Willem de Kooning Biography

Born in 1904, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Solo Exhibitions:

2010  Willem de Kooning: The Figure: Movement and Gesture. Pace Gallery, New York, NY.
2006  Willem de Kooning: The Late Paintings. Organized by Hermitage Projects; The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia; Museo Carlo Bilotti, Rome, Italy.

Gagosian

2002

Willem de Kooning: Tracing the Figure. Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA; traveled to San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

2001

Willem de Kooning: Malerei auf Papier. Galerie Fred John, Munich, Germany.
Willem de Kooning. Institut Valencià d’Art Modern (IVAM), Centre Julio Gonzalez, Valencia, Spain; traveled to Fundacion “la Caixa,” Madrid, Spain.
Willem de Kooning’s Drawings, 1940-1964. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA.

2000

Willem de Kooning. Galerie Fred John, Munich, Germany.
Willem de Kooning: In Process. Menil Collection, Houston, TX; traveled to Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, FL; Guild Hall Museum, East Hampton, NY; Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO; Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

1999

Willem de Kooning. Thomas Ammann Fine Art, Zurich, Switzerland.

1998

Willem de Kooning: Drawing Seeing/Seeing Drawing. Drawing Center, New York, NY; Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA; Wexner Center for the Arts, the Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.
Willem de Kooning. Organized by Public Art Fund, Central Park and Bryant Park, New York, NY.

1997


1996


1995

Willem de Kooning: The Late Paintings, the 1980s. San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; traveled to Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN; Staatliches Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn, Germany; Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, Netherlands; Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY.
Willem de Kooning, Thomas Ammann Fine Art, Zurich, Switzerland.

Willem de Kooning: Paintings and Drawings. Locks Gallery, Philadelphia, PA.


Willem de Kooning: From the Hirshhorn Museum Collection. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Traveled to Fundació “la Caixa,” Centre Cultural, Barcelona, Spain; High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX.


Willem de Kooning. Galerie Karsten Greve, Cologne, Germany; traveled to Galerie Karsten Greve, Paris, France.


The Early Prints of de Kooning. National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia.


Willem de Kooning: Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture of the Seventies. C. Grimaldia Gallery, Baltimore, MD.

Willem de Kooning: Paintings. Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA.


Willem de Kooning: Selected Drawings. Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA.

de Kooning: Dipinti, Disegni, Sculture. Studio Marconi, Milan, Italy.


Willem de Kooning: Max-Beckmann-Preis 1984 der Stadt Frankfurt am Main. Städelisches Kunstinstitut im Städtische Galerie, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany.
de Kooning. Galerie Daniel Templon, Paris, France; traveled to Hans Strelow Gallery, Düsseldorf, Germany.

Willem de Kooning: Drawings from the Powers Collection. Intimate Gallery, University
Art Museum, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO.

1983


1982

*Installation for Visit by the Queen of Holland.* Vista Hotel, World Trade Center, New York, NY.

1981

*Willem de Kooning: Recent Tekeningen.* Collection d'Art, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

*Willem de Kooning: Paintings and Drawings.* C. Grimaldis Gallery, Baltimore, MD.


1980

*Willem de Kooning: Drawings, Sculpture, Drawings.* Richard Hines Gallery, Seattle, WA.

*de Kooning: Late Paintings and Drawings.* Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, IL.

*Willem de Kooning – Gemalde, Skulpturen, Zeichnungen.* Hans Strelow, Dusseldorf, Germany.

1979


1978


*The Willem de Kooning Exhibition.* Fairfield Arts Festival, Museum of Art, Science, and Industry, Bridgeport, CT.

1977

*de Kooning: Recent Works.* Sarah Campbell Blaffer Gallery, University of Houston, Houston, TX.

Cabinet des Estampes, Musee d'Art et d'Histoire, Geneva, Switzerland.

Musee de Peinture et de Sculpture, Grenoble, France.

*Willem de Kooning: Recent Works.* James Corcoran Gallery, Los Angeles, CA.

*Willem de Kooning: Drawings.* School of Visual Arts, New York, NY.


*Willem de Kooning.* Collection d'Art, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
Willem de Kooning: Painting and Sculpture. Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade, Yugoslavia; traveled to Museum of Modern Art, Ljubljana, Yugoslavia; Rumanian National Museum of Art, Bucharest, Romania; National Museum, Warsaw, Poland; Branch Post, Krakow, Poland; Helsinki National Museum of Art: Helsinki Kaupungin Taidekokoelmat, Helsinki, Finland; Amerika Haus, Berlin, Germany; Caja de Ahorros, Alicante, Spain; Fundación Juan March, Madrid, Spain; Norwegian National Gallery of Art, Oslo, Norway; Dodrechts Museum, Dordrecht, Netherlands.


1976


Willem de Kooning: Beelden en Lithos. Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands; traveled to Wilhelm-Lembruck Museum der Stadt, Duisburg, Germany; Cabinet des Estampes, Musée d'art et d'histoire, Gevena, Switzerland; Musée de Peinture et de Sculpture, Grenoble, France.

Willem de Kooning. Collection d’Art, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Willem de Kooning: Paintings, Drawings, Sculptures. James Corcoran Gallery, Los Angeles, CA.


De Kooning: Lithographs, Paintings and Sculptures. University of Texas Art Museum, Austin, TX.

1975

Willem de Kooning. Fuji Television Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; traveled to Galerie des Arts, Paris, France; Stichtung/Fondation Veranneman, Kruishoutem, Belgium.


De Kooning: Matrix 15. Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT.

De Kooning: Paintings, Drawings, Sculptures, 1967-75. Norton Gallery of Art, West Palm Beach, FL.

1974


De Kooning: Major Paintings and Sculpture. Pollock Gallery, Toronto, Canada.

De Kooning: Recent Lithographs. Pollock Gallery, Toronto, Canada.

Lithographs, 1970-1972: Willem de Kooning. Fourcade, Droll (organizer) New York, NY; traveled to Art Gallery, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL; The Amarillo Art Center, Amarillo, TX; Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego, San Diego, CA; Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, AZ; The Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA; Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN; Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE; Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY; Georgian Museum of Art, University of Georgia, Athens, GA; Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, University of California, Los Angeles, CA; Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia; San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA; Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL; University Art Museum, University of Texas, Austin, TX; Sarah Campbell Blaffer Gallery, University of Houston, Houston, TX.

De Kooning: Drawings/Sculptures. Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN. Traveled to:
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa; The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; Washington University Gallery of Art, St. Louis, MO.


*An Exhibition by de Kooning Introducing His Sculpture and New Paintings.* Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, NY.  


1961 *Willem de Kooning.* Paul Kantor Gallery, Beverly Hills, CA.  
*Retrospective (de Kooning, 1935-53).* School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; traveled to Workshop Art Center, Washington, D.C.


1948 *de Kooning.* Egan Gallery, New York, NY.

**Selected Group Exhibitions:**

2019 *Continuing Abstraction.* Gagosian, Basel, Switzerland.
A line (a)round an idea: Selected Works on Paper. Gagosian, Geneva, Switzerland.


Painted Blind. The Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA.

In the Studio: Paintings Curated by John Elderfield. Gagosian, West 21st Street, New York, NY.


Modern in America: Works on Paper, 1900–1950s. The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

The Figure and Dr. Freud. Haunch of Venison, New York, NY.

MOCA’s First Thirty Years. Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA.


Beyond the Canon. Robert Miller Gallery, New York, NY.

Willem de Kooning, Lucio Fontana, Eve Hesse, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, NY.


For What You Are About To Receive. Gagosian Gallery, Moscow, Russia.


When Art Worlds Collide: The 60s. Woodward Gallery, New York, NY.


Guild Hall: An Adventure in the Arts. UBS, New York, NY.

Group Show. Gagosian Gallery, 980 Madison Avenue, New York, NY.


What’s Modern? Gagosian Gallery, 980 Madison Avenue, New York, NY.

JFK and Art. Bruce Museum of Arts and Science, Greenwich, CT; traveled to Norton Museum of Art West Palm Beach, FL.


Selections from the Permanent Collection. The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, TX.
GA GOSIAN

1998  
Portraits Obscured. Gagosian Gallery, Madison Avenue, New York, NY.  

1996  

1995  
Texas Collects: Willem de Kooning and His Contemporaries. Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX.

1994  
Het Materiael/The Material, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

1993  

1991  

1990  
Summer. Gagosian Gallery, New York, NY.  

1988  
Enduring Creativity. Whitney Museum of American Art at Champion, Stamford, CT.  

1987  

1985  
Eight Modern Masters. Amarillo Art Center, Amarillo, TX.

1984  
La rime et la raison (Collection de Menil). Grand Palais, Paris, France.  

1983  
Abstract Painting and Sculpture in America. Museum of Art, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, PA.  
The Painterly Figure: Veteran Expressionist Figure Painters. Monique Knowlton Gallery, New York, NY.

1982  
Women: Subject and Objects. Tanenbaum Gallery, New York, NY.  

Abstract Expressionism Lies! Stamford Museum and Nature Center, Stamford, CT.  

1981

The Image in American Painting and Sculpture. Akron Art Museum, OH.

1980


1979

36th Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting. Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C.
5 Action Painters of the 50's. Pace Gallery, New York, NY.
XIX and XX Century Master Painters. Acquavella Gallery, New York, NY.
Poets and Painters. Denver Art Museum, CO.

1978

Sculpture and Works on Paper from the 1930's and 1940's. Washburn Gallery, New York, NY.
Twentieth Century American Masters. Art Center, South Bend, IN.

1978

American Abstract Painting in the 1950's. Harcus Krakow Gallery, Boston, MA.
Exhibition of Works by Newly Elected Members and Recipients of Honors and Awards. American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, NY.
Documents, Drawings and Collages: 50 American Works on Paper from the Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen D. Paine, Yale Faculty, 1950-78. Harold Reed Gallery, New York, NY.
American Painting of the 1970's. Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY; traveled to Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA; Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA; Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH; Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX; Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL.
America and Europe: A Century of Modern Masters from the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection. Australian Gallery Directors Council, Sydney, Australia.; traveled to Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, Australia; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia;
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.


1977


Documenta 6. Museum Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany.


Perceptions of the Spirit in Twentieth-Century Art. Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN; traveled to University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley, CA; Marion Kooiker McNay Art Institute, San Antonio, TX; Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, Columbus, OH.


1976


Seventy-second American Exhibition. Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

Second Williams College Alumni Loan Exhibition: In Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Williams College Museum of Art and in Honor of President John W. Chandler and Professor S. Lane Faison, Jr. Hirschl & Adler Galleries, New York, NY; traveled to Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, MA.


Sculpture 76: An Outdoor Exhibition of Sculpture by Fifteen Living Artists. Greenwich Arts Council, Greenwich, CT.


200 Jahre Amerikanische Malerei, 1776-1976. Rheinisches Landesmuseum, Bonn, Germany; traveled to Murzej Savremene Umetnosti, Belgrade, Yugoslavia; Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, MD.


Artists and East Hampton: A 100-Year Prospective. Guild Hall, East Hampton, NY.


America, America. Galerie Beyeler, Basel, Switzerland.


From Foreign Shores: Three Centuries of Art by Foreign-Born American Masters. Milwaukee Art Center, Milwaukee, WI.


1975


34th Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting. Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Selected Works from the Dillard Collection. Weatherspoon Art Gallery, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N.C.


1975


Five American Painters: Recent Works by de Kooning, Mitchell, Motherwell, Resnick, Tworkov. Art Galleries, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.


Twenty Years of Acquisition: Evolution of the University Study Collection - The Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts. Frederick S. Wright Art Gallery, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.


Contemporary Long Island Sculptors. Green Gallery, Suffolk Museum, Stony Brook, NY.


Surrealität, Bildrealität, 1924-74 – In den unzähligen Bildern des Lebens. Städtische Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany.


Monumenta: A Biennial Exhibition of Outdoor Sculpture. Monumenta Newport, Newport, RI.

1973

American Art at Mid-Century. National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
Twenty-five Years of American Painting, 1948-1973. Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, IA.

1972


1971


1970


1969


1969

The 1970 Pittsburgh international Exhibition of Contemporary Art. Carnegie Institute, Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA.
1968
The Neuberger Collection. Museum of Art, Rhode Island. School of Design, Providence, RI.
Painting as Painting. University of Texas, University Art Museum, Austin, TX.

1967

1966
Drawings: University of Texas, University Art Museum, Austin, TX.
Selections from the John G. Powers Collection. Larry Aldrich, Ridgefield, CT.

1965
Inaugural Loan Exhibition. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA.

1964
200 Years of American Painting. City Art Museum of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.
20th Century Master Drawings. Harvard University, Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, MA.
American Painting, 1910-1960. Fine Arts Gallery, Bloomington, IN.
Documenta III: Internationale Ausstellung. Alte Galerie, Museum Fridericianum, and Orangerie, Kassel, Germany.
Art USA Now. The Johnson Collection of Contemporary Paintings. Kunstmuseum, Lucerne, Switzerland.
The 28th Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary Painting. Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
Contemporary Painting. Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA.
New Directions in American Painting. Poses Institute of Fine Arts, Brandeis University (organizer), Waltham, MA; traveled to Munson-Williams-Proctor, Utica, N.Y.; Isaac Delgado Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA; Atlanta Art Association, Atlanta, GA; The J.B. Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY; Art Museum, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN; Washington University, St. Louis, MO; Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI.
Dibujos y acuarelas abstratos USA. Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela.
Continuity and Change. Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT.
Art Since 1950: American and International. Seattle World’s Fair, Seattle, WA.
Art USA: The Johnson Collection of Contemporary American Painting. Milwaukee Art Center, Milwaukee, WI.
American Vanguard. Galerie Wurthle, Vienna, Austria.
The Sidney Janis Painters. John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL.
Mostra di Disegni Americani Moderni. IV Festival dei Due mondi, Palazzo Ancaiani, Spoleto, Italy.
Directions in Twentieth Century American Painting. Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, Dallas, TX.
The Nude in American Painting. Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY.

1960
Edith Gregor Halpert Collection. Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
Abstrakte Amerikanische Malerei. Hessisches Landesmuseum, Darmstadt, Germany.

1959
II Documenta 59. Museum Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany.
The Romantic Agony: From Goya to de Kooning. Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX.
International Program of the Museum of Modern Art under the auspices of the International Council at the museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; traveled before New York showing to Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, Switzerland; Galleria Civica d’Arte Moderna, Milan, Italy; Museo Español de Arte Contemporáneo, Madrid, Spain; Hochshule fur Bildende Kunste, West Berlin, West Germany; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands; Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels, Belgium; Musee National d’Art Moderne, Paris; Tate Gallery, London, England.

1958
60 American Painters, 1960. Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN.
Paths of Abstract Art. Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH.
The New American Painting. Kunsthalle, Bale, Germany.
50 Ans d’art moderne. Palais Internationale des Beaux-Arts, Brussels World’s Fair, Brussels, Belgium.
First Exhibition. Leo Castelli Gallery, New York, NY.

1957
American Paintings, 1945-1957. Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, MN.

1956
28th Biennale of Venice. Venice, Italy.
Peintres americans contemporains. Musee des Beaux Arts, Lille, France.
Recent Paintings by 7 Americans. Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, NY.

1955
50 ans d’art aux Etats Unis. Musee national d’art Moderne, Paris; traveled to Whitney


*The New Decade: 35 American Painters and Sculptors*. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; traveled to San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA; University of California, Art Galleries, Los Angeles, CA; Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, CO; City Art Museum of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.


1954


*Sixty-first American Exhibition: Paintings and Sculpture*. Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

*27th Biennale of Venice*. Venice, Italy.

1953


*5th Anniversary Exhibition: 5 Years of Janis*. Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, NY.

*Ii Bienal do Museu de Arte Moderna de Sao Paulo*. Museu de Arte Moderna, Sao Paolo, Brazil.

1952


*Expressionism in American Painting*. Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY.


1951

*Abstract Painting and Sculpture in America*. Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY.

*9th Street Show*. 60 East Ninth Street, New York, NY.


*Sixtieth Annual Exhibition of American Painting and Sculpture*. Art Institute of Chicago, IL.

*Exhibition: Ben Shahn, Willem de Kooning, Jackson Pollock*. Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

*Ii Bienal do Museu de Arte Moderna de Sao Paulo*. Museu de Arte Moderna, Sao Paolo, Brazil.

1950

*American Painting 1950*. Virginia Museum, Richmond, VA.

*25th Biennale of Venice*. Venice, Italy.


*Young Painters in U.S. and France*. Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, NY.


1949

Art, New York, NY.

The Intrasubjectives. Samuel Kootz Gallery, New York, NY.


1947 The Ideographic Figure. Betty Parsons Gallery, New York, NY.

1945 Modern Art in Advertising. Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

1944 Abstract and Surrealist Art in the United States. Cincinnati Art Museum, OH; traveled to Art Museum, Denver, CO; Art Museum, Seattle, WA; Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA; San Francisco Museum of Art, CA.


1939 Painting and Sculpture in the World of Tomorrow. World's Fair, New York, NY.