TILTON
GALLERY

NOAH PURIFOY

Born 1917, Snow Hill, AL
Died 2004, Joshua Tree, CA

Education

1956	Bachelor of Fine Arts, Chouinard Art Institute, Los Angeles, CA
1948	Master of Social Service Administration, Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA
1943	Bachelor of Science, Alabama State Teachers College, Montgomery, AL

Solo Exhibitions

2025	*Poetry as Politics: Seeing Beyond the Object, Noah Purifoy and Kindred Spirits*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
2023	*Noah Purifoy*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
2018	*Noah Purifoy*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
2015-2016	*Noah Purifoy: Junk Dada*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; traveled to the Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
1999	*Random Transformations: Assemblages by Noah Purifoy*, Allen Priebe Gallery, University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI
1998	*Assemblages by Noah Purifoy,* Mendenhall Gallery, Pasadena, CA
1997	*Noah Purifoy: Outside and in the Open,* California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA; traveled to African American Museum, Dallas, TX; Clark Atlanta University Art Galleries, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA; and Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
1996	*Purifoy Now and Then*, The Corridor Gallery of Art, Los Angeles, CA

1995 *Desert Tombstones*, Rachel Lozzi Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Assemblages, Mountainview Memorial Gallery, Altadena, CA
Legends- Artists' Salute to Black History Month, Crenshaw Plaza, Los Angeles, CA

1993 *As Is In Joshua Tree*, Tara's Hall, Los Angeles, CA [now a permanent exhibition]

1989 *A New Place To Be*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA

1988 *Noah Purifoy: Collages, Assemblages, Constructions and Combines*, Gallery at the Old Masonic Lodge, Los Angeles, CA

1971 *Niggers Ain't Gonna Never Ever Be Nothin'- All They Want to do is Drink and Fuck*, Brockman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

Selected Group Exhibitions

2026 *The Brockman Gallery: Los Angeles, 1967-1990*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA, October 18, 2026 – January 24, 2027
Into the Time Horizon: Circularity, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, NV, February 21, 2026 – November 29, 2026
Sew Their Names: Quilting, Creativity, and Activism in Lowndes County, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Auburn University, Auburn, AL, January 20 – July 2, 2026

2025 *Sixties Surreal*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, September 24, 2025 – January 19, 2026
Back at Cha – A Celebration of Alonzo Davis, parrasch heijnen, Los Angeles, CA, March 22 – April 19, 2025

2024 *Edges of Ailey*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, September 25, 2024 – February 9, 2025
Where I Learned to Look: Art from the Yard, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA, July 13 – December 1, 2024

2023 *Together in Time: Selections from the Hammer Contemporary Collection*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA, March 26 – August 20, 2023

2022 *Joan Didion: What She Means*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA, October 11, 2022 – January 22, 2023

2021 *Assembly: New Acquisitions by Contemporary Black Artists*, Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, TX, December 11, 2021 – May 8, 2022
Art of California: Greater than the Sum, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, May 22, 2021 – March 6, 2022
Empty Legs, Tilton Gallery, January 7 – March 27, 2021

2019 *Dust My Broom: Southern Vernacular from the Permanent Collection*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA, September 10 – February 16, 2020
LA Blacksmith, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA,

September 10 – February 16, 2020

Open House: Elliot Hundley, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA, April 14 – September 16, 2019
Dreamweavers, UTA Artist Space, Los Angeles, CA
Unseen Works: David Hammons and Friends, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY

2018 *East Coast/West Coast, Part II: Clark, Hammons, Purifoy, Saar, Washington,* Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
Ground to Sky, Yucca Valley Performing Arts Center, Yucca Valley, CA
Outliers and American Vanguard Art, The National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., January 28 - May 13, 2018; traveled to the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia, June 22 – September 30, 2018; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California, November 18, 2018 – March 17, 2019

2017 *Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power*, Tate Modern, London, UK, July 12 - October 22, 2017, traveled to Crystal Bridges, Bentonville, AR, February 2 - April 23, 2018; the Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY, September 7, 2018 - February 3, 2019; The Broad, Los Angeles, CA March 23 - September 1, 2019; de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA, November 9, 2019 – March 15, 2020; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX, April 26 – July 19, 2020

2016 *Experience 19: Touch*, El Segundo Museum of Art (ESMoA), El Segundo, CA
Tinseltown in the Rain: The Surrealist Diaspora in Los Angeles 1935 to 1969, Richard Telles Fine Art, Los Angeles, CA
Watts, The Loft at Liz's, Los Angeles, CA

2015-2016 *Hard Edged: Geometrical Abstraction and Beyond*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
50 Years and I Still Can't Breathe, Watts Towers Arts Center, Los Angeles, CA

2015 *America is Hard to See*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

2014-2015 *When the Stars Begin to Fall: Imagination and the American South*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY; traveled to the NSU Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, FL; and the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA

2012 *For The Martian Chronicles*, L&M Arts, Venice, CA

2011 *Civic Virtue: The Impact of the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery and the Watts Towers Arts Center*, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Pacific Standard Time: Crosscurrents in L.A. Painting and Sculpture, 1950-1970, The J. Paul Getty Museum, Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA; traveled to Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany
Now Dig This! Art and Black Los Angeles 1960-1980, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; traveled to MoMA PS1, New York, NY
Places of Validation, Art and Progression, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
L.A. Object & David Hammons Body Prints, Tilton Gallery, Art 42 Basel, Basel, Switzerland

2010 *Artists Influenced by Noah Purifoy*, Twentynine Palms Artist Guild West Gallery, Twentynine Palms, CA

2009 *Harsh Terrain*, Roberts & Tilton, Culver City, CA
Inside My Head: Intuitive Artists of African Descent, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Artists Influenced by Noah Purifoy, Twentynine Palms Artist Guild West Gallery, Twentynine Palms, CA

2006 *L.A. Object and David Hammons Body Prints*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY; traveled to Roberts & Tilton, Culver City, CA

2005 *African American Artists in Los Angeles, A Survey Exhibition: Pathways 1966-89*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Unpredictable Dialogue, Sam Francis Gallery, Crossroads School, Santa Monica, CA

2004 *Artists Influenced by Noah Purifoy*, Twentynine Palms Artist Guild West Gallery, Twentynine Palms, CA

2003 *African American Art Legends Exhibitions*, FDG Fine Arts Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

1999 *A Piece at a Time*, Watts Towers Arts Center, Los Angeles, CA

1998 *World Artists for Tibet and World Human Rights*, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Santa Monica, CA

1997 *Elusive Paradise*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA
Works by Kathy Lee, Carol Overr, and Noah Purifoy, Twentynine Palms Art Gallery, Twentynine Palms, CA

1996 *Purifoy Now and Then*, The Corridor Gallery of Art, East Hollywood, CA
One Apiece, The Corridor Gallery of Art, Hollywood, CA

1995 *Environments: Extending the Artist's Realm*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
African American Representations of Masculinity, Museum of African American Art, Los Angeles, CA
Homecoming- First 25 Years at the Watts Towers Art Center, Watts Tower Arts Center, Los Angeles, CA
The Legends, The DuSable Museum of African American History, Chicago, IL

1994 *Black Male: Representations of Masculinity in Contemporary American Art*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; traveled to the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; *Connections II*, Getty Center for the History of Art and Humanities, Santa Monica, CA [Commission]

1993 *Off the Wall*, Porter Randall Gallery, La Jolla, CA
I Remember: Thirty Years After the March on Washington; Images of the Civil Rights Movement 1963-1993, Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C.

1990 *Celebrations*, The Fisher Gallery, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA

1989 *19 Sixties: A Cultural Awakening Reevaluated 1965-1975*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA

1986 *Southern California Assemblage: Past and Present*, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, The College of Creative Studies Gallery, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA; traveled to The Museum of Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz, CA

1977 *African Festival of the Arts and Culture*, Lagos, Nigeria

1975 *Black Artists in California*, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA [Presented by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.]
West Coast 74: The Black Image, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Barnsdale Park, Los Angeles, CA

1974 *The Negro in American Art*, Fine Arts Galleries, San Diego, CA
Faculty Art Exhibit, Cowell College Gallery, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA

1973 The University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA

1972 *Garbage is Beautiful* (Müll macht Möglich), Berlin Industries Fair, Berlin, Germany (September 15 - 24, 1972) [sponsored by the United States Office of Information]; traveled to Poland
Los Angeles 1972: A Panorama of Black Artists, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA

1971 University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Kalamazoo Institute of Art, Kalamazoo, MI
Black Art: The Black Experience, Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA
Contemporary Black Artists In America, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Five Black Artists: Benny, Bernie, Betye, Noah and John, Lang Art Gallery, Scripps College, Claremont, CA
Local Black Artists, Compton College, Compton, CA
Black American Artists '71, Illinois Art Council and Illinois Bell Lobby Gallery, Chicago, IL
Contemporary Black Imagery: 7 Artists, Brockman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
The Negro in American Art and The Metal Experience, Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, CA

1970 *Watts Summer Festival Art Exhibition*, Will Rogers Park Auditorium, Los Angeles, CA
Fine Art in the Home by Contemporary Black Artists, San Fernando Furniture, Los Angeles, CA [Sponsored by Brockman Gallery]
Dimensions of Black, La Jolla Museum, La Jolla, CA; traveled to the University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

1969 *12 Afro-American Artists*, Nordness Galleries, New York, NY
Noah Purifoy and David Hammons, Brockman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Microcosm 69, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA

1967 University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

1966 - 1971 *66 Signs of Neon*, Simon Rodia Renaissance of the Arts Festival, Jordan Markham High, Watts, CA; traveled to Watts Summer Art Festival, Watts, CA; The University of Southern California Christian Science Center, Los Angeles, CA; The University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley Art Galleries, Berkeley, CA; Washington Gallery of Modern Art, Washington DC; Hunter Art Gallery, Chattanooga, TN; Huntington Galleries, Knoxville, TN; Orlando Galleries, Encino, CA

1966 *The Negro in American Art. One Hundred and Fifty Years of Afro-American Art*, UCLA Dickson Center, Los Angeles, CA
Orlando Galleries, Encino, CA

1965 Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena, CA

1960 *California Design 6*, Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena, CA

Awards and Achievements

1997-1998 Visual Artist Award, The Flintridge Foundation, Pasadena, CA

1997 Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution

1996 Lannan Foundation, Getty Trust Fund for Visual Arts, California Community Foundation for touring Retrospective
Florsheim Art Fund

1995 Gottlieb Foundation

1993 Pollock Krasner Foundation

1976-1987 Member, California Arts Council, appointed by Governor Jerry Brown

1966 Co-Founder, Watts Summer Festivals. Los Angeles, CA
Co-Founder, Company Theatre (later Provisional Theatre), Los Angeles, CA

1964 Founder, Watts Towers Art Center, Los Angeles, CA

Public Collections

Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, TX
California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Dallas Museum of Art, TX
Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
The Horseman Foundation, St. Louis, MO
Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Chicago, IL
Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Auburn University, Auburn, AL

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.
Oakland Museum of Art, Oakland, CA
Oran Belgrave Museum, Omaha, NE
Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, CA
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco CA
Smithsonian Archives of American Art
University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, WI
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY