

# The Pit

3015 Dolores St, Los Angeles, CA 90065, [www.the-pit.la](http://www.the-pit.la)

## **Benjamin Weissman**

b. 1957, Los Angeles, CA

Lives in Los Angeles, CA

## **Education**

1981 BFA, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA

## **Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions**

2024

*Cognitive Surge: Coach Stage*, with Paul McCarthy, The Pit, Los Angeles, CA.

2019

*Benjamin Weissman*, The Pit, Los Angeles, CA

*Benjamin Weissman and Amy Gerstler*, Rude Drawing, Los Angeles, CA

2018

*Benjamin Weissman and Ravi Jackson*, The Pit, Glendale, CA

2017

*We Never Kissed*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA

2014

*What Every Snowflake Knows in its Heart*, Santa Monica Museum of Art,  
Santa Monica, CA (two-person exhibition with Yutaka Sone)

2013

*Pornographic Coffin*, University of Southern California, Roski School  
of Fine Art Graduate Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2008

*Quilting Sessions 1997-2008*, Galleria civica di arte contemporanea,  
Trento, Italy; toured to Zacheta Narodowa Galeria Sztuki, Warsaw,  
Poland (2009) (collaboration with Paul McCarthy) (cat.)

1997

*Two Snowmen*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
(collaboration with Paul McCarthy)

1996

*I, Robot*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

1995

*Jim Shaw / Benjamin Weissman*, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria

1994

Paul McCarthy & Benjamin Weissman, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Los  
Angeles, CA

1992

*Horror Vacui*, Linda Cathcart Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA  
(collaboration with Jim Shaw)

*The Virility Room and Other Stories*, Roy Boyd Gallery, Chicago, IL

### **Group Exhibitions**

2016

*Impromptu*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA

2015

*Black & White Mike*, Center for the Arts Eagle Rock, Los Angeles, CA  
(curator)

*Drawing Show*, Greene Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA

2014

*Another Cat Show*, 356 Mission, Los Angeles, CA

*A Public Fiction: Made in L.A.*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA

*Men in L.A.: 3 Generations of Drawing*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA

*Valley Vista: Art in the San Fernando Valley, 1970-1990*, California State University, Northridge, CA (curated by Damon Willick)

*Four Figures*, Marc Selwyn Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (curated by Tom Knechtel)

*Cherub, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cannons*, Los Angeles, CA (curated by Andrew Berardini and Brian Kennon)

2011

*The Pursuit of Happiness: Experiments in Radical Leisure*, The Archives: A Ship in the Woods, Del Mar, CA (with David Humphrey) (curated by Kiersten Puusemp)

2005

*The Lateral Slip*, Sweeney Art Gallery, University of California, Riverside, CA (curated by Jan Tumlrir)

*The Picture I Carry in My Head*, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (curated by Terri Phillips)

2004

*Walking on Elbows*, Anna Helwing Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (curated by Mindy Shapero)

*The Dogs*, Karyn Lovegrove Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (curated by Francesca Gabbiani)

*100 Artists See God*, The Jewish Museum, San Francisco, CA; toured to Institute of Contemporary Arts London, United Kingdom (2005); Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, Virginia Beach, VA (2005); Freedman Art Gallery, Reading, PA (2006); Cheekwood Museum of Art, Nashville, TN (2006) (curated by John Baldessari and Meg Cranston) (cat.)

*Frozen Fears & The Axxxxpressunizm Show*, Vilma Gold, London, United Kingdom

2003

*Kohn: Youngstars*, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria

2002

*Mapping the Process*, Essor Gallery, London, United Kingdom

(collaboration with Paul McCarthy)

*Homage to Rudolf Schwarzkogler*, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria

*Line Up: A drawing show*, Happy Lion, Los Angeles, CA

*London is Balling*, Bart Wells Institute, London, United Kingdom

2001

*Snow*, Practice Space, Los Angeles, CA

*Civil Disobedience*, Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover, Germany

*Recent Acquisitions Featuring the Norton Gift*, Berkeley Art Museum,  
Berkeley, CA

2000

*The Fashion Show*, George's, Los Angeles, CA

*Not Coming, Projections: Intermission Images VII*, Laemmle Grande  
Fourplex, Los Angeles, CA

1998

*Alpenblick: Contemporary Art and the Alpine*, Kunsthalle Vienna,  
Vienna, Austria

*L.A. On Paper 1, RE-LAX*, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria

*I'm Still In Love With You*, Women's 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club, Los Angeles, CA

1997

*The Eagle Rock Show*, Los Angeles, CA

1996

*The Comic Depiction of Sex in American Art*, Lisa Ungar Galerie,  
Munich, Germany

*Art Against AIDS*, Galerie Mikael Andersson, Copenhagen

1995

*Raymond Pettibon, Jim Shaw, Benjamin Weissman*, Galerie  
Praz-Delavallade, Paris, France

*An Offering to San Simon*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica,  
CA

1994

*Red Rover Red Rover*, Three Day Weekend, Los Angeles, CA

*Utopische Kunst/Künstliche Utopie*, Verein Kunst Werk, Friedrichshof,  
Austria

*The Grammarians*, Guggenheim Gallery, Chapman University, Orange, CA  
1993

*Bair, Cranston, Strode, Weissman*, 1301PE, Los Angeles, CA

*The Language of Art*, Kunsthalle Vienna, Vienna, Austria

*Mr. Serling's Neighborhood*, Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica,  
CA

*The Return of the Cadavre Exquis*, The Drawing Center, New York, NY  
1992

*LAX: Burden, Kelley, McCarthy, Pettibon, Pittman, Rubens, Shaw,  
Weissman, Vallance*, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria

*Examples Cool & Lonely*, Roy Boyd Gallery, Chicago, IL

1991

*Helter Skelter*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA

(collaboration with Jim Shaw)

### **Public Collections**

Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA

### **Audio Works**

Stephen Prina, *Push Comes to Love*, Drag City, Chicago, IL, 1999

(lyricist)

Jim Shaw, *45*, self-released, Los Angeles, CA, 1996 (lyricist)

*Oostende*, Big Truck Records, Los Angeles, CA 1994 (writer /

performer)

### **Selected Published Writings**

"Boris Lurie," *The Three Prophets: Stanley Fisher, Sam Goodman, Boris  
Lurie*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA 2013

*Nine Dwarves*, Paul McCarthy, Kukje Gallery, Seoul, Korea 2012

Untitled essay, *The Pursuit of Happiness: Experiments in Radical Leisure*, edited by Kiersten Puusemp, Del Mar, CA, 2011

Untitled essay, *Paul McCarthy: Three Sculptures*, L&M Arts, Los Angeles, CA, 2010

Untitled essay, *Nothing Moments*, Steven Hull / Nothing Moments Publishing, Los Angeles, CA 2007

"West," *A Fictional History of the United States with Huge Chunks Missing*, edited by T. Cooper & Adam Mansbach, Akashic Press, Brooklyn, NY, 2006

Untitled story, *Ab Ovo*, Stephen Hull / Nothing Moments Publishing, Los Angeles, CA, 2006

Untitled essay, *Yutaka Sone: Snowflake*, Renaissance Society, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2006

Untitled essay, *Matt Greene: Surrender!*, Deitch Projects, New York, NY, 2006

Untitled essay, *Raymond Pettibon*, Centro De Arte Contemporaneo, Málaga, Spain, 2006

Untitled essay, *Frozen Tears: The World is Flesh*, edited by John Russell, Article Press, 2004

*Headless*, edited by Dennis Cooper, Akashic Books, Brooklyn, NY, 2004

Untitled essay, *Yutaka Sone: Happy Trail*, Shiseido Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, 2003

Untitled essay, *On Wanting to Grow Horns: The Little Theater of Tom Knechtel*, Ben Maltz Gallery, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, CA 2002

"Lari Pittman," *The Mystery of Painting*, Goetz Collection, Munich, Germany, 2002

"Story of Waterston," *Darren Waterston*, St. Anne's Press, Los Angeles, CA, 2001

Untitled story, *Another City: Writing from Los Angeles*, City Lights Books, San Francisco, CA, 2001

Untitled essay, *Patrick Hogan*, Ben Maltz Gallery, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, CA, 2001

Untitled essay, *Ghosts Adrift: Thaddeus Strode*, Kunstverein Heilbronn, Heilbronn, Germany, 2001

Untitled essay, MOMENTUM: Nordic Festival of Contemporary Art, Moss, Norway, 2000

Untitled essay, *Wendy L. Moore*, Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH, 1998

Untitled essay, *Unnatural Disasters: Recent Writing from the Golden State*, Incommunicado Press, New York, NY 1996

Untitled essay, *Absolute Disaster: Fiction from Los Angeles*, Dove Books, Los Angeles, CA, 1996

Untitled essay, *High Risk 2: Writings on Death, Sex, and Subversion*, Plume, New York, NY, 1994

Hirsch Perlman (Museum of Modern Art), 1998

Untitled essay, *William S. Burroughs: Concrete and Buckshot*, Smart Art Press, Los Angeles, CA, 1997

Untitled essay, *Things That Quicken the Heart*, Pan-American, 1996

*Dear Dead Person*, Serpent's Tail, London, United Kingdom, 1994

Untitled essay, *Binaera: 14 Interaktionen—Kunst und Technologie*, Kunsthalle Vienna, Vienna, Austria, 1993

Untitled essay, *Helter Skelter: L.A. Art in the 1990s*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA 1991

"The *Why I Love Violence* Speech," *Cindy Bernard: Ask the Dust*, Richard Kuhlenschmidt Gallery), 1990

Untitled essay, *The Conceptual Impulse*, Security Pacific Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 1990

Untitled essay, *Loaded*, Richard Kuhlenschmidt Gallery, Los Angeles, CA 1989

Untitled essay, *L.A. Hot and Cool: The Eighties*, List Visual Arts Center, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 1987

Untitled essay, *TV Generations*, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA, 1986

"Assignment Outback," *Mike Kelley: Australiana*, Newport Harbor Biennial, Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA, 1984

### **Bibliography**

Jared Baxter, "Benjamin Weissman: The Box / Los Angeles," *Flash Art*, July 6, 2017

Sharon Mizota, "It started with a sex dream about a gorilla," *Los Angeles Times*, June 16, 2017.

*Paul McCarthy & Benjamin Weissman: Quilting Sessions 1997-2008*, Silvana Editoriale, Milan, Italy, 2008

Rachel Kushner, "Interview with Benjamin Weissman," *The Believer*, March 2005.

### **Selected Readings**

2015

Los Angeles Downtown Public Library, Los Angeles, CA

2000

The Autobiography of Paul McCarthy, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA

Loser Fiction, California Institute of the Arts, Los Angeles, CA

Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles, CA

1999

History of Beyond Baroque, New School University, New York, NY

Get It In Writing, Beyond Baroque, Venice, CA (with Aimee Bender)

1996

Huntington Beach Art Center, Huntington Beach, CA (with James Elroy)

1994

The Drawing Center, New York NY (with John Cale)

1990

Fiction Reading (w/Edmund White), Beyond Baroque, Venice, CA