

Philip Martin Gallery

# Lew Thomas

Born 1932 in San Francisco, CA

Lived and worked in Petaluma, CA

## EDUCATION

1962 BA, English Literature, University of San Francisco, CA

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 *Lew Thomas*, Cherry and Martin, Los Angeles, CA
- 1995 *Personal Pastime*: Hilderbrand Gallery, New Orleans, LA  
*Pictures from the Picture Book* (catalog), allerArt Bludenz – Verein zur Förderung von Kunst und Kultur, Bludenz, Austria
- 1992 *Snap-On-Art*, Marguerite Oestreicher, New Orleans
- 1990 *Domestic Photos of the 70s*, Arthur Roger Gallery, New Orleans, LA
- 1989 *My Movie Star*, Simonne Stern Gallery, New Orleans, LA
- 1988 *I Have My Own Ideas*, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Doubling, Graham Gallery, Houston, TX
- 1987 *Pictures on Words*, Allen Street, Dallas, TX
- 1986 *Untitled*, Artists League Texas, Abilene, TX  
*VCR Film Still*, Graham Gallery, Houston, TX  
*Untitled*, University of Texas, Arlington, TX
- 1985 *VCR Film Still Series, Asher/Faure*, Los Angeles, CA
- 1981 *Installation: Vitruvian Context*, Ohio State University of Art, Columbus, OH
- 1980 *Reproductions of Reproductions, Center Creative Photography*, AZ  
*Bookspines, Fraenkel Gallery*, San Francisco, CA  
*Bookspines, Asher/Faure*, Los Angeles, CA  
*Installation: Vitruvian Context*, Zriny Hayes, Chicago, IL
- 1979 *Scale* (poster), Washington Project for the Arts, Washington, DC  
*Bibliography(s)*, Lawson deCelle, San Francisco, CA
- 1976 *Vitruvian Context: 1482-1976*, San Jose State University Art Gallery, San Jose, CA  
*The Photographic Works*, William Sawyer Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*Outside/Inside* (poster), *The Coffee Gallery*, San Francisco, CA
- 1975 *Bracketing*, Darkroom Workshop, Berkeley, CA  
*8 x 10* (catalog), Mills College Art Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 1974 *8 x 10*, Lamkin Camerawork, San Francisco, CA  
*Photographic Corners*, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
- 1973 *Photography of Ennui*, deSaisset Art Gallery, University of Santa Clara, CA

3342 Verdugo Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90065

www.philipmartingallery.com +1 (323)-507-2037

## Philip Martin Gallery

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Pocket Universe*, Philip Martin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2022 *Time Management Techniques*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
*On Repeat: Serial Photography*, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI  
*Photographic Pictures: Curated by Anne Collier*, Anton Kern Gallery, New York, NY
- 2021 *Language, Sequence, Structure: Photographic Works by Lew Thomas, Donna-Lee Phillips, and Hal Fischer*, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA
- 2020 *Thought Pieces: 1970s Photographs by Lew Thomas, Donna-Lee Phillips and Hal Fischer*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- 2018 *Way Bay 2*, University of California, Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA  
*Do Something To It. Do Something Else To It.*, Philip Martin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 *Perfectly Concocted Context*, curated by Jonathan Monk, Cherry and Martin, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 *Photography and Language*, Cherry and Martin, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 *Richard Wright: Nine Chains To The Moon (Chapter 3)*, BQ, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 *PURE WATER*, LENTOS Kunstmuseum Linz, Linz, Austria
- 2012 *Photography, Sequence, & Time*, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA
- 2009 *Galaxy: A Hundred Or So Stars Visible To The Naked Eye*, University of California, Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA
- 2002 *Picturing Modernity*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- 2001 *Recent Acquisitions (Three Circles)*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, SF, CA  
*Post Modern Americans*, Menil Collection, Houston, TX
- 1998 *Photography After Modernism*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, SF, CA
- 1996 *7 Strangers*, Faure Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1994 *Dialogues with Photography* (catalog), Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
*Picasso to Christo*, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
- 1993 *Multiple Images Since 1965*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- 1993 *Cast in Glass*, Gallery 1/0, New Orleans, LA  
*Sprung in Dei Zeit (Jump Into Time)* (catalog), Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, Germany
- 1992 *Crowning Achievements*, San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, CA
- 1991 *Object and Image*, Menil Collection, Houston, TX  
*Murdering Representation*, X-ART & Glass Works, New Orleans, LA  
*Off the Canvas*, Asher/Faure, Los Angeles, CA
- 1990 *Crossing the Line: Word & Image*, Montgomery Art Museum, Pomona, CA  
*Big Pictures: Large-Scale Photography in California*, Mills College, Oakland, CA
- 1989 *150 Years of Photography*, Oliver Art Center College Art & Crafts, CA
- 1987 *Third Coast: Texas Art* (catalog), Aspen Art Center, Aspen, CO  
*Found*, Diverseworks, Houston, TX  
*Photography Technology*, Houston Center for Photography, Houston, TX  
*Photography & Art Since 1945*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
- 1986 *Black, White & Color* (poster), Diverseworks, Houston, TX  
*Still: Cinema & Video Transformed*, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
- 1984 *Photography in California since 1945*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, SF, CA
- 1983 *Big Pictures by Contemporary Photographers* (catalog), MOMA, New York, NY
- 1982 *20<sup>th</sup> Century Photography from MOMA Collection*, Seibu, Tokyo, Japan

3342 Verdugo Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90065

www.philipmartingallery.com +1 (323)-507-2037

## Philip Martin Gallery

- 1981 *Target Three: In Sequence* (catalog), Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, TX  
*Photographs & Words* (catalog), San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, SF, CA  
*Erweiterte Fotographi* (catalog), 5 Internationale Wien, Wien, Austria
- 1980 *Absage An Das Einzelbild* (catalog), Folkwang Museum Fotografische Sammlung Essen, West Germany
- 1979 Texas Contemporary Art Museum, Fort Worth, TX
- 1978 *Global Passport* (catalog), San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1977 *West Coast Conceptual Photography* (catalog), LaMamelle, San Francisco, CA
- 1976 *Photography And Language* (catalog), CameraWork, San Francisco, CA
- 1974 *New Photography: San Francisco and the Bay Area* (catalog), M.H. DeYoung Museum, San Francisco, CA
- 1972 *Portfolios and Series*, Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, CA
- 1970 *San Francisco Art Institute Centennial Exhibition* (catalog), San Francisco, CA

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2021 Whiting, Sam. "Lew Thomas, S.F. native and guiding light in conceptual photography, dies at 88," *San Francisco Chronicle*, September 16, 2021.  
Staff. "Lew Thomas (1932-2021)," *Artforum*, September 7, 2021.  
Escalante-De Mattei, Shanti. "Lew Thomas, Pioneer of Bay Area Conceptual Photography, Is Dead at 88," *ARTNews*, September 3, 2021.
- 2020 O'Toole, Erin. "Thought Pieces: 1970s Photographs by Lew Thomas, Donna-Lee Phillips, and Hal Fischer," Mack Books, April 2020.  
West, Stephen. "Mix Photos and Words, Add a Dash of Wit," *Cultural Weekly*, January 15, 2020.
- 2019 Rosen, Miss. "Gay Semiotics: Hal Fischer's Landmark 1970s Photo Series, in His Own Words," *Another Man*, October 24, 2019.  
Bravo, Tony. "Hal Fischer's Castro scene photos revived in 'The Gay Seventies,'" *SF Chronicle*, October 17, 2019.
- 2014 Verlag Jung und Jung, ed., Reines Wasser. Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz and Verlag Jung und Jung, 2014.  
O'Toole, Erin. "Redux: Lew Thomas's Structural(ism) and Photography," *Aperture Magazine* (Winter 2014), pp. 13-14.  
Lehrer-Graiwer, Sarah. "Top 10 of 2014: Lew Thomas," *ARTFORUM* (December 2014), p. 263.  
Bryant, Eric. "Lew Thomas," *Modern Painters*, June 2014, p.87.
- 1995 Waddington, Chris. "Local artist uses past and present to rich effect," *The Times Picayune*, September 1995.  
Bookhardt, D. Eric. "Personal Pastimes," *Inside Art*, September 1995.
- 1989 Green, Roger. "Taking photography beyond the obvious," *The Times Picayune*, October 20, 1989, p. 21.
- 1986 Strauss, David Levi. "Profile: Lew Thomas," ACTS 5. London: St. James Press, 1986/87.
- 1985 Johnstone, Mark. "Reshaping the Familiar," *Artweek* (December 1985).  
Lawrence, Michael. Review of Lew Thomas, Asher/Faure. *West Hollywood Paper*, December 12, 1985.
- 1983 Ed. "On View at the Modern," *The New York Times*, April 10, 1983, p. 33.
- 1981 San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. "Photographs and Words, An Exhibition" (multi-page advertisement with reproductions of Lew Thomas's work), *Artforum*, Summer 1981, p. 21-27.

## Philip Martin Gallery

- 1980 Morgan, Robert C. "You Can't Tell a Book by Its Cover (But You Can Locate a Text by Its Spine)," *Journal Southern California Art + Magazine*, October 1980, No. 28, pp. 53-55.  
Murray, Joan. "Lew Thomas' Library," *Artweek* (August 1980).  
Myers, Jr., George. "Culture & Anarchy: Structuralism and Photography, by Lew Thomas," *Gargoyle Magazine*, February 1980.
- 1977 Chahroudi, Martha. Review of Photography and Language. *Afterimage*, April 1977, p. 17.

## PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA  
Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ  
Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
High Museum, Atlanta, GA  
Menil Collection, Houston, TX  
Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kentucky City, MO  
New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA  
Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, UT  
Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, NJ  
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA  
University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley, CA  
Walt Disney Development Company, Los Angeles, CA

## AWARDS/GRANTS

- 1996 Louisiana Division of the Arts, Artist's Mini Grant  
1995 Florsheim Fund for Purchase of Artist's Work, University Art Museum, Berkeley, CA  
1989 American Federation of Arts, Award of Excellence, (catalog), Louisiana Artists Pages: Love in the Ruins
- 1986 National Endowment for the Arts, Photography  
1981 National Endowment for the Arts, Photography Publications (The Restless Decade)  
1980 National Endowment for the Arts, Photography  
National Endowment for the Arts, Photography Publications (The Restless Decade)  
National Endowment for the Arts, Photography Exhibitions (Photographs & Words), San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
Printing Industries of America, Graphic Arts Award
- 1979 National Endowment for the Arts, Artist  
National Endowment for the Arts, Photography Publication,  
(Still Photography. The Problematic Model) NFS Press  
Ellison Book Award, Design Citation ("harmony of text and format"), University of Cincinnati,  
(Turtle: Poems:Book)
- 1976 Society for the encouragement of Contemporary Art (SECA), (Photography and Language)  
1975 National Endowment for the Arts, Photography  
1974 Printing Industries of America, Graphic Arts Award  
lio Liston Memorial Publications Award, Mills College and Western Association of Art

3342 Verdugo Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90065

www.philipmartingallery.com +1 (323)-507-2037

## Philip Martin Gallery

Museums, (The Thinker)

### PUBLICATIONS

- 1997 Thomas, Lew, ed. Stan Rice: Paintings, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1997.
- 1995 Thomas, Lew, ed. The Body Photographic, New Orleans: Contemporary Arts Center, 1995.
- 1994 Thomas, Lew. Picture Book, New Orleans: NFS Press, 1994.
- 1990 Thomas, Lew, ed. Visionary Imagists, New Orleans: Contemporary Arts Center, 1990.
- Thomas, Lew, ed. Robert Carey Tannen: REPROspective, New Orleans: Contemporary Arts Center, 1990.
- 1989 Thomas, Lew and Tom Dolan, eds. Louisiana Artists' Pages: Love in the Ruins, New Orleans: Contemporary Arts Center, 1989.
- Thomas, Lew, ed. Lies and More Lies: Photography of Representation, New Orleans: Contemporary Arts Center, 1989.
- 1986 Thomas, Lew, ed. Not for the Livingroom, Houston, TX: Diverseworks, 1986.
- Thomas, Lew, ed. The Restless Decade, New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1986 (REPRINT).
- 1984 Thomas, Lew, ed. The Restless Decade: John Gutmann's Photographs of the Thirties, New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1984.
- 1981 Thomas, Lew, ed. Still Photography: The Problematic Model, San Francisco, CA: NFS Press, 1981.
- 1980 Thomas, Lew, ed. Pages From A Child's Documentary, San Francisco, CA: NFS Press, 1980.
- 1979 Thomas, Lew, ed. 18th near Castro Street X 24, San Francisco, CA: NFS Press, 1979.
- 1978 Thomas, Lew, ed. Gay Semiotics, San Francisco, CA: NFS Press, 1978.
- 1977 Thomas, Lew, ed. Photography & Ideology, Los Angeles, CA: Dumb Ox Press, 1977.
- Thomas, Lew. Structuralism & Photography, San Francisco, CA: NFS Press, 1977.
- Thomas, Lew and Donna-Lee Phillips, eds. Eros & Photography, San Francisco, CA: NFS Press, 1977.
- 1976 Thomas, Lew, ed. Photography & Language, San Francisco, CA: NFS Press, 1976.
- 1975 Thomas, Lew. 8 x 10, San Francisco, CA: NFS Press, 1975.
- 1974 Thomas, Lew. The Thinker, San Francisco, CA: The Fine Arts Museum, 1974.

### SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA  
Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ  
Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
High Museum, Atlanta, GA  
Menil Collection, Houston, TX  
Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO  
New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA  
Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, UT  
Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, NJ  
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA

3342 Verdugo Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90065  
www.philipmartingallery.com +1 (323)-507-2037