

Albert Paley

Artist Bio

Albert Paley is the first metal sculptor to receive the coveted Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Institute of Architects, the AIA's highest award to a non-architect. He has been active as an artist for over 30 years at his studio in Rochester, New York.

Commissioned by both public institutions and private corporations, Paley has completed more than 60 site-specific works. Pieces by Albert Paley can be found in the permanent collections of many major museums including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, Western Australia, Fitzwilliam, and British Museum.

Broadly published and an international lecturer, Paley received both his BFA and MFA from the Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia. He received honorary doctorates from the University of Rochester in 1989, the State University of New York at Brockport in 1996, and St. Lawrence University, in Canton, New York in 1997. He also holds an endowed chair at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

Distinguished Professor holding the Charlotte Fredericks Mowris Professorship in Contemporary Crafts, School for American Crafts, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York

Selected Major Commissions

2010

24th Street Bridge Sculptures, Council Bluffs, Iowa, four freestanding exterior sculptures.

2009

Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences, Charleston, West Virginia, freestanding exterior sculpture.

Mexico Sculpture, Monterrey, Mexico, freestanding exterior sculpture

2008

Trenton Station, Trenton, New Jersey, Zenith, freestanding exterior sculpture.

Riviera Condominiums, Fort Myers, Florida, freestanding sculpture

Village of Hope, Orange County, California, entrance portal.

National Harbor, Alexandria, Virginia, exterior pylon sculptures.

2007

Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, Transformation, entrance sculpture.

Klein Steel Corporation, Rochester, New York, Threshold, exterior sculpture.

2006

National Cathedral, Washington, D.C., Good Shepard Chapel Entrance Gates.

St. Louis Zoological Park, St. Louis, Missouri, Animals Always, exterior plaza sculpture.

2005

Memphis Museum of Art, Memphis Tennessee, Memphis Portals, exterior gates.

2004

D C Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Washington, DC. Epoch, exterior sculpture.

Lake Mirror Park, Lakeland, Florida. Tribute to Volunteerism, exterior sculpture.

Cleveland Botanical Garden, Cleveland, Ohio. ceremonial archway.

Monahan Pacific, San Rafael, California. Volute, exterior sculpture.

M D Anderson Ambulatory, Houston, Texas. Tree of Life, interior sculpture.

2003

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York. Sentinel exterior sculpture.

2002

Hotel Pattee, Perry, Iowa. Reconfiguration, pair of sculptural archways for courtyard.

Wellington Place, Toronto, Canada. Constellation, sculptural relief for façade.

Columbia Public Library, Columbia, Missouri. Cypher, pair of entrance sculptures.

2001

Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, Florida. Cross Currents, exterior sculpture.

99 North La Cienega Blvd., Beverly Hills, California, Oblique, exterior sculpture.

The Commission Project, Rochester, New York. J D Award Sculpture.

2000

Naples Museum of Art, Naples Florida. Portal Gates.

University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. Architectural Screen.

Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, New York. Diversity Award Sculpture and Medallions.

1999

Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, Stadium Gates.

The Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio, Confluence, design of meeting and banquet space including sideboards, sconces, and mirrors.

1998

Adobe Systems, Inc., San Jose, California. Horizon, exterior sculpture, water fountain and lighting features for plaza complex.

Anchorage, Alaska, The Municipality of Anchorage, Solstice, exterior sculpture.

University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio. Symbion, exterior sculpture.

1997

San Francisco Civic Center Court House, San Francisco, California. Design of Rotunda Entrance Portals.

Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. Gnomon, exterior sculpture.

American Bankers Insurance Group, Miami, Florida. Exterior Sculpture.

Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England. Sculptures, honorary awards.

Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Entrance Portals for Alumni Hall.

1996

Bausch and Lomb Corporate Headquarters, Rochester, New York. Genesee Passage, exterior sculpture.

Sony Pictures Entertainment, Culver Studios, Culver City, California. Primordial Reflections, exterior sculpture

1995

Federal Building, Asheville, North Carolina. Passage exterior sculpture.

1994

Federal Courthouse, Camden, New Jersey. Metamorphosis, interior sculpture for rotunda.

Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England. Museum Bench.

1992

Montgomery County, Maryland, Silver Springs, Maryland. Criss-Cross, exterior sculpture.

1991

State University, Phoenix Campus, Phoenix, Arizona. Ceremonial Gateway.

1990

AT&T, Promenade Two Building, Atlanta, Georgia. Olympia, exterior sculpture.
Roanoke Airport, Roanoke, Virginia. Aurora, exterior sculpture.
Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama. Confluence, exterior sculpture.

1989

City of Rochester, New York. Main Street Redevelopment Project. Bridge Railings.
Naples/Marco Philharmonic Building, Naples, Florida. Main Entrance Doors.

1988

Cornell University Medical College, New York, New York. Window Screen.
Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester, New York. Convergence, interior sculpture.
State of Connecticut, Hartford Superior Court Building, Hartford, Connecticut. Hexad, interior sculpture.

1987

Wortham Center for the Performing Arts, Houston, Texas. Eight Stairway Sculptures.
Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority, Milk Street Station, Boston, Massachusetts. Entrance Gateway.
Museum Towers, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Synergy, exterior archway sculpture.

1986

Gannett Publishing Corporation, Washington, DC. Bronze Wall Relief
New York State, New York State Governor's Art Awards.

1985

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia. Pedestrian and Vehicular Entrance Gates.
The Willard Building, Washington, DC. Interior sculpture, Door Handles.

1984

Light Rail Transit System of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Poster Cases.
Harro Theater East, Rochester, New York. Conclave, exterior sculpture.

1983

Hyatt Grand Cypress Hotel, Orlando, Florida. Stair Enclosure.
Clyde's Restaurant, Tyson's Corner, Virginia. Fountain.
Merritt Gallery, Rochester, New York. Entrance Gate.
Marriott Hotel, Washington, DC. Gates.

1982

Strong Museum, Rochester, New York. Exterior sculpture.

1981

Pennsylvania Avenue Redevelopment Corporation, Washington, DC. Tree Grates and Benches for Pennsylvania Avenue.

1980

New York State Senate Chambers, Albany, New York. Two pair Portal Gates.
Prospect Place, Washington, DC. Exterior Clock.

1979

Clyde's Restaurant, Tyson's Corner, Virginia. Pergola, Banisters, and Railings, Push Plates for revolving doors.

1978

City of Philadelphia, Redevelopment Authority, Security Screens.

1976

Gannett Corporation, Inc., Corporate Headquarters, Rochester, New York. Fireplace Hood.

1975

Hunter Museum of Art, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Sculpture Court Enclosure.

1974

Smithsonian Institution, Renwick Gallery, National Museum of American Art, Washington, DC. Portal Gates.

Selected Permanent Collections

Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama
The British Museum, London, England
Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio
Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, Delaware
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, Michigan
Cambridge University, The Fitzwilliam Museum, England
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
Gannett Publishing Corporation, Washington, DC
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia
Hunter Museum of Art, Chattanooga, Tennessee
Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York
The Memphis Brooks Museum of Art
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York
Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul, Minnesota
Museum of Art, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, Massachusetts
Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, Texas
The Newark Museum, Newark, New Jersey
Philadelphia Archdiocese, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Smithsonian Institution, Renwick Gallery, Washington, DC
Strong Museum, Rochester, New York
Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio
Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Victoria & Albert Museum, London, England
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia
The White House, Washington, D.C.
Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts
Wustum Museum of Fine Art, Racine, Wisconsin
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut

Selected Awards

1997

Smithsonian Institution, Masters of the Medium Award, Washington, DC

1995

American Institute of Architects (AIA), Institute Honors Recipient, Lifetime Achievement Award
National Association of Schools of Art and Design, Citation for Distinguished Service in the Visual Arts

1994

American Craft Council (ACC), Inducted to the College of Fellows

1982

American Institute of Architects (AIA), Award of Excellence

Selected Exhibitions

2010

Albert Paley in the 21st Century, Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester, Rochester, New York

2009-10

Albert Paley: Dialogue with Steel, Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton, New Jersey

2008-09

Monumental Forms: Drawings, Models and Sculptures, Academy Art Museum, Easton, Maryland

2008

American Modernist Jewelry 1940-1970, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, Indiana
Rococo: The Continuing Curve 1730-2008, Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, Washington DC

2007-09

Craft in America: Expanding Traditions, Craft in America Inc., traveling exhibition
In the Shadow of the Alps, St. Urban, Switzerland

2007-08

Ornament as Art: Avant Garde Jewelry From the Helen Williams Drutt Collection, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas

2007

Albert Paley Portals & Gates, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa

2006

Open Spaces, Vancouver Biennale, Vancouver, British Columbia

2005

Transformations, the Language of Craft, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia

2004

Art Toronto, 2004, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

2003

Second International Sculpture Exhibition, Chetumal and Colima, Mexico

1999

Conju International Biennial '99, Conju City, Korea

1997

Albert Paley: Selected Works, Fine Art Society, London, England
Art Expo Chicago, Selected Work from the Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

1996

Art to Art: Paley, Dine, and Statom, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio.
Age of Steel: Recent Sculpture by Albert Paley, Museum of Art, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah
International Art Exhibition, Won-Kwang University, Iri City, Republic of South Korea

1993

Sculpture by Albert Paley, San Antonio Art Institute, San Antonio, Texas
Towards a New Iron Age, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England

1992

Albert Paley: Recent Sculpture, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

“Design Visions,” exhibition in association with The Second Australian International Crafts Triennial, Perth, Australia

Tokyo Art Expo, exhibition of sculpture and project documentation. Tokyo, Japan.

1989

Albert Paley, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, Wales

1986-87

Design in America, a cultural exchange exhibition in Yugoslavia, sponsored by US Information Agency, Washington, DC

1986

First World Congress of Iron, Aachen, West Germany

1976

Invitational Exhibition, Zlatarna Celje, Celje, Yugoslavia. Design Award.

Education

1997

Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, State University of New York at Brockport, Brockport, New York

1996

Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, St. Lawrence University, Canton, New York

1989

Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York

1966-69

Master of Fine Arts, Tyler School of Art, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1962-66

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Tyler School of Art, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Monograph

Ratcliff, Carter. Albert Paley in the 21st Century. Rochester, New York: Paley Studios Ltd., 2010

Lucie-Smith, Edward. The Art of Albert Paley: Iron, Bronze, Steel. New York: Abrams, Inc., 1996

Kuspit, Donald. Albert Paley Sculpture. Milan: Skira, 2006

Publications

Gilbert, Lela. Albert Paley Reconfiguration. Pintaubo Press, 2008.

Shearer, Linda. Albert Paley Threshold. Milan: Skira, 2008.

Rowe, M. Jessica. Albert Paley Portals and Gates. Ames, Iowa: University Museums, Iowa State University, 2007.

Kuspit, Donald. Albert Paley: Sculpture. Milan, Italy: Skira, 2006.

Yarrington, James ed. Sentinel: The Design, Fabrication, & Installation of the Monumental Sculpture by Albert Paley at Rochester Institute of Technology, NY. New York: RIT Cary Graphic Arts Press, 2005.

FSU Museum of Fine Arts. Albert Paley: Sculpture, Drawings, Graphics, and Decorative Arts. Tallahassee, Florida: Florida State University, 2001.

BYU Museum of Art. Albert Paley: Age of Steel. Utah: Brigham Young University, 1996.

Memorial Art Gallery. Inspiration & Context: The Drawings of Albert Paley. Rochester, New York: University of Rochester, 1994.