

KAL MANSUR



KAL MANSUR (Canadian, b. 1965, Chittagong, Bangladesh)

Kal Mansur mines possibilities within abstraction, making a case for its plural nature. His work occupies a unique space that combines geometric abstraction with a diasporic approach to colour. While he draws from minimalist traditions, his use of colour evokes an elsewhere – an air force base in Chittagong, a jungle in Borneo, a desert plain in Texas, a Brooklyn rooftop or a Toronto skyline – to places where he's lived. "I use my work to tune visual perception," he says. "Its non-definitive nature allows it to vibrate like a tuning fork."

Mansur earned a BFA in Painting at the University of Texas in 1990. His work has gained wide recognition and has been the subject of solo and group exhibitions in Toronto, New York, Ottawa, Doetinchem, Pittsburgh, and Los Angeles. He has been commissioned to produce work for Tiffany & Co., Le Meridien New York, the Conrad Los Angeles, Bonjour Capital, and Fairmont Hotels. His institutional commissions include three large-scale acrylic sculptures at George Brown College and one hundred acrylic sculptures at Toronto Metropolitan University. Mansur's work is included in the collections of Global Affairs Canada, TD Bank Corporate Collection, Sloan Kettering, Alliance Capital, and Senvest Corporation. His works were exhibited at the Canada Pavilion at Expo Dubai 2020. His studio is in the west end of Toronto.

EDUCATION

1990 BFA, University of Texas, Austin

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 All that Glisters Isn't, Myta Sayo Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2022 Land Escapes, Myta Sayo Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2022 Portraits of Abstraction, Myta Sayo Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2019 Habitat, reference: contemporary, Toronto, ON
- 2018 Anticline, reference: contemporary, Toronto, ON
- 2017 New Constructs, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 New Fractures, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY
- 2016 New Valkyries, BoxHeart Gallery, Pittsburgh, USA
- 2015 Recent Works, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2012 Mirage, Galerie Saint Laurent plus Hill, Ottawa, ON
- 2011 Construction, O'Born Contemporary, Toronto, ON (two-person exhibition)
- 2010 Emblems and Insignia, Reference: and LE Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2009 Meet your Maker, Median Contemporary, Toronto, ON
- 2008 Monuments, Gallery Fuse, Toronto, ON
- 2007 Signs, Engine Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2006 RAW studio show, Toronto, ON

- 2005 The Leblanc Organization Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 1999 Here Gallery, New York, NY
- 1997 Biblios Art Gallery, New York, NY
- 1993 La Hacienda Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 1993 Cedar Ridge Art Gallery, Scarborough, ON
- 1992 Cedar Ridge Art Gallery, Scarborough, ON
- 1991 Round Up, Toronto, ON

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND ART FAIRS

- 2022 Myta Sayo Gallery, Art Toronto, Toronto, ON
- 2022 Myta Sayo Gallery, VOLTA Art Fair, New York, NY
- 2022 Canada Pavilion, Expo 2020, Dubai
- 2022 reference: contemporary, Curveball, Toronto, ON
- 2021 reference: contemporary, Portraits of Abstraction, Toronto, ON
- 2019 reference: contemporary, PULSE Art Fair, Miami, FL
- 2019 Gallery 40 NL, Anniversary Exhibition, Doetinchem, Netherlands
- 2019 reference: contemporary, Affordable Art Fair New York, NY
- 2018 reference: contemporary, PULSE Art Fair, Miami, FL (solo booth)
- 2018 reference: contemporary, AQUA Art Miami, Miami Beach, FL
- 2018 BoxHeart Gallery, Abstract Summer, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2018 BoxHeart Gallery, Almost 17, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2017 reference: contemporary, LINE, Toronto, ON
- 2017 reference: contemporary, AQUA Art Miami, Miami Beach, FL
- 2017 Galerie Nummer 40, Luxembourg Art Fair, Luxembourg
- 2017 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Hamburg, Germany
- 2017 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Amsterdam, NL
- 2017 reference: contemporary, Scope Art Fair (solo booth), New York, NY
- 2017 George Billis Gallery, Palm Springs Fine Art Fair, Palm Springs, CA
- 2017 BoxHeart Gallery, Superfine! Art Fair, New York, NY
- 2017 reference: contemporary, Affordable Art Fair New York, NY
- 2017 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair London Hampstead, UK
- 2017 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Brussels, Belgium
- 2017 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair London Battersea, UK
- 2017 Galerie Nummer 40, art3f Metz, France
- 2016 reference: contemporary, OPENING, Oct 15-Nov 6, Toronto, ON
- 2016 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Hamburg, Germany
- 2016 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2016 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Stockholm, Sweden
- 2016 Michele Mariaud Gallery, Texas Contemporary Art Fair, Houston, TX
- 2016 reference: contemporary, Affordable Art Fair, New York, NY
- 2016 Galerie Nummer 40, Berliner Liste, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 Chase Edwards, Group Exhibition, Bridgehampton, NY
- 2016 reference: contemporary, Echo Art Fair, Buffalo, NY
- 2016 George Billis Gallery, Recent Works, Los Angeles, USA
- 2016 George Billis Gallery, Palm Springs Fine Art Fair, Palm Springs, FL
- 2016 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Brussels, Belgium

- 2016 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair London, Battersea
- 2016 Architectural Digest Design Show, New York
- 2016 Galerie Nummer 40, Art Breda, Chasseveld, Netherlands
- 2016 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair London, Hampstead
- 2015 Het zichtbare voorbij, Galerie Nummer 40, Doetinchem, Netherlands
- 2015 George Billis Gallery, Red Dot Art Fair, Miami, USA
- 2015 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Hamburg, Germany
- 2015 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Amsterdam, NL
- 2015 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Stockholm, Sweden
- 2015 reference: contemporary, Affordable Art Fair New York, USA
- 2015 Uprise Art, Art Market Hamptons, New York, USA
- 2015 Galerie Nummer 40, Art Breda, Chasseveld, Netherlands
- 2015 BoxHeart Gallery (Pittsburgh), Love Art Fair, Toronto, ON
- 2015 MADE section, Architectural Digest Design Show, New York, USA
- 2015 Michele Mariaud Gallery, Affordable Art Fair New York, USA
- 2015 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair London Battersea
- 2015 Booth 332, The Artist Project, Toronto, ON
- 2015 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Brussels, Belgium
- 2015 BoxHeart Gallery, Art Inter/National, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2014 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Hamburg, Germany
- 2014 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2014 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Maastricht, Netherlands
- 2014 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair London Battersea, UK
- 2014 Galerie Nummer 40, Affordable Art Fair Brussels, Belgium
- 2013 Fourth Annual Art Spin Exhibition, Toronto, ON
- 2013 Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton, ON
- 2013 Renann Isaacs Contemporary Art, Guelph, ON
- 2011 Annual Juried Exhibition, Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, ON
- 2009 Elements and Principles, LE Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2009 Median Contemporary, Toronto, ON
- 2008 Aligning with Beauty, Varley Museum, Markham, ON
- 2008 ReGeneration, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON
- 2008 Gallery Fuse, Distillery District, Toronto, ON
- 2008 Annual Juried Show of Fine Art, Art Gallery of Peel, Brampton, ON
- 2007 Toronto International Contemporary Art Fair, Toronto, ON
- 2006 Toronto International Contemporary Art Fair, Toronto, ON
- 2006 Headbones Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2006 Canvas Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2001 Get Real Art Gallery, NY
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- 1999 Williamsburg Historical Society, Brooklyn, NY
- 1998 Here Gallery, Soho, New York, NY
- 1997 Edgewater Art Gallery, NJ

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- 1994 Mass Exposure, New York, NY
- 1994 Tia Dora Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 1993 The Oakville Galleries, Oakville, ON

SELECTED COMMISSIONS

- 2023 WeWork, 357 Bay Street, Toronto, ON
- 2022 Wayfarer, Le Meridien on Fifth Avenue, New York, NY
- 2022 Non-Specific Object, Conrad Hotel, Los Angeles, CA
- 2021 Group of Four, 2221 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON
- 2021 Pixels, Accor North America, Toronto, ON
- 2019 The Official Logo for Art, School of Design at George Brown College, Toronto, ON
- 2018 Bonjour and Habitat, The Serrano 1735 York Avenue, New York, NY
- 2018 Tiffany & Co., Royal Hawaiian Center, Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2018 Stowaway, Norwegian Cruise Line
- 2017 Tiffany & Co., Petrovka Street, Moscow, Russia
- 2017 CODA, English as an Additional Language Institute, Toronto Metropolitan University, ON
- 2017 Kames, Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills, CA
- 2012 Florence and Other Uses, Institute without Boundaries, Toronto, ON

CORPORATE AND INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS

Global Affairs Canada TD Bank Corporate Art Collection, Toronto, ON WeWork, Toronto, ON George Brown College of Health Sciences, Toronto, ON Toronto Metropolitan University, Toronto, ON Bonjour Capital, New York, NY Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY Alliance Capital Investment Corporation, New York, NY KPMG, Toronto, ON Novotel Hotel, Ottawa, ON Senvest Corporation, Montreal, PQ

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2022 Ontario Arts Council, Visual Artists: Established Artist Grant
- 2017 Ontario Arts Council, Visual Artists: Mid-Career Artist Grant
- 2016 Artist of the Year, BoxHeart Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2015 Best of Show, BoxHeart Gallery, Art Inter/National Exhibition, Pittsburgh

2013 Ontario Arts Council, Visual Artists: Mid-Career Artist Grant

2011 Ontario Arts Council, Visual Artists: Mid-Career Artist Grant

2008-2009 Winner of Juror's Award, Juried Show of Fine Art, Art Gallery of Peel, ON

SELECTED PRESS

- 2023. "Kal Mansur at Myta Sayo Gallery," Mikael Sandblom for Artoronto, July 2023 https://www.artoronto.ca/?p=51462
- 2018 "6 Toronto-Based Artists to Know," Artspace Editors, Artspace, February 27, 2018, https://bit.ly/20Wufpo
- 2017 "Bare Necessities: Industrial Chic Meets California Cool..." Laura Muir, Style at Home Magazine, January 2017, http://bit.ly/2pUpbFa
- 2016 Kal Mansur Canvas: One to Watch, Saatchi Online, Feb 6, 2016 http://canvas.saatchiart.com/art/one-to-watch/kal-mansur
- 2016 The Best of the Affordable Art Fair, ICrave An Innovation and Design Studio, 2016, http://www.icrave.com/2015/09/17/affordable-art-fair/
- 2016 Kal Mansur, Blue Kame 5 cover feature, Aqua Art Miami Fair Catalog, Nov 30-Dec 4, 2016
- 2015 "Art Inter/National is an Impressive Showcase," Kurt Shaw, The Tribune Review, Pittsburgh, Jan 25, 2015, Living Section F, http://bit.ly/2pUgxqj
- 2015 Kal Mansur, Ivory Valkyrie Two featured on page 2, Affordable Art Fair London Battersea -Fair Guide, Mar 12-15, 2015, http://bit.ly/2plcoKD
- 2015 "Favorites at the 2015 Architectural Digest Design Show," Caroline Williamson, Design Milk, March 26, 2015, http://bit.ly/1NzHh6g
- 2015 "Preview the 2015 Architectural Digest Design Show," Hannah Martin, Architectural Digest, March 19, 2015, http://bit.ly/2pSewvB
- 2015 "Six New Art Stars Not to Be Missed at the Artist Project 2015," Designlines Magazine, March 4, 2015, http://designlinesmagazine.com/artist-project-2015/
- 2014 "Zen and the Art of Urban Existence: Abington House Interiors by Clodagh," Jen Renzi, Interior Design Magazine, Sep 29, 2014, http://bit.ly/2f14YK0
- 2013 "What is a Line," V.Y. Mudimbe, On African Fault Lines, Indiana University Press http://amzn.to/2eUvk2F
- 2013 "A pop-up art gallery in abandoned Toronto factory," Paul Irish, Toronto Star Visual Arts Section, Aug 31, 2013, http://on.thestar.com/2f18Drd
- 2013 Carl Barenbrug, "Pixels by Kal Mansur," Minimalissimo, May 7, 2013 http://minimalissimo.com/pixels-by-kal-mansur/
- 2012 Simpson, Peter, "Strange, solid acrylics flash through market gallery," Ottawa Citizen, July 25, 2012



Myta Sayo Gallery is a Toronto-based gallery with a primary focus on contemporary abstraction. By engaging with the artist's intent and mode of production, we build the premise of skill as currency. Founded by Maita Sayo in 2021, the gallery is dedicated to being an approachable place to start collecting rigorous, high-caliber art.

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