

ANNA HELD AUDETTE annaheldaudette.com

Contact: Louis G. Audette
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Statement

My paintings comment on the melancholy beauty found in relics of our industrial past. Both the literal and evocative meanings of these subjects strike a responsive chord in me and provide variations on a theme that has been central to my paintings for a long time.

These relics remind us that, in our rapidly changing world, the triumphs of technology are just a moment away from obsolescence. Yet these remains of collapsed power have a strength, grace and sadness that is both eloquent and impenetrable. Transfigured by time and light, which render the ordinary extraordinary, they form a visual requiem for the industrial age.

Biography

Anna Held Audette was born in New York City, in July 1938, the daughter of Ingrid Marta Held, the conservator for the New York Historical Society, and Julius Held, one of the preeminent art historians of the twentieth century. Not surprisingly, Anna turned to art early, attending first the Brealey School; Smith College, where she studied with Leonard Baskin, and then The Institute of Fine Arts in NY. She received her B.F.A. and M.F.A. from Yale, where she studied printmaking with Gabor Peterdi.

Anna began her working career as a printmaker, before turning to painting in oils. She was Professor of Art at Southern Connecticut State University for many years, teaching drawing and printmaking. Her publications, *The Blank Canvas* and *100 Creative Drawing Ideas* (below) came out of that teaching experience. The artist's main studio is in New Haven, CT. During the summer, she works in southern Vermont in a studio near the old farmhouse handed down from her family.

Early in her career, the artist became intrigued by modern ruins, the concept of planned obsolescence, and was fascinated by powerful industrial vehicles. She produced images of trucks of all kinds, abandoned and moving, including a selection of monotypes.

“Like the American Charles Sheeler, whose urban and industrial themes defined an iconography of the ‘machine age’ aesthetic, Anna Audette’s compositions reflect and comment on our own industrial age.” (Christie’s, 2009)

Selected Collections

Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, NH
Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, England
Housatonic Museum of Art, Bridgeport, CT
Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, CT
McGraw Hill, Columbus, OH

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Selected Collections, *continued*

Museo de Arte de Ponce, Ponce, Puerto Rico
National Aeronautics and Space Agency, Washington, DC
National Gallery of Art, Lessing Rosenwald Collection, Washington, DC
National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, CT
New Haven Museum and Historical Society, New Haven, CT
New York Public Library, New York, NY
Owens Corning, Toledo, OH
RCA Corporation, New York, NY
Rijksprentenkabinett, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT

Solo Exhibitions

2014 Housatonic Museum of Art, Bridgeport, CT
2014 Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, CT
2013 Reynolds Fine Art, New Haven, CT
2013 Washington Art Association, Washington Depot, CT
2012 John Slade Ely House - Center for Contemporary Art, New Haven, CT
2012 Windsor Art Center, Windsor, CT
2006 Blue Mountain Gallery, Inc., New York, NY
2006 Fenn Gallery - Contemporary, Woodbury, CT – also '05
2004 National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
2002 College of Staten Island, CUNY, Staten Island, NY
2000 Southern Vermont Arts Center, Manchester, VT
1999 Paul Mellon Arts Center, Wallingford, CT
1997 Marlboro College, Marlboro VT – also '8
1994 Munson Gallery, New Haven, CT – also '90, '87', 85, and '79
1982 Center for the Arts, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
1991 Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism sponsored exhibition
1978 Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA
1977 Fikrun Wa Fann Gallery, Alexandria, Egypt
1974 Slater Memorial Museum, Norwich, CT
1971 Philips Exeter Academy, Exeter, NH

Commissions

1991 National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC
1983 Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York, NY
1979 Barnard College, New York, NY
Gladstone Villani Gallery, New York, NY

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Publications

Ruins, Poems by Suzanne Nothnagle, Paintings by Anna Held Audette, Bunker Hill Publishing, New Hampshire, 2013, il., 96 pp.

100 Creative Drawing Ideas, compiled and edited by Anna Held Audette, Shambhala Publications, Boston, 2004, il., 241 pp.

Cover Photo for ***Mrs. Dumpty*** by Chana Bloch, University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, 1998.

The Blank Canvas, Inviting the Muse, by Anna Held Audette. Shambhala, Boston and London, 1993, il., pp. 109.

"Images Out of Time", *Connecticut Review*, Spring 1998.

Illustrator (18 Photographs) for ***Click, Rumble, Roar***, ed. by Lee Bennett Hopkins, T.Y. Crowell (Harper & Row), New York, 1987, pp. 40.

Illustrator (20 Photographs) for ***A Song in Stone City Poems***, ed. by Lee Bennett Hopkins, T.Y. Crowell (Harper & Row), New York, 1983 (also French & Italian Editions), pp. 40.

Illustrator (32 Drawings) for ***Past and Present, The Continuity of Classic Myths***, by Meyer Reinhold, Hakkert, Ltd., London, Ontario, 1972, il., pp. 449.

The Impress of Anatomy, *Artists Proof*, Pratt Institute, Dec. 1965.