

H O O K S – E P S T E I N G A L L E R I E S

2631 Colquitt Houston, TX 77098 713.522.0718

KERMIT OLIVER

BORN

1943 August 14, Refugio, TX

EDUCATION

1967 Texas Southern University, Houston
Composite Degree/Bachelor of Science-BFA/Art Education
Recipient of Jesse Jones Art Scholarship
1966 Rice University, Summer Program
Studied with Elaine de Kooning

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Kermit Oliver & Hermès: Storytelling on Silk & Canvas*, The Bryan Museum, Galveston, TX
2023 *Hermès in the Heart of Texas: The Art of Kermit Oliver*, Art Center Waco, Waco, TX
2022 *Tales of the Soul*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston, TX
2021 *Kermit Oliver: New Narratives, New Beginnings*, Art Center Waco, Waco, TX
2018 Kermit Oliver, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
2016 Kermit Oliver, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
Kermit Oliver: The Mythic and The Mystic, The Nave Museum, Victoria, TX
2014 Kermit Oliver, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
Kermit Oliver: Paintings and Hermes Scarves, Martin Museum of Art, Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center, Baylor University, Waco, TX
2013 *Tracing Our Pilgrimage*, Art League Houston
2012 Kermit Oliver, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
2010 Kermit Oliver, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
2008 *Then and Now: The World of Kermit Oliver*, The Beeville Art Museum, Beeville, TX
Kermit Oliver, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
2006 Katie and Kermit Oliver, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
2005 *Counterpoint: Kermit and Katie Oliver*, Artists. Texas Southern University, Houston
2005 *Notes from a Child's Odyssey: The Art of Kermit Oliver*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Analects, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
2003 *Kermit Oliver*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
2001 *The Distance to Here*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
1999 *Palimpsest*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS (CON'T.)

- 1997 *Kermit Oliver: Painting, "Texas Realists: Contemporary Artists Exhibition Series"*, Museum of the Southwest, Midland, TX
Kermit Oliver, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 1995 *Book of Pages*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 1993 *In the Garden*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
Longview Museum and Arts Center, Longview, TX
- 1991 *Kermit Oliver*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 1990 *Hand-Colored Prints*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston and The Art Center, Waco, TX
- 1989–90 *Kermit Oliver: Current Allegories*, Art Museum of Southeast TX, Beaumont, traveled to The Art Center, Waco
- 1989 *Kermit Oliver: New Works*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
Kermit Oliver: Contemporary Allegories of the Mythical and the Spiritual, Laguna Gloria Art Museum, Austin
- 1987 *Kermit Oliver: Works on Paper*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 1979 2719 Gallery, Houston
- 1971-83 DuBose Galleries, Houston
- 1970 Courtney Gallery, Houston

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Target Texas: Studio Practice*, Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX
- 2023 *Witness: Black Artists in Texas, Then and Now*, The Grace Museum, Abilene, TX
- 2016 Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture, Washington, DC
- 2014 *Texas Draws*, Russell Hill Rogers Galleries, The Southwest School of Art, San Antonio, TX
- 2011 *Other Nations*, Williams Tower, Houston
- 2009 *Oliver Retrospective featuring works by Kermit, Katie and Khristian Oliver*, The Art Center of Waco, Waco, TX
Masterworks, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 2008 *The Art of Politics*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 2007 *31: Thirty-one artists. Thirty-one works.*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 2004 *African-American Art from the MFAH Collection*, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
- 2003 *A Panoramic View*, University Museum, Texas Southern University, Houston
Miniatures, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
For the Birds, Galveston Arts Center, Galveston, TX
- 2002 *Round I*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 2001 *Beau Monde: Toward a Redeemed Cosmopolitanism*, SITE Santa Fe Fourth International Biennial, Santa Fe, NM. Dave Hickey, Curator
The Box, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 2000 *Miniatures*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 1997 *Classically Inspired*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 1996 *Intimate*, Barbara Davis Gallery, Pennzoil Gallery, Houston
New Beginnings, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
Five, Waco Creative Art Center, Inc., Waco, TX

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS (CON'T)

- 1995 *Texas Myths and Realities*, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Drawing from Strength - 26 Artists Make Their Mark, Transco Tower,
Houston; Sally Sprout, Curator
- 1994 *The Box*, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
Collector's Choice: Living With Art, Laguna Gloria Art Museum, Austin, TX
Texas Selections from the Collection of the Art Museum of Southeast Texas,
Beaumont, TX: Clint Willour, Curator
Veiled Images, Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX
Landscape Without Figures, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
David Brauer, Curator
Veiled Images, SFA Gallery, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX
Miniatures, Hooks-Epstein Galleries, Houston
- 1993 *Texas Contemporaries: Acquisitions of the Nineties*, The Museum of Fine
Arts, Houston
- 1992 *20th Anniversary Exhibition*, The Waco Creative Art Center, Waco, TX
- 1990 *The Blues Aesthetic: Black Culture and Modernism*, Blaffer Gallery,
University of Houston
Humphreys-Fentress Collection: American Artist, Wichita Falls Museum and
Art Center, TX
- 1985 *Fresh Paint, the Houston School*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
- 1984 *The New Nude*, Fine Arts Center, Houston
- 1982 *Art from Houston to Norway*, The Art League, Houston
The Figure Painting in American Art, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans
- 1981 *Houston Area Exhibition*, Sarah Campbell Blaffer Gallery, University of Houston
San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX
- 1980 *Art from Houston Corporations*, Sewall Art Gallery, Rice University, Houston

SELECTED COMMISSIONS

- 2003 *The Ascension*, Morrow Chapel, Trinity Episcopal Church, Houston
- 2006 *Elijah Reflecting As He Gathers His Mantle*, Congregation Emanu El, Houston,
- 1999 *Jonathan*, Congregation Emanu El, Houston
- 1990 *Houston Grand Opera Poster*, Houston
- 1985 First Textile Design, House of Hermes, Paris
- 1980 "Houston Art Festival", Poster Commission
- 1976 Baylor College of Medicine, Otorhinolaryngology and Communitive Systems,
Houston
- 1975 Teacher Retirement System of Texas Bldg., Austin, TX
- 1973 The Child Foundation, Mrs. Henry E. I. Du Pont commission, Wilmington, DE
- 1968 Texas Pavilion Hemisfair, San Antonio, TX

BOOK ILLUSTRATIONS

- 1997 Baker, T. Lindsay (ed.). *Till Freedom Cried Out: Memories of Texas Slave Life*
(College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1997).
- 1969 Diaz Sanchez, Ramon. *Cumboto* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1969),
translation by John Upton.
- 1967 Rulfo, Juan. *Burning Plain and Other Stories* (Austin: University of Texas Press,
1967), translation by George Schade.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2016 Ansporn, Catherine D. "Kermit's Canvases + Fashion: Competition for TSU," *Paper City* (June 2016), unpaginated.
- 2014 Holley, Joe. "Artist is hidden gem haunted by tragedy," *The Houston Chronicle* (June 1)
- 2012 Sheeler, Jason. "Portrait of the Artist as a Postman," *Texas Monthly* (October 2012), pp. 115-117, 304, 306, 308, 312
- 2005 Alvia J. Wardlaw, *Notes from a Child's Odyssey: The Art of Kermit Oliver*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, (A Lifetime Retrospective) March 5, 2005-July 4, 2005
- 2003 Desnoëttes, Caroline. *Colors* (Houston: Museum of Fine Arts, 2003), pp. 32-33.
- 2002 Hickey, Dave. *Beau Monde: Toward A Redeemed Cosmopolitanism* (Santa Fe, NM: SITE Santa Fe), pp. 37-39, 75-76, 114-115.
- Kalil, Susie. "Kermit Oliver," *Artforum* (April 2002), pp. 141-142.
- Lennie, Janaki. "Kermit Oliver: The Distance to Here," *ARTLIES* (n. 33, Winter 2001-2002), p.78.
- Washington, Jesse. "Unmasked at Last," *Houston Press* (May 9-15, 2002), pp. 25-37.
- 2001 Ansporn, Catherine D. "Art Notes," *Paper City* (December 2001), unpaginated.
- Colpitt, Frances, *et al.* "Beau Monde: Toward A Redeemed Cosmopolitanism," *ARTLIES* (n. 31, Summer 2001), p. 83.
- Mitchell, Charles Dee. "Making the Case for Pleasure," *Art in America* (November 2001), pp. 126-127.
- Rush, Michael. "In Santa Fe, Searching for the Meaning of Beauty," *New York Times* (July 8, 2001, Arts/Leisure Section), pp. 31-32.
- 2000 Greene, Alison de Lima. *Texas: 150 Works from the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston* (Houston: Museum of Fine Arts in association with Abrams, Inc., New York), pp. 80, 86, 247.
- Hoover, Carl. "Baylor Gallery Exhibiting Local Artist's Paintings," *Waco Tribune-Herald* (November 3, 2000), p. 4B.
- 2000 Landay, Janet. *The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Visitor Guide* (London: Scala in association with the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston), p. 357.
- 1997 Wardlaw, Alvia J. *Kermit Oliver* (Houston: Hooks-Epstein Galleries), unpaginated exhibition catalogue.
- Bucher, Kristin. "Myth & Reality," *Southwest Art* (May).
- Johnson, Patricia C. "Dido to Beanies, Galleries beckon with '97's last art," *Houston Chronicle* (December 17).
- 1995 Levin, Steve. "Scarving Artist," *Southwest Airlines Spirit*, May.
- 1992 Laird, Cheryl. "Special Delivery Designs," *The Houston Chronicle* (May).
- Anderson, Gretchen. "The Magic of Scarves," *Continental Airlines Profiles*.
- "Texas Artist, Kermit Oliver is a First at Hermes", *The Houston People Magazine*.
- 1991 "Uncle Jack," commissioned illustration, *Houston Metropolitan Magazine* (May)
- 1989 "A Waco Postman Designs Hermes Scarves with a Western Flair," *People*, November.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY (CON'T.)

- 1987 Freudenheim, Susan. "Art Notes", *Texas Homes* (January).
 Ewing, Betty. "House of Hermes' New Collectible, a Houston Original," *The Houston Chronicle* (December 5).
 Crossley, Mimi. "2 Exhibitions: Dorothy Hood, Kermit Oliver," *The Houston Post* (February 28).
- 1978 Biggers, John, *et al.* *Black Art in Houston*, by Biggers, Simms, Weims (Austin: Texas A&M University Press).
- 1977 Fox, Elton. *Black Artists of the New Generation* (New York: Dodd, Mead and Company).
- 1975 Moser, Charlotte. "Kermit Oliver," *Currant Art Magazine* (October/November).

SELECTED MUSEUM AND CORPORATE COLLECTIONS

Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, Little Rock, AR
Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX
Art Museum of Southeast Texas, Beaumont, TX
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX
El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Houston, TX
San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX
Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture, Washington, DC
House of Hermes, Paris
Brown and Root, Inc, Houston
Entex, Inc., Houston
First National City Management Corporation, Houston
Guaranty Investment Co., Houston
Highland Resources, Houston
Houston Lighting and Power, TX
KPMG, Houston
Mid-American Oil Company, Corp., Houston
Phillip Morris, Inc
Post Oak Bank, Houston
Texas Commerce Bank, Houston
Texas Gulf Inc., Houston
Transco Energy Company, Houston

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