

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023

Reaching for Something High | CHART Gallery, NY, New York

L'Art dans les Chapelles | Chapelle Saint-Tugdual, Quistinic, Bretagne, France

2022

The Depth Of Thoughts | Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France

Stranger Days | Maus Contemporary Gallery, Birmingham, AL

2020

Strangers: New Abstractions by Leslie Smith III | Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France

We Still Play With Blocks: Paintings From 2014 -17 | Hawthorne Contemporary, Milwaukee, WI

2017

Redaction | 'sindikit | project, Baltimore, MD

Locus of Control | Maus Contemporary Gallery, Birmingham, AL

2016

Time Further Out | Ponce Robles Gallery, Madrid, Spain

2015

Vivir en la tierra plana (Living In The Flat Land) | Galleria Ponce+Robles, Madrid, Spain

Volta 11 International Art Fair, Basel, Switzerland

2014

Vacation | DeLuce Gallery Northwest Missouri State University Olive, Maryville, MO

As I Remembered | Beta Pictoris Gallery / Maus Contemporary Birmingham, AL

Opposing Dysfunction | Wriston Art Galleries. Lawrence University, Appleton, WI

2013

I Dream Too Much | Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI

2012

Leslie Smith III: Representation, Abstraction, Oscillation | Dean Jensen Gallery, Milwaukee, WI

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024

Moreover: 50 Paintings | Green Gallery, Milwaukee, WI, curated by Michelle Grabner

2023

DRAWING NOW Paris | Featured Artist with Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France

2022

OFFSIGHT | James Fuentes Gallery, New York, NY  
Anyone Can Move a Mountain | Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, AL  
7-5 Exhibition | Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais, MN  
Positions Berlin Art Fair | w/Maus Contemporary Gallery, Berlin, Germany

2021

Darker Than Blue | Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, AL

2020

Night in America | Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, AL

2019

Expo Chicago's EXPOSURE | Curated by Naima Keith | Chicago, IL  
Positions Berlin Art Fair | w/Maus Contemporary Gallery, Berlin, Germany  
Paper Position Frankfurt | w/Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt Germany  
tel un geste captivant la lumière | Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France  
Aftereffect: O'Keeffe and Contemporary Art | Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, Denver, CO  
Paper Selections | Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt, Germany  
DRAWING NOW Paris | Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France

2018

Change Agent | Patrick Mikhail Gallery, Montreal, Canada  
FOCUS III: I'll see it When I believe it, Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts Museum, Birmingham, AL  
Pulse Contemporary Art Fair Miami Beach | w/Maus Contemporary Gallery, Miami, FL

2017

Pulse Contemporary Art Fair Miami Beach | w/Maus Contemporary Gallery, Miami, FL  
Minimal Gestures | w/Galerie Heike Strelow, Frankfurt, Germany  
Paper Positions Munich | w/Maus Contemporary Gallery, Munich, Germany  
Echo Spectrum | Trestle Contemporary Art Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
DRAWING NOW Paris | Travis Somerville, Suso Fandiño, Catherine Tafur, Leslie Smith III, Yoshishige Furukawa  
w/Maus Contemporary Gallery, Paris, France

2016

Black Paintings | Heike Strelow, Frankfurt, Germany  
Volta NY International Art Fair | w/Beta Pictoris Gallery, New York, NY  
ARCO Madrid International Contemporary Art Fair | w/Ponce Robles Gallery, Madrid, Spain

Losing my Edge: New Perspectives in Abstract Figurative Painting | Bloch Hall Gallery, University of Montevallo, Birmingham, AL

2014

Volta 10 Art Fair | w/Beta Pictoris Gallery, Basel, Switzerland  
Pulse New York Contemporary Art Fair, | w/Beta Pictoris Gallery New York, NY  
Monochromatic | Triumph & Disaster, Montgomery, AL  
Parallax Futured: Transtemporal Subjectivities | Skirball Museum, Cincinnati, OH  
Black In The Abstract, Part II: Hard Edges/Soft Curves, 65th Anniversary, with curatorial contributions by Valerie Cassel Oliver | Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, TX

2013

Big Bangs/Small Bucks Redux | Dean Jensen Gallery, Milwaukee, WI  
Beta Pictoris Gallery at Texas Contemporary Art Fair | Houston, TX  
Wisconsin 30 | Milwaukee Museum of Art, Milwaukee, WI

*Pulp 3 ...works on paper* | Beta Pictoris Gallery, Birmingham, AL  
ARTPADSF | Art fair at the Phoenix Hotel in San Francisco, CA

2012

25 for 25 | Dean Jensen Gallery, Milwaukee, WI  
Voices of Home | Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
Voices of Home | Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, NY

2011

Intersecting Cultures/Virtual Worlds | Underground Gallery at the Betsy, Miami, FL  
Two Men 2011: Tim Roseborough & Leslie Smith, III | Strivers Gardens Gallery, New York, NY

2010

Balls | Obsidian Arts, Minneapolis, MN  
In/Ex | Gallery M, New York, NY  
Joel Dean, Fabienne Lasserre, Leslie Smith III | Jolie Laide Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2009

Emerge CT: 2009 MFA Graduates from UConn, Western Connecticut State and Yale, Stamford, CT  
Yale University School of Art M.F.A. Thesis Show, New Haven, CT

2008

Verge | Galapagos Art Space, New York, NY

2007

Visions of Conflict: Rendering Dissent | Gormley gallery College of Notre Dame, Baltimore, MD  
MAEF Juried Exhibition | Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD  
Maryland Institute College of Art B.F.A. Thesis Show, Baltimore, MD

2006

Taylor Companies Retrospective Show | Taylor Companies, Washington DC

#### COLLECTIONS

High Museum of Art | Atlanta, GA  
Birmingham Museum of Art | Birmingham, AL  
FRAC Auvergne | Clermont-Ferrand, France.  
Virginia Museum of Fine Art | Richmond, VA  
Paul R. Jones Museum | Tuscaloosa, AL  
Abrams-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts | Birmingham, AL

#### HONORS & AWARDS

Joan Mitchell Foundation Fellow | 2022  
Vilas Early-Career Investigator Award | 2021  
Sustainable Arts Foundation Awardee | 2020  
Emily Mead Baldwin Award in the Creative Arts | 2020  
Nellie McKay Fellowship | 2014  
American Academy in Rome, Al Held Affiliate Fellowship | Rome Italy | 2009  
Best in show, Maryland Artist Equity Foundation Juried Exhibition | Baltimore Museum of Art | 2007  
Freda Eichelberger Scholarship | 2006 -2007  
Thailheimer Scholarship | 2003 – 2007  
ARTS Scholarship, MICA | 2003 – 2007  
National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts Finalist and Scholarship recipient | 2003

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Salas, Rafael Fransisco "Abstracting Lived Experiences: A review of Leslie Smith III at Hawthorn Contemporary" *New City Art: Visual Art Culture of Chicago and Beyond*, January, 2021

<https://art.newcity.com/2021/01/08/abstractinglived-experience-a-review-of-leslie-smith-iii-at-hawthorn-contemporary/>

McAdams, Shane "Leslie Smith III at Hawthorn Contemporary: Painting or Sculpture?" *Shepherd Express*, October 2020 <https://shepherdexpress.com/arts-and-entertainment/visual-art/leslie-smith-iii-at-hawthorn-contemporarypaintings-or-sculp/>

Angie Kordic "At EXPO Chicago 2019, An Abstract Dialog Hosted by Maus Contemporary That Shouldn't Be Missed" *Widewalls* Accessed September, 2019. <https://www.widewalls.ch/maus-contemporary-expo-chicago-2019-lesliesmith-iii-interview/>

"FOCUS III: I'll see it when I believe it," Exhibition Catalog, Abrams-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts Museum, June 2018. pp. 70-72

"Echo Spectrum," Exhibition Catalog, Trestle Contemporary Art Gallery, March 2017. pp. 43 - 47

"Leslie Smith III. Left to Think Alone," Artist Monograph, Maus Contemporary Gallery: June 2017

Gleeson, Bridget "Talking With American Painter Leslie Smith III About Abstraction, Anguish, and Architecture" *Artsy* Accessed January, 2017. <https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-talking-american-painter-leslie-smith-iiiabstraction-anguish-architecture>

Gonzalez Panizo, Javier "Pintura y Tiempo: Abstracción Post-Pictórica" *Zona Crítica* Accessed October 2016. <http://exit-express.com/pintura-y-tiempo-abstraccion-post-pictorica/>

Butler, Sharron "Interview: Leslie Smith III in Madison, Wisconsin" *Two coats of Paint* Accessed February, 2016. <http://www.twocoatsofpaint.com/2016/02/interview-leslie-smith-iii-in-madison.html>

"Living in The Flat Land" *Revista de Arte Contemporaneo Madrid Art Process* Accessed February 2015. <http://www.madridartprocess.com/agenda-cultural-madrid/item/1582-living-in-the-flat-land.html>

Gonzalez Panizo, Javier "Leslie Smith III: Paint on The Surface" *Blogearte – Crítica De Arte* Accessed February 2015. <http://www.blogearte.com/2015/02/leslie-smith-iii-pintura-en-la.html>

"What's in an art Gallery? I dare to ask." *INVESTIGART* Accessed January, 2015 <https://investigart.wordpress.com/2015/01/29/artistas-en-el-escaparate-nos-vamos-de-galerias/>

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston: Valerie Cassel Oliver, "Reverb" *Out Side The Lines* exhibition catalogue December 2014 pp. 143-147 Images 172-173

Callaloo Art & Culture in The African Diaspora. October 2014. Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press. Issue 4 Vol. 37, pp. 867-869

Caroline Taylor "Monochromatic" *Made*, Issue 12, (April 2014): 8

Walter Lewellyn "Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood" *Weld For Birmingham*, Accessed March 13, 2014. <http://weldbham.com/blog/2014/03/13/dont-let-me-be-misunderstood/>

Steinhoff, Jessica "Leslie Smith III's Paintings Explore Trauma Through Abstraction at MMoCA" *Isthmus The Daily Page*, Accessed June, 2013. <http://www.thedailypage.com/daily/article.php?article=40122>

Leah Kolb "Paintings in Conflict Leslie Smith's Contemporary Abstractions" *I Dream Too Much* exhibition catalogue, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art June 7, 2013

Katherine Murrell "Representation, Abstraction, Oscillation" Exhibition catalogue  
Dean Jensen Gallery July 27, 2012

Erica Agyeman "The Medium of The Message" *International Review of African American Art*, Issue 23.4, (December 2011): 35-38

Glen McNatt "Saying Their Piece About Fighters, War" *Baltimore Sun*, Accessed July, 2007.  
[http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2007-07-25/features/0707250164\\_1\\_dame-of-maryland-college-of-notre-notredame](http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2007-07-25/features/0707250164_1_dame-of-maryland-college-of-notre-notredame)

#### PUBLISHED TEXT

Smith III, Leslie "Surface & Medium, The Quiet Part Out Load." *Thornton Dial: I, Too, Am Alabama*, edited by Paul Barrett and Rebecca Dobrinski, University of Alabama at Birmingham Press, 2022, p.87-89

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI 2023 – Present  
Vice President, Board of Trustee

Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI 2016 – 2020  
Vice President, Board of Trustee

Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI 2014 - 2016  
Trustee Board Member

Chart Gallery, NY, New York | 2023 - Present  
Galerie Isabelle Gounod, Paris, France | 2019 - Present  
Patrick Mikhail Gallery, Montreal, Canada | 2018 - 2022  
Heike Strelow, Frankfurt, Germany | 2016 - 2022  
Gallery Ponce + Robles, Madrid Spain | 2014 -2016  
Maus Contemporary Gallery, Birmingham, AL | 2013-Present

#### APPOINTMENTS

University Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI | 2022 - Present  
Full Professor Drawing and Painting  
University Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI | 2017 - Present  
Associate Professor Drawing and Painting  
University Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI | 2011 - 2017  
Assistant Professor Drawing and Painting  
University Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI | 2010 - 2011  
Senior Lecture,  
University of Hartford, Hartford, CT | 2009 - 2010  
Adjunct Professor,

## LECTURES & VISITS

The University of California Santa Barbra | Santa Barbara, CA | 2024

Sanford University | Birmingham, AL | 2022

Ohio State University | Columbus, OH | 2022

Massachusetts College of Art and Design | Boston, MA | 2019

Visiting Artist: Lecture and Studio Visits

Peninsula School of Art | Fish Creek, WI | 2019 & 2018

*Contemporary Themes in Abstraction* Presentation and Workshop

*The Look of THINGS*, Curators Office, Washington, DC | 2017

Panelist

American University Department of Art | Washington DC | 2016

*Kinetic: Conversations in Contemporary Arts*

*Featuring Leslie Smith III and Rushern Baker IV*

Northwest Missouri State University | Maryville, MO | 2014

Visiting Artist: Lecture and Studio Visits

UW Milwaukee Peck School of Art | Milwaukee, WI | 2014

Visiting Artist: Lecture and Studio Visits

University of Iowa School of Art & Art History, Iowa City, IA | 2014

Visiting Artist: Lecture

*I Dream Too Much* Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI | 2013

Gallery talks and Docent talk

Marie Walsh Sharp Art Foundation Summer Session III, Colorado Spring, CO | 2013

Lecture & Painting Seminar instructor

*Voices of Home* Panel Discussion, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, NY | 2012

Panel Discussion moderated by former MoCODA curator Kalia Brooks

Strivers Gardens Gallery, New York, NY | 2011

Gallery Talk & Panel Discussion *Contemporary African American Art*

Dreyfoos School of the Arts, West Palm Beach, FL | 2011

Visiting Artist: Lecture and painting, printmaking workshop

Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD | 2010

Visiting Artist: Lecture and Undergraduate Thesis Studio Visits