

Sheila Schwid
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Artist's background

I was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1932.

I have been painting since I can remember. Growing up in Omaha, I studied with the local artists, Bill Hammon, Milton Wolsky, Frank Sapousek, John and Hettie-Marie Andrews and others. From these wonderful mentors I learned the basics of life drawing, landscape and still life.

After completing my BA at Omaha U., I studied at the Art Center School in Los Angeles. Later I came to New York just in time to join in the excitement of the 10th Street Galleries where I showed in a few group shows. I also participated in the Happenings of Red Grooms.

Shows

10th Street Galleries, group shows, 1959-1960

Antioch College, solo sculpture show, 1963

"Women Choose Women," New York Cultural Center, drawing in plaster, 1973

"Westbeth Women" Westbeth Gallery, paintings, 1973

Greenwich Library, Greenwich, Connecticut, solo, drawings in plaster, 1973

A.C.R. Gallery, group show, drawing in plaster, 1974

Bienville Gallery, Seven Women Show, which I curated, paintings, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1974

"Artists as Filmmakers," animated films, A.I.R. Gallery, 1984

"A Show of Animated Films," Provincetown Art Association, Provincetown, Massachusetts, 1984

The annual Holiday Shows at Westbeth Gallery

Four Person Show, Westbeth Gallery, which I curated, 1998

"Generations Show," Westbeth Gallery, group show, included music, dance, literary arts, film, drama, which I curated, 2001

Solo show, Westbeth Gallery, 2005

The annual Summerlight Shows, Westbeth Gallery, some of which I curated.

Reviews

"Women Choose Women," Roslyn Drexler, NY Times, 1973. "there was a lovely plaster Paris bas relief of a male and a female nude by Sheila Schwid called "Love in the Morning" [happy thought]."

"Westbeth Women," Village Voice, Ms. Schwid's paintings show what it must be like to live in a salad." Actually, it was appropriate.

Collections

Rose Alpert, Shari Blau, Bill & Eileen Bowser, Irving Centor, Miriam Chaikin, Pritch Clapham, Jamie Corello, Jack Davidson, Judite dos Santos, Helen Dubin, Valerie Falk, Gwen & Moses Gunn, Joan Harris, Margaret Kemmeter, Frank Kern, Sylvia Borget & Gene Koretz, Rachael & Michael Kosch, Tony & Achsah Krugman, Alvin & Sharon Milder, Joshua & Angela Milder, Rifka Milder, Horace Richter, Catia & Don Rogosin, Jane Sarzin, Steve & Honor Schwid, Milan Segall, Adriana & Pablo Zinger,

Artist's Statement

First I work from nature. These works are sometimes complete in themselves. I work for compositions and color that show us the scene and the feeling of the moment.

Then I take my work inside to my studio to go farther into the world of paint as inspired by nature. Colors, shapes, forms, line, and placement are the tools of modern art. This internal world is well worth exploring. Thank you camera. Now we can jump back to the world of spirit and symbolism and forward to, who knows what, new ways of seeing and creating.

But I take my original work from nature seriously. It keeps me from making arbitrary decisions. It reminds me of the original excitement that caused me to paint this painting, and keeps me in the agony of solving the problem, "how do I show them what I saw and felt."