

# ANDREA SULZER

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15 September – 4 November 2018

Opening: Friday, 14 September, 7 p.m.  
The artist will be present.



Drawing and graphics are the focus of the works by Andrea Sulzer (b. 1961 in New York). As with the gallery's other artists, her engagement with a kind of collaging process, a kind of simulation or continuation of the classical concept of collage plays a central role, taking shape as an aesthetic discussion of historical premises and patterns of perception that manifest themselves in the work. Fragmented sketches, suspended and yet thoughtfully composed, which might indeed originate from a tangible object, be placed directly onto paper or stitched paper, then mounted onto wood, cut into pieces, reassembled, dented, crumpled and sculpturally extended, form a nexus of works.

Before turning to a creative career at the Glasgow School of Art, Sulzer initially studied forest biology. Nature and landscape have remained just as significant as sources of inspiration, as have aspects like mutability, processual events, fractures and upheavals, and uncertainties as fundamental and steadfast conditions of existence. These are reflected in the works, which ultimately possess a lyrical quality, constitute a poetic, dreamful tone. Abrupt gestures, brisk exchange and rhythms, seemingly figurative and abstract signs merge 'like the fluid and unstable nature of memory' (Andrea Sulzer), uniting in complex pictorial structures. 'Images dissolve and reorganise themselves, leaving the impression of a story that resists being told.' Observations overlap with historical and experiential impressions; a dialogue then arises, in part dramatic or lively, from these leaps in time, from the confrontation of reality and abstraction. Tension and balance held in suspense in a sophisticated equilibrium dominate and characterise these works. Sulzer explores the boundaries between the space of two-dimensional drawing and the space with which it relates – the surrounding space, interior space, or space in between. Her folios sometimes comprise a multilayered structure, particularly since up to eighty layers of ink can be laid over one another. Sulzer successfully lends her medium an ambiguous, a hybrid dimension, which goes far beyond the familiar matter of drawing and, by contrast, defines her art anew, placing it on a timely basis that approaches a discipline of mixed forms. Illustration thus experiences a zestful regeneration.

„My mark-making – a weaving of the past into the present – is not so much a way to record time but a way to be in time.“(Sulzer, 2008)

CV Sulzer

## EXHIBITIONS (Solo)

- 2018 (upcoming: September – October) Maurer Zilioli Contemporary Arts, Munich, Germany
- 2018 *sun comes up*, Perimeter Gallery, Belfast, Maine
- 2018 *entangled Pairs*, University of Maine Museum of Art, Bangor, Maine
- 2014 *andrea sulzer: throughoutsideways*, Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine
- 2012 *Verge*, University of Southern Maine, Area Gallery, Portland, Maine
- 2012 *oo o oooooo ooooo*, Perimeter Gallery, Belfast, Maine
- 2011 *Works on Paper*, ICON Contemporary Art, Brunswick, Maine
- 2010 *Turbulent Spaces*, Simonshof Foundation, Gleisweiler, Germany
- 2010 *New Drawings*, Coleman Burke Gallery, New York, New York
- 2009 *Light Weight*, ICON Contemporary Art, Brunswick, Maine
- 2008 *After Nature*, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, Maine
- 2007 *Spillway*, McCoy Gallery, Merrimack College, N. Andover, Massachusetts
- 2006 *Free Hand*, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockport, Maine
- 2006 *Serving Time*, Maine State House, Augusta, Maine
- 2005 *Worlds Apart: Drawings*, ICON Contemporary Art, Brunswick, Maine

## HONORS

- 2010,11,17 Maine Arts Commission: Project Grants
- 2007 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant
- 2006 Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation Grant
- 2005 Maine Arts Commission: Individual Artist Fellowship
- 2003 Glasgow School of Art: Horace W. Goldsmith Scholarship
- 2001 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture: Bingham Fellowship

## EDUCATION

- 2002-2004 Glasgow School of Art: Master of Fine Arts
- 2003 Universität der Künste, Berlin
- 2001 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture
- 1989-1991 University of Maine: Master of Science (Forest Biology)
- 1984-1985 Columbia University, Teachers College: Master of Arts
- 1982-1984 New York University: Bachelor of Arts (French)

## SELECTED PRESS

*Throughoutsideways: Sulzer setting her own paper trail* by Taryn Plumb, Artscope, July/ August, 2014

*The space between things: Andrea Sulzer's investigations into representation* by Britta Konau, The Portland Phoenix, May 8, 2014

*Art review: Andrea Sulzer at the Portland Museum of Art* by Daniel Kany, Maine Sunday Telegram, May 11, 2014

*Hepner and Sulzer together reveal the best in contemporary Maine Abstraction* by Daniel Kany, Maine Sunday Telegram, June 9, 2013

*Artists lay it on the line* by Sebastian Smee, The Boston Globe, August 19, 2011

*Wyeths, women at Bates illustrate the power of drawing* by Daniel Kany, Maine Sunday Telegram, July 24, 2011

*Gedanken und Gefühle sehen: Grosse Zeichnungen von Andrea Sulzer in der Stiftung Simonshof in Gleisweiler* Rheinpfalz Kultur Regional September 9, 2010

*Devil in the details: Andrea Sulzer's "After Nature" is a must-see* by Ian Paige, The Portland Phoenix, July 23, 2008

## PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

2015 *great blue*, mural, Portland, Maine (commissioned by Portland Mural Initiative)  
2008 Wall drawing for Medomak Valley Middle School, Maine (Maine Arts Commission)  
2011 Wall painting for Gorham Elementary School, Maine (Maine Arts Commission)

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Bates College Museum of Art  
Bowdoin College Museum of Art  
Colby College Museum of Art  
Portland Museum of Art  
SYZYGY – JoAnn Hickey Collection