



**TILTON**  
GALLERY

**JOHN OUTERBRIDGE**

Born: Greenville, North Carolina, 1933  
Died: Los Angeles, California, 2020

Education: Agricultural & Technical University, Greensboro, NC, 1952-53  
The American Academy of Art, Chicago, Illinois, 1956-59  
State of California Teaching Credential, 1970  
Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, Otis College of Art and Design,  
Los Angeles, California, 1994

Professional: Artists/Director, Watts Towers Arts Center, Los Angeles California, 1975-92  
Advisory Committee, Getty Institute for Arts Education, 1978-80  
Visual Arts Panelist, California Arts Council, 1978-80  
Visual Arts Panelist, National Endowment for the Arts, 1978-80  
Founder, Simon Rodia Watts Towers Jazz Festival, 1977  
Co-Founder/Artistic Director, Communicative Arts Academy, Compton, California,  
1969-75  
Lecturer, California State University, Dominguez Hills, California, 1970-73  
Art Instructor/Fine Art Installer, Pasadena Museum of Art, Pasadena, California,  
1967-72

**SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2024 *John Outterbridge*, Tilton Gallery, New York, New York
- 2018-19 *John Outterbridge*, Tilton Gallery, New York, New York
- 2015 *John Outterbridge: Rag Man*, Art + Project, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California; traveled to the Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado
- 2012 *John Outterbridge*, Tilton Gallery, New York, New York
- 2011 *John Outterbridge: The Rag Factory*, LA×ART, Los Angeles, California
- 2009 *John Outterbridge*, Tilton Gallery, New York, New York
- 1997 *John Outterbridge: Mobilization of the Spirit*, El Camino College Art Gallery, Torrance, California

- 1996 *A Man Named John: John W. Outterbridge*, Watts Towers Art Center, Los Angeles, California
- 1993 *John Outterbridge: A Retrospective*, California Afro-American Museum, Los Angeles, California
- 1992 *John Outterbridge: Sculptor of Oppositions*, Rancho Santiago College Art Gallery, Santa Ana, California
- 1988 Watts Towers Art Center, Los Angeles, California
- 1982 *John Outterbridge 1970-1982*, Brockman Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1971 *Outterbridge, A Solo Exhibition*, Brockman Gallery, Los Angeles, California

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Inheritance*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, June 28 – February 2024  
*Corporeal*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA, February 18, 2023 – July 14, 2024
- 2022 *Joan Didion: What She Means*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA, October 11 – February 19, 2023  
*This Is Not America's Flag*, The Broad, Los Angeles, CA, May 21 – September 25, 2022  
*Gallery Selections*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY May 18 – August 25, 2022
- 2021 *Art of California: Greater than the Sum*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, May 22, 2021 – March 6, 2022  
*The Art of Assemblage*, NSU Art Museum, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, November 20 – 2021, February 13, 2022  
*Empty Legs*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY, January 7 – March 27, 2021  
*Selected Works*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY, January 7 – March 27, 2021
- 2020 *Confinement: Politics of Space and Bodies*, Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH, November 22 – March 1, 2020  
*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
- 2019 *The Riddle Effect*, Craft Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA, June 2 – September 8, 2019  
*Aspects of Nude: Selections from the Permanent Collection*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA, March 20 – September 8, 2019  
*Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts*, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY, March 7 – April 7, 2019  
*Unseen Works: David Hammons and Friends*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY, February 26 – April 20, 2019
- 2018 *West by Midwest: Geographies of Art and Kinship*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL, November 11, 2018 - January 27, 2019

- East Coast/West Coast: Clark, Hammons, Outterbridge, Saar, Washington*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY, September 11 – November 3, 2018  
*Like Life: Sculpture, Color, and the Body*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Met Breuer, New York, NY, March 21 – July 22, 2018  
*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, Arkansas, February 2 - April 23, 2018; the Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY, September 7, 2018 - February 3, 2019; The Broad, Los Angeles, California March 23 - September 1, 2019; de Young Museum, San Francisco, California, November 9, 2019 – March 15, 2020; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, April 26 – July 19, 2020
- 2016 *John Outterbridge: Rag Man*, Art + Practice, Los Angeles, California, December 12, 2015 - February 27, 2016; traveled to Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado, July 1 - October 16, 2016
- 2015 *Walks and displacements*, Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York, New York  
*I Like it Like This*, S|2 Sotheby's, New York, New York
- 2014 *When the Stars Begin to Fall: Imagination and the American South*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York; traveled to the Nova Southeastern University Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; traveled to Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Massachusetts  
*Witness: Art and Civil Rights in the Sixties*, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York  
*Move the world back from the abyss of destruction*, JTT Gallery, New York, New York
- 2013 *The Encyclopedic Palace, The 55<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition - Venice Biennale*, Venice, Italy  
*Outside the Lines: Black in the Abstract, Part 1: Epistrophy*, Contemporary Art Museum, Houston, Texas  
*Crosscurrents: African and Black Diasporas in Dialogue 1960-1980*, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, California
- 2012 *Shift: Projects/Perspectives/Directions*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York  
*Blues for Smoke*, Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California; traveled to The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, Ohio  
*John Outterbridge: Rag Factory II*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York  
*BAILA con Duende: Group Art Exhibition*, Watts Towers Arts Center and Charles Mingus Youth Arts Campus, Los Angeles, California  
*L.A. Raw: Abject Expressionism in Los Angeles, 1945-1980, From Rico Lebrun to Paul McCarthy*, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Pasadena, California

- 2011 *The Bearden Project*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York  
*L.A. Object & David Hammons Body Prints*, Tilton Gallery, Art 42 Basel, Basel, Switzerland  
*Now Dig This! Art and Black Los Angeles 1960-1980*, Hammer Museum, UCLA, Los Angeles, California; traveled to P.S. 1 MoMA, New York; Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, Massachusetts  
*Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974-1981*, The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, Los Angeles, California  
*Places of Validation, Art, and Progression*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, California  
*Civic Virtue: The Impact of the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery and the Watts Towers Arts Center*, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery and Watts Towers Arts Center, Los Angeles, California  
*In Context*, Roberts & Tilton, Los Angeles, California
- 2010 *At Home/Not At Home: Works from the Collection of Rebecca and Marin Eisenberg*, Center for Curatorial Studies and Art in Contemporary Culture, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York
- 2009 *Gallery 32 and Its Circle*, Leband Art Gallery, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, California  
*30 Seconds off an Inch*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York
- 2006 *Los Angeles 1955 – 1985: Birth of an Art Capital*, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France  
*LA Object & David Hammons Body Prints*, Tilton Gallery, New York, New York; traveled to Roberts & Tilton Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 2005 *African American Artists in Los Angeles: A Survey Exhibition: Pathways (1966-1989)*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles
- 2004 *Renaissance, Dignity and Pride: African American Artists in L.A.*, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California
- 2000 *The Right to Assemble*, Fine Arts Gallery, California State University, Los Angeles, California
- 1997 *Elusive Paradise: Los Angeles Art from the Permanent Collection*, MOCA Los Angeles, California.
- 1996 *A Slave Ship Speaks/Tragic Wake*, Spirit Square Center for the Arts and Education, Charlotte, North Carolina  
*Open House*, Williamson Gallery, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California  
*Build Watts Towers*, Outdoor installation, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, New York, New York  
*Blessings and Beginnings*, ARTCORE, Los Angeles, California  
*African Influence/Contemporary Artists*, The National Civil Rights Museum, Memphis, Tennessee
- 1995 *ALTARS*, The Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, California  
*The Listening Sky*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York

- 1994 ARTCORE, Los Angeles, California  
*The Art of Betye Saar & John Outterbridge: 22<sup>nd</sup> International Bienal of Sao Paolo, Brazil.*, United States Representative, Sao Paolo, Brazil  
*Africus, Johannesburg Biennale*, Johannesburg, South Africa  
*INSITE 94, United States/Mexico Installation & Site Specific Art*, San Diego, California  
*LAX/94*, Los Angeles Municipal Arts Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1993 *Dolls in Contemporary Art*, Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Museum of Art, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 1990 *Artists; Artists*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California
- 1989 *19Sixties: A Cultural Awakening Re-evaluated 1965-1975*, California Afro-American Museum, Los Angeles, California  
*The Pasadena Armory Show*, Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, California  
*40 Years of California Assemblage*, Wight Art Gallery, University of California, Los Angeles, California
- 1986 *Other Gods, Containers of Belief*, Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, New York
- 1984 *East/West: Contemporary American Art*, California Afro-American Museum, Los Angeles, California
- 1981 *Black Doll Exhibition*, William Grant Still Community Arts Center, Los Angeles, California
- 1980 *African American Artists of North Carolina*, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 1979 William Grant Still Community Art Center, Los Angeles, California  
*Visions of a Spirit*, The Gallery, Los Angeles, California  
*Celebration of Community Arts Festival*, Milwaukee Inner City Arts Council, Performing Arts Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 1978 Tanner Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1977 *Festival in Black Otis Art Exhibition*, Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles, California  
*California Black Artists*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York
- 1976 *A Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr.*, Los Angeles Municipal Arts Gallery, Barnsdall Park, Los Angeles, California
- 1975 *Black Artists in California 1975, presented by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.*, Capitol Building, Sacramento, California  
*West Coast Black Artists*, Union Gallery, Cal Poly University, Pomona, California
- 1974 *The Black Image: West Coast 74*, E.B. Crocker Art Gallery, Sacramento, California;  
 Traveled to Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Barnsdall Park, Los Angeles, California

- E.B. Crocker Art Gallery, Sacramento, California
- 1973 Renshaw Gallery, Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon
- 1972 *Los Angeles 1972: A Panorama of Black Artists*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
- 1971 *9<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern California Exhibition*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California  
*Black Art: The Black Experience*, Occidental College, Los Angeles, California  
*Reflections and Shadows*, Otis Art Institute Galleries, Los Angeles, California  
*Local Black Artist Exhibition*, Compton College, Compton, California  
*Five Black Artists: Benny, Bernie, Betye, Noah and John*, Lang Art Gallery, Scripps College, Claremont, California
- 1970 Gallery 32, Los Angeles, California  
*Dimensions in Black*, La Jolla Museum of Art, La Jolla, California  
*Watts Summer Festival Art Exhibition*, Will Rogers Park Auditorium, Los Angeles, California  
*Two Generations of Black Artists*, California State College, Los Angeles, California  
*Fine Art in the Home by Contemporary Black Artists*, sponsored by Brockman Gallery, San Fernando Furniture, Los Angeles, California
- 1968 *John Outterbridge, Alonzo Davis, Dan Concholar*, Brockman Gallery, Los Angeles, California  
*6<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern California Exhibition*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California  
*Black Artists Exhibit*, Inglewood Public Library, Inglewood, California  
*Dialogue Through Art*, National Council of Jewish Women, Los Angeles, California
- 1966 *Ten From Los Angeles*, Seattle Art Museum Pavilion, Seattle, Washington

#### **PUBLIC ART COMMISSIONS**

- 1994 *Sliced Pyramid*, Avalon/Imperial Green Line Station Plaza, Los Angeles, California
- 1993 Metrorail, Los Angeles, California
- 1991 *Window with Ball*, CHGG Architectural Building, Pasadena, California
- 1989 Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, California

#### **AWARDS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2013 Governors' Award for Outstanding Service to Artists, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture
- 2012 California African American Museum Lifetime Achievement Award
- 2011 United States Artists Fellowship
- 2010 Artists' Legacy Foundation Award
- 1994 J. Paul Getty Fellowship for the Visual Arts  
National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship  
J.R. Hyde Visiting Artist Fellowship, Memphis institute of the Arts, Memphis, Tennessee
- 1988 Fulbright Fellowship, National Conference of Maori Artists, New Zealand
- 1987 National Conference of Arts Educators' Award

**PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
National Gallery of Art, Washington DC  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA  
Hammer Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA  
California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA  
Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR  
NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, FL  
Mills College Art Museum, Oakland, CA  
Benton Museum of Art at Pomona College, Claremont, CA  
Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, UT  
The National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington D.C.

**PUBLICATIONS**

2011 Tilton, Connie Rogers and Lindsay Charlwood, editors, *L.A. Object & David Hammons Body Prints*. New York: Tilton Gallery.

2010 Kienholz, Lyn. *L.A. Rising: SoCal Artists Before 1980*, The California/International Arts Foundation, Los Angeles.

1993 *African American Artists of Los Angeles (UCLA)*: "John Wilfred Outterbridge: American Oral History Interview," Conducted by Richard Candida Smith. 1989-1990, 635 pages.

1968 Lewis, Samella and Ruth Waddy, *Black Artists on Art, Vol. 1*.