



L a u r a S c h i f f B e a n

Sudbury, MA

Artist Statement

For as long as I can remember, clothes, specifically dresses, have held great importance for me. It is no wonder they have become a central theme in my work as I explore my world and my inner self. The dresses have undergone a metamorphosis over the years as my search for self has expanded, encompassing issues far more personal, and conversely far more universal.

Our choice of what we wear often reflects our values and our ideas about the world. Dress can define our ethnic background, religious beliefs, socio-economic status, political ideology and more. What we wear speaks volumes to the world before we ever say a word. We use dress as a costume to accomplish the tasks at hand, defining (disguising?) ourselves as efficient business people, artistic personalities, sexual beings, or "cool" people. Sometimes, just putting on the clothes can make us believe that we are who we think we are pretending to be. In many ways the clothes we wear can redefine our sense of self.

In the end, my dresses are figures, each one speaking to me in their own unique way. Surfaces are endowed with the quality of flesh; sensual, raw, and scarred by the critical moments and turning points that indelibly mark our lives. The dresses themselves reveal an interior world of unspoken secrets, leaving the artist, and with luck, the viewer, feeling just a little bit naked.

Blue Gallery

118 Southwest Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64108

816.527.0823 BlueGalleryOnline.com website

Laura Schiff Bean

Sudbury, MA

Born in New York, 1952

BIOGRAPHY

Laura Schiff Bean grew up on Long Island, NY where music, dance and creative pursuits were an integral part of everyday life. Visiting museums and galleries and attending theater in New York City were a routine part of family weekends. As a child she studied flute and ballet but was always happiest working with her hands, drawing, painting or building.

While earning her BA in Psychology at George Washington University in Washington DC, she also attended classes the Corcoran School of Art. In 1991 she enrolled formally at the School of The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and attended through 1997. It was here that she began to incorporate her interest in human nature with her art. Ideas of memory, dreams, and subconscious thought and physical presence all permeate her work.

Bean is best known for her dress “portraits” painted with many layers of thick dripping paint: “Splashes, drips, and brushed slashes of white bring this apparitional gown to life on a midnight background. For me, this ball gown was a feminine counterpoint to the freestanding bathrobes suavely posed by Jim Dine as ‘Pop’ art dawned in the 1960s. Bean’s gown has an imaginative force and elusive presence all its own: it creates a decorative and decorous ruckus with exquisite drawing and a concert of memories”. - Artscope Magazine

EDUCATION

School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston 1991-1997

George Washington University, BA 1970-1974

SOLO/2 PERSON SHOWS

2015 Patricia Rovzar, Seattle, WA “NEW WORK”

2014 Lanoue Gallery, Boston, MA “Without Words”

2014 Gilman Contemporary, ID “DEFINED”

2013 Argazzi Art, Lakevill, CT

2012 Gilman Contemporary, ID “She Comes and Goes As She Pleases”

2012 Argazzi Art, Lakeville, CT

2011 Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA “ 24/7”

2010 Pryor Fine Art, Atlanta, GA NEW WORK

2010 Blue Gallery, Kansas City, MO

2009 Gallery One, Nashville, TN. INTERSECTIONS: Between Dreams and Memory

2009 Bennett Street Gallery, Atlanta, GA NEW WORK

2009 Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA JOURNEY

GROUP SHOWS

2014 Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA

2014 Patricia Rovzar Gallery, Seattle, WA

2014 C Parker Gallery, CT “Yes She Can”

2013 Lanoue Fine Art, MA “A Few Of My Favorite Things”

2012 Argazzi Fine Art, Lakeville, CT

2012 Lanoue Fine Art, MA “Summer Salon Show”

2012 Rosenbaum Contemporary, Boca Raton, FL

2012 Floria/Forre, Aspen, CO

2012 Art MRKT San Francisco, CA 2012

2012 Argazzi Fine Art, Lakeville, CT

2012 West Branch Gallery, Stowe, VT

2012 Forre Fine Art, Aspen/Vail, CO

2011 Gilman Contemporary, Ketchum, ID

2011 Spring Group Show, Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA

2011 Forre Fine Art, Aspen, CO

2010 Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA



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Sudbury, MA

2010 Blue Gallery, Kansas City, MO
2010 Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA
2009 Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA
2009 Bennett Street Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2008 Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA
2008 Bennett Street Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2008 Gallery One, Nashville, TN 3 person show, "In Minds Eye"
2007 Cumberland Gallery, Nashville, TN Packages Large & Small
2007 Cumberland Gallery, Nashville, TN "Artists In Heat"
2007 Lanoue Fine Art, Boston, MA "VISIONS: Contemporary Female Artists"
2007 Lanoue Fine Art Boston, MA Group Show
2006 Etherington Fine Art, Vineyard Haven Group Show
2005 Windsor Gallery, Dania, FL Group Show
2003 Family Tree Gallery, Portsmouth, NH
2003 Hanson Gallery, Wellfleet, MA Group Show
2001 Artana Gallery, Framingham, MA Group Show

MUSEUMS

Endicott College, Beverly, MA. February 2009
BOSTON PAINTS: 22 Boston Painters

Eleanor D. Wilson Museum at Hollis University, VA. July 2007
"Visions: Contemporary Female Artists"

COMPETITIONS

2008 Danforth Museum Member Show, Juror: Carol Anne Meehan, Curator ICA Boston
Frances Roddy Competition, Concord Art Association 2005, 2006
2006 Juror: Howard Yezerski, Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, MA
2005 Juror: Katherine French, curator Danforth Museum, Framingham, MA
South End Open Studios, Juried Space 2004, 2005
Cathy Shuman, Art Consultant 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003
First Expressions Gallery, Boston: Invitational Show 2000
First Expressions Gallery, Boston: Juried Competition 1997, 1998, 1999
Annual Drawing Competition, SMFA 1996, 1997
First Expressions Gallery, Boston: Juried Competition 1995, 1996

PUBLICATIONS

New York Times 1/23/2014
Lakeville Journal, CT 7/2012
New England Home Magazine 3/2012
ArtScope 3/2009
ArtScope 7/2008
Boston Globe 3/23/2000
Arts Media, December 1996

SELECTED CORPORATE COLLECTIONS

Bellevue Research Inc, Cambridge, MA
Escada Retail Inc, Boston, MA
Medical Portfolio Mgmt., LLC, Cambridge, MA
St. Regis Hotels, Atlanta, GA
Gaylord Entertainment Resorts, Nashville, TN