

BOBBY DOWLER

b. 1983, London, UK. Lives and works in Asnières-sur-Seine, FR.

For over a decade, Bobby Dowler has collected that which nobody else wanted. Salvaging orphaned artwork from the streets of London, Paris and Tuscany, assembling spare materials gifted to him by fellow artists or purchased on the fly from local flea markets. Known for his material austerity, Dowler's work uses and reappropriates the detritus of his shifting urban environment to pursue a vision of painterly abstraction that is not only progressive and formally challenging but deeply embedded in the physical and psychological structures of social space. His hybrid 'painting-objects' combine intuitive forms of composition - often with direct physical gestures of stapling, gluing, cutting and tearing - with passages of applied painting, at times figurative, and at others in patterns or vivid monochrome, pushing and pulling his work from tableaux of post-modern geometry to sheer emotional intensities. Committed to central and recurring art-historical questions of authorship and objecthood, his work is nevertheless playful and revels in the illogical, mercurial nature of everyday human action, chance and circumstance.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025

Surplus & System: Studies in Rebuilt Form, VIE Projects, Paris, FR

Reasonable Adjustments, The Goma, Madrid, ES

2024

When You're Strange, Galería Alegría, Barcelona, ES

2022

Roadworks, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2021

<<"100,000%!">>, Galería Alegría, Barcelona, ES

2018

I will find one, Galería Alegría, Madrid, ES

2017

Something must happen, Sometimes It Happens, Studio Humberto Poblete-Bustamante, London, UK

2016

All thought is in signs, Kunstverein fAN, Vienna, AT

L'œuvre: A Question of Form and Necessity, Dino Morra Gallery, Naples, IT

2015

'Hooking on' – New work with Painting-Objects, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2011

Odd Paintings, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2008

Catastrophe, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK
Many Worlds, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

Existential Licence, 88 Friary Road, London, UK
Correspondance, Le Dix-sept, Paris, FR
Betwixt, Beyond & Unbound, Casa Gilardi, Mexico City, MX

2024

Fundraiser Exhibition, San Mei Gallery, London, UK
Italian Postcards, Galleria Il Bisonte, Florence, IT
Open Call, The Phoney Collective, Gallery Lock In, Brighton, UK
Feeling Time, 3+1 Arte Contemporânea, Lisbon, PT
Collection III, La Sira, Asnières-sur-Seine, FR
ANTI PETRA, COAM - Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos de Madrid, Madrid, ES
In Colour, Haricot Gallery, London, UK
Extempore 24, Tension Fine Art, London, UK
Construct, Cob Gallery, London, UK
Bobby Dowler, Michael Lombardo, Vincenzo Schillaci, Stan Van Steendam, Clipper Cuts, Brussels, BE

2023

Two for Joy, San Mei Gallery, London, UK
SlugTown Fundraiser, Slugtown, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
MN' Atlas L' Atlas, Atlas Plateau Urbain, Asnières-sur-Seine, FR (duo with Myriam Zarhloul)
Paris, Texas, Barbé Gallery, Gent, BE (duo with Stan Van Steendam)
Spectrum, Cairos Editions, Pantin-Paris, FR
133 Gallery, Tension Fine Art, London, UK
Recreational Grounds VII, Recreational Grounds, London, UK
Bronzers, Slugtown, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

2022

Collection, La Sira, Asnières-sur-Seine, FR
Salon in Sabina, Demoni Dazanti, Torri in Sabina, Lazio, IT
La Peinture Continue, Le Bouffadou, Paris, FR
WHAT MATTERS, Neoramart, Paris, FR
ArtHouse, Milton Keynes, UK
Paste Table Show, Tension Fine Art, London, UK
BOOKMARK, Kernaghan Books, The Bluecoat, Liverpool, UK
MERCH, Lethaby Gallery, UAL, London, UK
Field, Raum Gallery, London, UK
BLINK Room Share 3, Safehouse 1, London, UK.
Central Saint Martins MA Final Show, London, UK

2021

Unwrap!, Beaconsfield Gallery, London, UK

BAF BAF, 6B, Saint Denis, FR

Group Show, Allison Blumenthal and Camila Oliveira Fairclough Studio, Paris, FR

Too Young to Fruit, Velvet Projects, Brighton, UK

EXPO-PROTEST, Theatre de Verre, Paris, FR

Spectral Quarters! Part Deux, Paris, FR

2020

TEIDA 1 (The Exhibition I Dreamt About), curated by Michel Carmantrand (online)

When Net Becomes Form, Galería Alegría (online) (curator)

My Child Could Do Just As Well, Galerie Anne Barrault (online)

Spectral Quarters, Artetceraetccetera, Paris, FR

When Net Becomes Form II and The Museum of The Future, Artetceraetccetera (online)

Prospect, Raum Gallery (online)

2019

Le grand detournement, Galerie Ceysson & Bénétière, Paris, FR

Feria ARCO, Galería Alegría, Madrid, ES

Paris is Burning Vol.1, Musée du Fumeur, Paris, FR

Summer Touring Show, Galería Alegría, South Coast of Spain, ES

Quiet Days, LE 31, Paris, FR (curator)

2018

FAN Archive, Kunstverein fAN, Parallel Vienna, Vienna, AT

Group Show, Thameside Studios, London, UK

Testing 1-2, Unit 3 Projects, London, UK

For One Night Only, Institute of Art and Research, Asnieres-sur-seine, FR

Tiny Paintings for Tall People, Galerie Chez Mohammed, Tarouda, MA

2017

Soirée, Fiery Friary, London, UK

You see me like a UFO, Marcelle Joseph Projects, Berkshire, UK

The Collective, Workspace Gallery, Gateshead, UK

Torre Latino, Galerie Chez Mohammed, Mexico City, MX

2016

Pink Density, Clovis XV, Brussels, BE

Glorious Abandon, Dynamite Projects, Redhill, Surrey, UK

All the best/yours sincerely: Radical Positions in London Painting Today, Galería Alegría, Madrid, ES

What we all lack, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

6 ANS LA SIRA, MAD Agency, Asnieres-sur-seine, FR

Art 16, Villa Lena Foundation, London, UK

2015

Architecture of Enjoyment part 2, Marcelle Joseph Projects, London, UK

Confuses Paroles, Le Cabinet Dentaire, Paris, FR

Fire sale, Dynamite Projects, Redhill, UK

2014

Architecture of Enjoyment part 1, Marcelle Joseph Projects, Athens, GR
Les- Pierres se battent entre elles, Auvers-Saint-George, FR
Mixed Four, St. Moritz Art Masters, St. Moritz, CH
An Element of Whim, organised with Sofia Stevi, Fokidos, Athens, GR
Entrée, curated by Christopher Green, Middle March, Brussels, BE
Bobby Dowler + Sofia Stevi + Anton Zolotov, FoodFace, London, UK
At Home Salon, Marcelle Joseph Projects, Surrey, UK
UK Kaleidoscope, House of Culture, Smartmo, SI

2013

PeckhamNewYorkParis, MAD Agency, 104 Avenue Kleber, Paris, FR
Paint As You Like and Die Happy!, organised with Sofia Stevi, Fokidos, Athens, GR
PeckhamNewYorkParis, Martos Gallery, New York, US
PeckhamNewYorkParis, 88 Friary Road, London, UK
For Mad Men Only Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK (duo with Christopher Green)

2012

Sculpture Al Fresco II, Marcelle Joseph Projects, Surrey, UK
From New Perspectives, Marcelle Joseph Projects, London, UK
Turtle Salon, Hardy Tree Gallery, London, UK

2010

Let There Be Sculpture!, New Art Centre, Roche Court, Wiltshire, UK

2009

Bold Tendencies III, Bold Tendencies, London, UK
Time Flies, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK
The Peckham Pavilion, 53rd Venice Biennale, Venice, IT
To Paint is to Love Again, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK
Left To Chance, Firehouse 13, Providence, US

2008

Bold Tendencies II, Bold Tendencies, London, UK

2007

Bold Tendencies I, Bold Tendencies, London, UK
Colour & Line, 78 Lyndhurst Way, London, UK
Small Paintings & Sculpture, 78 Lyndhurst Way, London, UK
Landscape, Film & Photography, 78 Lyndhurst Way, London, UK
Experiments with Figuration, 78 Lyndhurst Way, London, UK
Building and Breaking: Drawing in Pencil, 78 Lyndhurst Way, London, UK
International Times, 78 Lyndhurst Way, London, UK
Monumental Painting, Sculpture and Film, 78 Lyndhurst Way, London, UK

2006

10 Rooms & a Sculpture Garden, 78 Lyndhurst Way, London, UK
Spontaneous Academy, Architecture Association, London, UK
London Turtle Salon, Chelsea Space, Chelsea College of Arts, London, UK

RESIDENCIES / AWARDS

2022

The Fores Project, London, UK (residency)

2015

104 Avenue Kléber, MAD Agency, Paris, FR (residency)

2014

Villa Lena Foundation, Florence, IT (residency)

PUBLICATIONS

2008

Optimism: The Art of Our Time (Hannah Barry Gallery: London, 2008)

The Elimination of Distance (XVIII Jesus Lane: Cambridge, 2008)

Catastrophe (Hannah Barry Gallery: London, 2008)

Many Worlds (Hannah Barry Gallery: London, 2008)