

# KOPLIN DEL RIO

6031 Washington Boulevard, Culver City, CA 90232 • 310 836 9055 • koplindelrio.com

## WES CHRISTENSEN

**BORN:** September 10, 1949, Rockford, IL

**EDUCATION:** M.A. (Fine Arts), 1979, California State University at San Francisco.  
B.A. (Comparative Literature), 1974, California State University at Long Beach.  
University of the Seven Seas, Spring 1967, Chapman College

**Visual Arts Fellowship,** 1985 National Endowment for the Arts

**Instructor/Graduate Advisor:** Laguna College of Art & Design,

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2012 Double-Takes: A Survey of Paintings by Wes Christensen, Gala Center, San Luis Obispo, & the Central California Museum of Art, Gordon Fuglie, curator
- 2011 Santa Monica City College, *White Nights, Double Vision; The Fictive Worlds of Wes Christensen and Marina Moevs*, Santa Monica, California, (catalog essay: Ruth Weisberg, Aug.30 – Oct.6, ([Artscene review](#), Andy Brumer)
- 2007 Koplin Del Rio Gallery, *Fragments*, Los Angeles, California
- 2005 Koplin Del Rio Gallery, *American Shots*, Los Angeles, California
- 1999 Koplin Del Rio Gallery *Cabinet Pictures*, Los Angeles, California
- 1995 Koplin Del Rio Gallery, *Works on Paper*, Santa Monica, California
- 1993 Koplin Del Rio Gallery *Accidents of Preservation*, Santa Monica, California  
(Review: June 25, 1993, [Santa Monica Outlook](#))
- 1992 Southern Exposure at Project Artaud, (*personal*) *Histories*, San Francisco  
Municipal Art Galleries, San Francisco, CA
- 1991 Space Gallery, Los Angeles, ([LA Times review](#): July 4, 1991)
- 1989 Space Gallery, Los Angeles, ([LA Times review](#): Oct. 27, 1989)
- 1988 Space Gallery, Los Angeles, ([LA Times review](#): April 29, 1988; [Artweek](#): May 12, 1988)
- 1983 Space Gallery, Los Angeles, ([LA Times review](#): Dec. 16, 1983)
- 1982 Montalvo Center for the Arts, Saratoga, California, (Sept. 1982)

### Selected Invitational Group Exhibitions

- 2013 *Wunderkammer: Miniatures and Curiosities*, Koplin Del Rio, Culver City, CA
- 2011 *Cross Section*, Prographica- fine works on paper, Seattle, WA
- 2010 *Previews of Things to Come*, Prographica- fine works on paper, Seattle, WA
- 2009 *Insight/Inside LA*, Mt. St. Mary's, Jose Drudis-Bada Art Gallery, Jody Baral, curator.
- 2008 *Contemporary Realist Painting and Drawing*, MFA Graduates and their Mentors  
(Laguna College of Art and Design, Koplin Del Rio Gallrey, (July).
- 2007 *Marks, Scratches and Doodles*, Palos Verdes Art Center, (Jan-March) curated by Scott Canty.
- 2007 *Ag2S: Koplin Del Rio 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, July/September 2007.
- 2006 *The S-Word: Spirituality in Contemporary Art*, Judson Studios, Los Angeles, California.
- 2003 *Portraiture: Reflection, Identity and Presence*, Santa Ana College.
- 2002 *The Perception of Appearance: A Decade of Contemporary American Figure Drawing*,

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Frye Art Museum, Seattle, Washington, (June 22 – Sept. 22) curator, Norman Lundin

- 2002 *Drawings VI, A Group Exhibition Featuring over Forty Artists*, Koplin Gallery.
- 2001 *Still Life Expressions*, Cal State University, LA, curator, La Monte Westmoreland.
- 2001 *Storytelling in Space and Time*, San Francisco State University Art Gallery, (Feb/March).
- 2000 *Representing LA: Pictorial Currents in Recent Southern California Art*, Frye Art Museum, Seattle, Washington, (Dec. 9 – Feb. 11, 2001), traveling to Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, Texas, (April 12 – June 10, 2001), catalog essay by Gordon Fuglie.
- 2000 *The Villa of the Mysteries in Pompeii: Ancient Ritual, Modern Muse*, University of Michigan, Museum of Art/The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, Ann Arbor, MI, (September/November), catalog edited by Elaine Gazda
- 2000 *The Great Novel Exhibition*, Palo Alto Art Center, California. (Review: [Artweek](#), September 2000).
- 2000 *The New Classicists*, Los Angeles City College Gallery, California
- 1999 *Story Tellers*, Art Institute of Southern California, Laguna Beach, (March/April).
- 1999 *Courting the Muse: Contemporary Pictures, Historical Influences*, Cal State Fullerton, (April 10 – May 13, 1999, Review: [Artweek](#), June)
- 1999 *Taleteller*, El Camino College Art Gallery, Torrance, California (February).
- 1998 *The Drawing Group, An Emerging "School of Los Angeles?"*, Laband Art Gallery, Loyola Marymount U., LA, CA, (Reviews: [LA Weekly](#), 4/10/98; [LA Times](#), 4/11/98, [Artweek](#), May, 5/1998).
- 1998 *Human Conditions: The Figure*, Cerritos College Fine Arts Gallery, California.
- 1997 *Reconfigured Painting*, (October), *Reconfigured Drawing*, (November), "Pick of the Week," ([LA Weekly](#), 10/1/97), Santa Monica College Art Gallery.
- 1997 *Allegorical Re/Visions*, Barnsdall Park, Los Angeles, California, (curated, and with a catalog essay by Ruth Weisberg and Noel Korten), "Pick of the Week," [LA Weekly](#), 1/17/98
- 1997 *Body Language: Current Figurative Painters*, Art Academy of Southern California, Laguna Beach, California, ([LA Times Review](#), 9/7/97; [Orange County Register](#), 9/7/97)
- 1996 *Watermarks, A National/International Exhibition*, Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, California.
- 1996 *Re-Masters / New Images from Old Sources*, Rancho Santiago College, Santa Ana, California
- 1996 *L.A. Figures: A Survey*, Lizardi/Harp Gallery, West Hollywood, California.
- 1995 *Concept in Form: Artists' Sketchbooks & Macquettes*, Palo Alto Cultural Center, CA
- 1995 *Emulations: Quotations from the Source*, Riverside Art Museum, (July/August).
- 1994 *The Way of the Flesh*, Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, California
- 1993 *Drawings III*, Koplin Gallery, Santa Monica, California.
- 1990 *Portraits of the Art Crowd*, Transamerica Galleries, Los Angeles, California (catalog).
- 1989 *portraits<artists by artists>portraits*, Merging One Gallery, Santa Monica, California.
- 1989 *Watercolor: Contemporary Currents*, Riverside Art Museum, California (catalog).
- 1998 *A New Reality*, McFaddin Gallery, Nave Museum, Victoria, Texas.
- 1989 *Ex Libris: Narrative Imagery in Post-Modern Los Angeles*, José Drudis-Biada Art Gallery, Mount Saint Mary's College, Los Angeles, California.
- 1988 *Realism Now*, Judy Youens Gallery, Houston, Texas.
- 1988 *Images of Artists by Artists*, Security Pacific Bank, Los Angeles, California, (catalog).

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- 1987 *West Coast Painters*, University of Hawaii at Hilo  
1984 *A Broad Spectrum: Contemporary Los Angeles Painters and Sculptors*, The Design Center of Los Angeles, California, (catalog)  
1984 *Hollywood: The Muse – Motion Picture Imagery in Art*, Beckstrand Gallery, Palos Verdes Art Center, California (catalog)

## **PUBLICATIONS** featuring the artist's work:

*White Nights, Double Vision: The Fictive Worlds of Wes Christensen and Marina Moevs*, Pete and

Susan B. Barrett Gallery, Santa Monica College, Sept. 2011, Catalog essay, Ruth Weisberg,

[Blurb.com](http://Blurb.com)

*Implied Narratives, Apercus, Emulations: Painting History, The Art of Wes Christensen*, by Grady Harp, *Poets and Artists*, February, 2010.

*Hercules, Ever at the Crossroads: Moral Dilemmas in the Paintings of Wes Christensen*, by Gerald M. Ackerman, in *SULFUR 30*, Spring 1992, edited Clayton Eshleman.

Wes Christensen: Compressed Narratives, by Michael Laurence, *Visions Magazine*, Summer 1988, Vol.2, No.3, LA Artcore publication.

*Three Modern Genre Painters from Los Angeles, F. Scott Hess, Jon Swihart, and Wes Christensen*, by Gerald M. Ackerman, *American Arts Quarterly*, Spring, 1996, Vol. XIII, No. 2.

*Savage Suburbia: Three Southern California Painters and the Myth of Domestic Tranquility*, Panik No. 5, 1998, Long Beach, California, by Gilbert Alter-Gilbert.

*Visionary Realism*, by Frederick Turner, *American Arts Quarterly*, Summer/Fall, 2000.

*Ancient Mysteries, Modern Meanings*, by Diane Kirkpatrick, in *The Villa of the Mysteries in Pompeii: Ancient Ritual, Modern Muse*, U. Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI,2000, (Elaine Gazda, ed.)

## **PUBLICATIONS BY THE ARTIST:**

*Call it a Day*, catalog essay for LCAD alumnus, Konstinos Kyrtis, Nicosia and London 2007  
*Figurative Painting*, *Artweek*, June, Vol. 27, No. 6, p.16

*Poles Apart*, Chapman, "Scotland's Quality Literary Magazine", 1994, No. 78/79, Edinburgh.

*Reflections*, *Modern Painters*, "A Quarterly Journal of the Fine Arts", 1994, Vol. 7, No. 1, London.

*Which Figure is in Costume?* (with Ian Hamilton Finlay), 1992, *Wild Hawthorne Press*, Scotland.

*Des Artistes Nous Parlent de '93*, (with Margaret Crane), *République? Digraphe*, December 1992, No.62, *Mercure de France*

*Heiligenanstalt*, (with Frederike Mayröcker), 1992, *A Morningstar Folio*, Edinburgh, Scotland.

*One Word Works*, *Impulse Magazine*, 1990, Toronto, Canada.

The Maya Jade Skull Bead: 700 years as a Military Insigna?, (with Brian D. Dillon), in *Archaeology Without Limits: Papers in Honor of Clement W Meighan*, 2004, Labyrinthos Press

*A Fashion for Ecstasy: Ancient Maya Body Modifications*, *Modern Primitives*, *RE/Search #12*, 1998, San Francisco, California.

*Archaeological Illustrations from Photographs*, *Archaeological Research Tools*, 1985, Vol. 1, Institute of Archaeology, UCLA

*A Maya Bone Carving from Sarteneja, Belize*, (with Matthew Boxt), *Journal of New World Archaeology*, 1985 Vol. 5, No. 4, UCLA

*Moctezuma's Dinner*, *Frank Magazine*, Fall 1984, San Francisco, California.

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## **AWARDS:**

**Visual Arts Fellowship**, 1985 National Endowment for the Arts.

1984 Juror's Award, (Judy Pfaff), Works on Paper Annual, San Marcos, Texas.

1981 Juror's Award, (Henry Hopkins), Texas Fine Arts Association, Austin, Texas.

1980 Purchase Prize, (Henry Hopkins, curator), CA: Printmaking: A Survey.