



John Chamberlain

John Chamberlain (b. 1927) studied at The Art Institute of Chicago and Black Mountain College in North Carolina. Since the beginning of his career in the 1950s, Chamberlain has worked with crushed ribbons of steel to construct his sculptures. Exhibited throughout the United States and Europe, Chamberlain's work has been included in the São Paulo Bienal (1961, 1994), the Venice Biennale (1964), the Whitney Biennial (1973, 1987) and Documenta, Kassel, Germany (1982). The artist has been the subject of over 100 solo shows, traveling exhibitions and retrospectives including ones at the Stedelijk Museum, The Netherlands (1996), the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen, Dresden, Germany (1991), the Staatliche Kunsthalle, Baden-Baden, Germany (1991), the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (1986), and at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (1971).

John Chamberlain's work is in numerous museum collections worldwide including The Art Institute of Chicago; Dallas Museum of Art; Dia Art Foundation: Beacon; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Musée national d'art moderne, Centre Pompidou, Paris; Museum Moderner Kunst, Vienna; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Philadelphia Museum of Art; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Tate Gallery, London; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, among others. John Chamberlain has been twice awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship (1966 and 1977) and in 1990 was elected a member of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York. Some years following his residency at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Maine, Chamberlain received the school's 1993 Skowhegan Medal for Sculpture, and in the same year was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award in Contemporary Sculpture from the International Sculpture Center, Washington, DC. In 1997 Chamberlain was named a recipient of The National Arts Club Artists Award, New York, and in 1999 he received the Distinction in Sculpture Honor from the Sculpture Center, New York. Chamberlain died on December 21, 2011, in New York City, at the age of eighty-four.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 1957 First solo exhibition, at Wells Street Gallery, Chicago
- 1971 *John Chamberlain: a retrospective exhibition*, at the Solomon R Guggenheim Museum, New York;
- 1975 *John Chamberlain: the Texas pieces*, originating at Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, Texas
- 1982 *John Chamberlain: an extended exhibition*, organized by DIA Art Foundation, New York
- 1983 *John Chamberlain reliefs 1960–82*, at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, Florida;
John Chamberlain, sculpture and works on paper, at Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH;
solo exhibition at the Art Museum of the Pecos, Marfa, Texas
- 1984 *John Chamberlain/esculturas*, at Palacio Cristal, Madrid, Spain
- 1986 Retrospective exhibition, *John Chamberlain: sculpture 1954–1985*, at Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; *John Chamberlain: oils*, originating at Galerie Rudolf Zwirner, Cologne, West Germany
- 1987 Receives commission for *The colored gates of Louisville: The inevitable return of the indefatigable Dr Fahey*, Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts, Louisville, KY
- 1991 Traveling retrospective, *John Chamberlain*, originating at Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Baden-Baden, Germany



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- 1996 Traveling solo exhibition, *John Chamberlain: current work and fond memories, sculptures and photographs 1967–95*, originating at Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
- 2000 Solo exhibition at PaceWildenstein, New York
- 2002 Solo exhibition at Waddington Galleries, London
- 2005 Solo exhibition at Waddington Galleries, London

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1959 *Recent Sculpture USA*, at Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- 1960 *Annual exhibition*, at Whitney Museum of American Art, NY
- 1961 *Biennial of São-Paulo*, Brazil; included in exhibitions: Carnegie International, at the Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Annual exhibition, at the Art Institute of Chicago
- 1962 *Annual exhibition*, at Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
- 1964 *Venice biennale, Italy*; included in exhibition, *Painting and sculpture of a decade*, at Tate Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 1965 *Annual exhibition*, at Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1966 *Annual exhibition*, at Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1967 *Carnegie International*, at Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh
- 1968 *Annual exhibition*, at Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
- 1970 *New York painting and sculpture 1940–70*, at Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
- 1972 *Film-video-photographs-projection*, at Louisiana Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1973 *Whitney Biennial*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
- 1975 *Sculpture: American directions 1945–75*, at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC
- 1976 *200 years of American sculpture*, at Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
- 1978 *Art about art*, at Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
- 1982 *Documenta 7*, Kassel, West Germany