

Don Lisy

Born February 7, 1974 in Cleveland, Ohio. Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY

Biography

Don Lisy was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio and creates his art as if revolting against the Midwest sensibilities that dominate the critical and popular mind sets of his hometown. Don attended the Cleveland Institute of Art where he studied Printmaking and Painting. Don's work has been compared to the New York school of action painters, however, Don's work is not derivative from any one school. Each of Don's works are created in one session. By immediately succumbing to the emotional energy that inspires his work, Don feels he is best able to represent that emotion if he can complete the work before the feeling dissipates. Each resulting work is more of a self portrait of an emotional event rather than an image concerned with aesthetics.

Don's first visit to New York City was in December 1993. Over the years he often returned to NYC for group exhibitions and also performances with his band. It was during a visit in 2001 that Don connected with New York on a new level which planted the seed that one day he must live there. In the spring of 2010, Don left family and friends in Cleveland and made the permanent move to Brooklyn where he continues to dedicate himself to his own personal artistic vision. In December 2016, after an over decade long absence, Don re-established a studio in Cleveland. Don's work has been exhibited across the United States and internationally in Germany, Italy and Spain.

Education

1992 - 1995 Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, Ohio

Solo Exhibitions

2012 Select Fair I Miami I Art Basel, The Catalina Hotel, Miami, FL
2012 In-Between, Morgan Papermaking Conservatory, Cleveland, OH
2011 In-Between, Hausmann Millworks, San Antonio, TX
2010 Solo Exhibition, Liloveve Gallery, Brooklyn ,NY
2003 Solo Exhibition, Bockrath Gallery, Cleveland, OH

Past Exhibitions

2017 The Creators Collective, Spring Party, Salzy, Brooklyn, NY
2015 Small Works Group Exhibition, The Greenpoint Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
2014 Clicking The Moment: Ephemeral & It's Opposite, Onishi Gallery, New York, NY
2014 WAV Party Madrid, Centro Cultural La Vaguada, Madrid, Spain
2013 Dacia Presents: Times Square Art Show, Times Square Art Center New York, NY
2013 Nothing Is Big Or Small For The Universe, Palazzo Bufalini, Citta' Di Castello Italy
2013 See I Me: The Story of the Creative, Angel Orensanz Foundation New York, NY
2013 Chianti Star Festival, Palazzo Malaspina in San Donato, Italy
2013 It's All About Energy, Onishi Gallery, New York, NY
2013 ImaginAction in Berlin, Vierraumladen Gallery, Berlin, Germany
2013 Engage, Liloveve Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
2012 Select Fair I Miami I Art Basel I, The Catalina Hotel, Miami, FL

2012 Dacia Gallery Presents: Art Show On Broadway, NOHO Event Center, New York, NY
 2012 In-Between, Morgan Papermaking Conservatory, Cleveland, OH
 2012 Works on Paper NYC, Jeffrey Leder Gallery, Long Island City, NY
 2012 The Green Show, White Carpet Gallery @ Hillyard, Des Moines, IA
 2012 Look Art Party, New York, NY
 2012 International Painting NYC, Jeffrey Leder Gallery, Long Island City, NY
 2011 Curate NYC, Rush Arts Gallery + Resource Center, New York, NY
 2011 4 Ever Morgan, Morgan Papermaking Conservatory, Cleveland, OH
 2011 Sweeping Up The Mess, White Carpet Gallery @ Hillyard, Des Moines, IA
 2011 Booking It To Brooklyn, Central Booking, Brooklyn, NY
 2011 In-Between, Hausmann Millworks, San Antonio, TX
 2011 Honey, Liloveve Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
 2010 Anthropoi, Flash Space, Lawrence, KS
 2010 Solo Exhibition, Liloveve Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
 2010 The White Show, Hausmann Millworks, San Antonio, TX
 2010 Art About Love, Liloveve Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
 2009 The White Show, Signs of Life Gallery, Lawrence, KS
 2009 Art Cares, Aids Task Force of Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, OH
 2008 ¡Mambo Muerto!, Spaces, Cleveland, OH
 2008 Morgan Papermaking Conservatory, Cleveland, OH
 2007 Garden Noir: Where the Wild Things Bloom, Spaces, Cleveland, OH
 2003 Solo Exhibition, Bockrath Gallery, Cleveland, OH
 2002 Group Show, Gallery Alexie, New York, NYC

Collector Quotes

"What drives Don Lisy's work is his passion. In my time in the art world I've seen a number of artists, museum shows, studied art history, movements and seen countless gallery shows and seen fringe shows. In time a person starts to recognize a vision, but most importantly a work ethic, Don Lisy put actions behind his words and has for 20+ years – that's why I respect and appreciate owning a number of his works. His new paintings are larger than ever before and I can say emphatically, keep painting bigger Don, It's working. I'm very proud to have Don Lisy's work not only in my personal collection but in my home."

– Rex Hausmann, San Antonio, TX (*Hausmann Millworks: A Creative Community*)

"The charcoal drawing I own by Don Lisy is a favorite of my personal collection. The shapes depict an ambiguity and distorted representation of a particular subject or feeling. This mysterious element is what I love about Don's work. Each time I view my drawing and his other pieces, I see something different. As a writer and musician, I often receive various interpretations and explanations of my work and what it represents. I love and admire when someone's personal, artistic expression is interpreted differently by each viewer. Another element I enjoy about Don's drawing is the intense movement created by the charcoal strokes and smudges. The nature of them also reveal a mystery of what he might have been feeling and thinking about at the time of creation."

–Laura Boland, Brooklyn, NYC

"Lisy's paintings all have a visceral impact upon the viewer, conjuring up deep-seated fears, desires and memories. His work is provocative and intense; it invites rumination and reflection."

– Boomee Danenberg, Brooklyn, NYC

“Don's perceptions about the everyday mundane to the serious climate of our world is reflected in his art and beliefs. Talking with him reaffirms his commitment to being "Don", who is a one of a kind, that I can attest to. Look close at all of his work, It really tells a story of his journey that has made him an artist I am amazed by! He can keep you on the proverbial edge. Yes I'm biased, but I don't sugar coat anything. Never have and never will. Having the privilege to witness Don create two paintings first hand in Cleveland in December & January 2016/2017 was rewarding in many ways. I love art, the talent and skill it takes that I do not have. I am pleased to have purchased four of his works to admire at my leisure.”

– *Mike Golubski, Cleveland, Ohio*

“Don Lisy's painting is action and reaction to his environment and to color and movement. As many artists have noted, the beginning of abstraction always has to start with something, and Lisy's work starts with the figure. My response to his work is to be drawn in by the shapes, the color and the forms, and not to look for the objects that may or may not be recognizable. His work is passionate and typically elicits a strong response in the viewer. Certain paintings of his speak to me in ways that others do not. My response is affected by what shapes or colors are in the work itself. While Lisy's work is produced quickly, the work has grown and altered as he explores different ideas or works with other materials. It has been a great pleasure to see his work change and develop over time.”

– *Darin White, Lawrence, KS*

“I shall continue to add Don Lisy's works to my collection! I have witnessed the evolution and look to future work by Don. I love how his painting occupies my space!”

–*Kim Osborne, New York, NYC*