

MORGAN LEHMAN

534 West 24th Street, New York, New York 10011

PAOLO ARAO

Born in Manila, Philippines, 1977

EDUCATION

2000 Skowhegan School of Painting + Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME

1999 BFA Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Devotion*, David B. Smith Gallery, Denver, CO
- 2023 *Reverberations*, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
Loom Songs, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY
A Selection of Recent Works, David B. Smith Gallery, Project Room, Denver, CO
- 2022 *mythweaver*, Main Window: DUMBO, Brooklyn, NY
- 2021 *Drawdown*, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY
Paolo Arao: In Dialogue with Drawing, The Columbus Museum, Columbus, GA
- 2020 *Never Too Much*, David B. Smith Gallery, Project Room, Denver, CO
- 2019 *Key Change*, Glass Box Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2018 *Night Throbs*, Western Exhibitions, Gallery 2, Chicago, IL
52 Weeks, Barney Savage Gallery, New York, NY
- 2010 *Between the Lights*, Franklin Art Works, Minneapolis, MN
- 2008 *ForNever*, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY
- 2006 *Intermission*, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY
- 2004 *Make Them Love You*, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY

TWO + THREE PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *Water Rhythms: Paolo Arao + Susie Ibarra / Michele Koppes*, Fridman Gallery, Beacon, NY
- 2020 *Triple Play: Paolo Arao, Rhys Coren, Erin O'Keefe*, Steve Turner Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019 *Here or There: Paolo Arao + Kaveri Raina*, RATA Projects at 1 Rivington, New York, NY
Like Mercury in the Wind: Paolo Arao, Sam King, Jason Osborne,
Oneoneone, Chapel Hill, NC (curated by Louis Watts)
Zina Al-Shukri, Paolo Arao, Anthony Sonnenberg, Patricia Sweetow Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2018 *Good Vibrations: Paolo Arao, Angela Heisch, Ryan Reggiani*, Mother Gallery, Beacon, NY
Project 14: Paolo Arao + Nick Makanna, c2c project space, San Francisco, CA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Dallas Art Fair, Morgan Lehman Gallery, Dallas, TX
The Golden Thread II, 207 Front Street, New York, NY (curated by BravinLee Programs)
Liberation Textiles: Our Social Fabric, Concord Art, Concord, MA (curated by Elizabeth Thach and Camilo Alvarez)
- 2024 *Untitled I* Miami Beach, Morgan Lehman Gallery, Miami, FL
A Space Between Worlds, Wassaic Project, Wassaic, NY (curated by Eve Biddle, Bowie Zunino, Jeff Barnett-Winsby, and Will Hutnick)
Fabrication, Olive Free Library, West Shokan, NY (curated by Janette Kahil and Linda Schultz)
A Lot More Inside: Esopus Magazine, Colby Museum of Art, Waterville, ME (curated by Tod Lippy and Megan Carey)
- 2023 *Hand over Hand: Textiles Today*, Mindy Solomon Gallery, Miami, FL
Dallas Art Fair, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY
Homespun: Hudson Valley Artists, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at SUNY New Paltz, NY (curated by Karlyn Benson)
- 2022 *XX: Twenty Years*, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY
Walk the Line, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, ME (curated by Timothy Peterson)
Dallas Art Fair, David B. Smith Gallery, Denver, CO

- In Spite of Modernism*, Arlington Arts Center, Arlington, VA (curated by Haley Clouser) (cat.)
More Than Words Can Say, JEFF, Marfa, TX
- 2021 *Transfer-mations*, Art in Buildings in collaboration with Love Apple Art Space
 Ghent, NY (curated by Tessa Ferreyros)
Abstranded: Fiber + Abstraction In Contemporary Art, Everson Museum of Art,
 Syracuse, NY (curated by Elizabeth Dunbar)
Where the Heart Is: Contemporary Art by Immigrant Artists, Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto, CA
- 2020 *Index*, Page Bond Gallery, Richmond, VA (curated by Alicia Little)
Cut + Color, Albany International Airport Gallery, Albany, NY (curated by Kathy Greenwood)
A Feeling Falls Apart, Geary Contemporary, New York, NY (curated by Poppy DeltaDawn)
- 2019 *Queer Abstraction*, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art,
 Overland Park, KS (curated by Jared Ledesma)
Shift, Able Baker Contemporary, Portland, ME (curated by Tracy McKenna)
All We Want Is To See Ourselves, FLXST Contemporary,
 Chicago, IL (curated by Jan Christian Bernabe)
Shape Rattle + Roll, Eric Firestone Gallery, East Hampton, NY
The Unusual Suspects: A View of Abstraction, DC Moore Gallery,
 New York, NY (curated by Richard Kalina)
Here: A Bit of Everywhere + Everyone They've Been, NARS Foundation,
 Brooklyn, NY (curated by Vanessa Kowalski)
Woven Walls, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY
After + Because Of, Marsh Gallery at Herron School of Art + Design | Indiana University,
 Indianapolis, IN
Quiet March to a Warring Song, The Shaker Museum,
 New Lebanon, NY (curated by Amie Cunat) (catalog)
Ad Astra Per Aspera, The Wassaic Project: Maxon Mills,
 Wassaic, NY (curated by the Wassaic Project)
The Whole + It's Parts Through an Urbanistic Lens, Space 52,
 Athens, Greece (curated by Das Esszimmer)
New York is Now, IS-Projects at Platforms Projects, Athens, Greece (curated by Jacob Cartwright)
An Idea, Maybe, Foyer Gallery, University of Southern Queensland,
 Toowoomba, Australia (curated by Tim Doud + Zoe Charlton and Raygun Projects)
- 2018 *Rhythm, Stress, + Pausing*, Super Dutchess, New York, NY
Afterimage, Paradise Palase, Brooklyn, NY (curated by Kat Ryals and Lauren Hirshfield)
Three Squared, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA (curated by Sue and Phil Knoll)
Conveyor, Morgan Fine Arts Building, Brooklyn, NY (curated by Kate Mothes)
Half a Wave, Pfizer Building Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
 (curated by Rachel Cohen and Christine Rebhuhn)
Site Menagerie, 86 Main Street, Yonkers, NY (curated by Charles Sommer and Regina Ruff)
The Cruellest Month, Mother Gallery, Beacon, NY
Squaring the Sun, Far x Wide, Brooklyn, NY (curated by Jes Cannon)
Somewhere Nearby, Bridge Productions, Seattle, WA (curated by Sue Danielson)
- 2017 *The Flat Files: Year Five*, Tiger Strikes Asteroid, Brooklyn, NY (catalog)
Painting Not Painting, Sindikit, Baltimore, MD (curated by Tim Doud and Zoe Charlton)
Western Decoy, No Place Gallery, Columbus, OH
 (curated by Angela Heisch and James McDevitt-Stredney)
Broad Stripes + Bright Stars, Ely Center of Contemporary Art, New Haven, CT
Common Ground, Ana Nova Gallery, St. Petersburg, Russia (curated by Vika Dushkina)
All Things Great + Small, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA (curated by Sue + Phil Knoll)
Overlaid + Underpinned, Curating Contemporary, online (curated by Anthony Falcetta)
Steady Mess, Bureau of General Services, Queer Division, New York, NY
Postcards from the Edge, Metro Pictures, New York, NY (Organized by Visual AIDS)
Object + Influence, Hygienic Gallery, New London, CT (curated by Jason Silva)

- 2016 *Casheesh*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
Our City, The New School, New York, NY (organized by Thomas Hammer)
Common Ground, Triumph Gallery, Moscow, Russia (curated by Vika Dushkina) (cat.)
The Retrieval of the Beautiful, The Painting Center, New York, NY (catalog)
Introductions, Trestle Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (curated by Jim Osman)
- 2015 *The Flat File: Year Three*, Tiger Strikes Asteroid, Brooklyn, NY
Remains to be Seen, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA (curated by Sue + Phil Knoll)
- 2012 *Grey Full*, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY (curated by Geoffrey Young)
- 2011 *Contemporary Drawings*, Barton Art Galleries, *Barton College*, Wilson, NC
- 2010 *Wall to Wall*, Daniel Weinberg Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Observant, ISE Foundation, New York, NY (curated by Vicki Sher)
- 2009 *Next Wave Art*, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY (curated by Dan Cameron)
Whitey on the Moon, 106 Green, Brooklyn, NY (curated by Kanishka Raja)
Room Tones, St. Cecilia Convent, Brooklyn, NY (organized by Nathan Spondike)
Give Them What They Never Knew They Wanted, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY
Intus Tensio, or Appropriated Special, *Centotto*, Brooklyn, NY (curated by Paul D'Agostino)
- 2008 *Monsters*, RENTAL, New York, NY (curated by Robert Longo)
Making History, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY (curated by Yaelle Amir)
- 2007 *Hard Times*, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY
- 2005 *Introspective Men*, Madder 139 Gallery, London, England (curated by David Kefford)
Fresh Direct, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY
- 2004 *Sunday Afternoon*, Match-Art, Brooklyn, NY (curated by Matthew Fisher + Christina Vassalo)
Pencil Me In, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
Cleanliness, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, NY (curated by Adam Frank)
Playpen, The Drawing Center, New York, NY (curated by Austin Thomas)
- 2002 *Emerging Artist Fellowship Exhibition*, Socrates Sculpture Park, Long Island City, NY
Lucky Draw, Deitch Projects, New York, NY
Made in New York, Arno Maris Gallery, Westfield, MA (curated by John O'Connor)
SNAPSHOT, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT
- 2001 *Interval: New Art for a New Space*, SculptureCenter, Long Island City, NY
Mitochondria Emancipation, Asian American Arts Centre, New York, NY (curated by Christine Kim)
All Hands, Pelham Art Center, Pelham, NY (curated by David Terry)
AIM 21 / Artist in the Marketplace, Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, NY (cat.)
- 2000 *SNAPSHOT*, Contemporary Museum, Baltimore, MD
Fresh, Butler's Laundromat, Skowhegan, ME (performance with Daniel Bozhkov)
Vermont Studio Center Resident Artists, Helen Day Art Center, Stowe, VT

RESIDENCIES + FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 Monson Arts Residency
- 2023 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grantee
 Virginia Center for the Creative Arts
 MacDowell Fellowship
- 2022 Windgate Fellowship, Vermont Studio Center
 Open Studio Residency, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts
- 2021 NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship in Painting
 Art Omi: Artists
- 2020 FST Studio Projects Fund
 Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts
- 2019 Museum of Arts and Design, NYC
 NARS Foundation
 Vermont Studio Center
- 2018 BRIC Workspace
 Millay Arts

Wassaic Project
 Studios at MASS MoCA
 Vermont Studio Center
 Keyholder Residency, Lower East Side
 2016 Fire Island Artist Residency
 2008 Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, NYC
 2007 Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, NYC
 2005 NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship in Drawing
 2002 Emerging Artist Fellowship, Socrates Sculpture Park
 Atlantic Center for the Arts
 2001 Artist in the Marketplace Fellowship, Bronx Museum of the Arts
 1999 Vermont Studio Center

VISITING ARTIST/ ARTIST LECTURES / PANEL DISCUSSIONS / TEACHING

2025 Artist Lecture, Catskill Weaving School, Catskill, NY
 2024 Visiting Artist, Bates College, Lewiston, ME
 Instructor, Session 5: Wood + Fiber, A Marriage of Materials, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle, ME
 2023 Visiting Artist, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT
 Artist Lecture, Cooper Union School of Art, New York, NY
 2022 Visiting Artist, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT
 Faculty, *Visiting Critic Program*, NYC Crit Club, New York, NY (Fall)
 Artist Lecture, Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY
 Faculty, *Conversations in Practice*, Ox-Bow School of Art + Residency, Sagatuck, MI
 Faculty, *Visiting Critic Program*, NYC Crit Club, New York, NY (Spring)
 2021 Adjunct Professor, *Foundation Drawing I*, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York, NY (Fall Semester)
 Visiting Artist, NY Crit Club, Brooklyn, NY
 Visiting Artist, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY
 Artist Lecture, University of Kentucky, School of Art + Visual Studies, Lexington, KY
 Artist Lecture, University of Arkansas, School of Art, Fayetteville, AR
 Artist Lecture, City + Guilds London Art School, London, UK
 Artist Lecture, The Columbus Museum, Columbus, GA
 2020 Panelist. *Working with Fiber*. MAD Museum + Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts. A conversation with Paolo Arao, Dance Doyle and Erin M. Riley (moderated by Angelik Vizcarrondo-Laboy)
 Artist Lecture, School of Art, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC
 Artist Lecture, *Queer Threads, Expanded Views*, American University, Washington, D.C.
 Panelist. *The Devil is in the Details*. A discussion with Paolo Arao, Diana Guerrero-Maciá and Marie Watt (moderated by Tim Doud and Zoë Charlton)
 Visiting Artist, Textile Arts Center, Brooklyn, NY
 2019 Adjunct Professor, *Visual Thinking*, Fordham University, New York, NY (Fall Semester)
 Visiting Artist, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
 Panelist. *Abstract Painting: Wrong Questions, Right Answers*. DC Moore Gallery, NYC. A discussion with Paolo Arao, Amie Cunat, Carrie Moyer and Odili Donald Odita (moderated by Richard Kalina)
 Visiting Artist, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC
 2017 Visiting Artist, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
 2016 Visiting Artist, Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA
 2011 Visiting Artist, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY
 2003 Visiting Artist, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2024 Kirschner, Noelani. "[Portrait of the Artist: Paolo Arai. Acts of Devotion.](#)" The American Scholar, August 19, 2024.
Sgambati III, Joseph. "[Threads Sing in Paolo Arai's Devotion to Textiles.](#)" Design Milk. April 7, 2024.
- 2023 Orozco, Jonathan. "[Eight Queer Artists in their Own Words.](#)" WhiteHot Magazine. June 2023.
Ware, Joshua. "[The Queer Dynamics of Paolo Arai's Selection of Recent Works.](#)" Southwest Contemporary. April 4, 2023.
- 2022 Jenkins, Mark. "[Connecting modern abstraction with personal identity.](#)" The Washington Post, March 11, 2022.
Arango, Jorge S. "[There's much to read between the lines of Rockland Exhibit.](#)" Portland Press Herald, February 13, 2022.
- 2021 Wertz, Orion. "[Paolo Arai: In Dialog with Drawing at the Columbus Museum.](#)" Burnaway. April 6, 2021.
- 2020 Dovetail Magazine, [Issue 2](#), Winter/Spring. December 2020.
Jaeger, William. "[Airport gallery gets real and textured with 'Cut + Color'](#)" Times Union. August 31, 2020.
- 2019 Langevin, Julien. "[Plastic Expressions in Particularity: Nature Moves in Tracy McKenna's Shift at Able Baker Contemporary.](#)" Art Spiel, November 21, 2019.
TxP (Textiel Plus), Issue 249, "COLOR", August, 2019, the Netherlands.
Barcio, Phillip. "[Richard Kalina Curates an Abstract Art Show at DC Moore Gallery.](#)" IdealArtMagazine. July 3, 2019.
Arnold, Sharon. "[Color, Conduits & Connectivity.](#)" Bridge Productions, Seattle, WA. June 2019.
Couzens, Julia. "[Legacy of the Hand: Paolo Arai's Textile Paintings.](#)" Two Coats of Paint. May 11, 2019
- 2018 "[Pictures at an Exhibition: Afterimage at Paradise Palace.](#)" ArtNews.com, November 30, 2018
Strumfield, Zan. "[On the Cover: Paolo Arai's Mister Sister.](#)" Chronogram. Jul 2018. P. 18 (plus cover image)
Fontaine, Pearl. "[Must See New York: Nick Cave, Justine Kurland, Paolo Arai and More.](#)" Whitewall, June 20, 2018
New American Paintings, [North Eastern Ed., Vol. 134](#), Open Studio Press, Boston, MA
Esopus, Issue 25, Spring Issue, Brooklyn, NY
Maake Magazine, [Issue 6](#) (curated by Holly Coulis)
- 2017 Naber, Nick. Profile: Paolo Arai, The Coastal Post, December 2017
Murphy, Olivia. [Paolo Arai – Yearbook 2016](#). Yearbook Paintings: Queering Abstraction.
Hannum, Terence. "[Painting Not Painting.](#)" B-More Art, August, 14, 2017
ArtMaze Magazine, Issue 02, April, 2017
Terra Firma Magazine, Issue 04, Speed= Distance / Time, February, 2017
- 2016 [Artist Interview](#), FLOORR Magazine, Issue No. 5, August, 2016
Stone, Bryony. i-D Magazine, The Queer Artists of Fire Island, July 14, 2016
- 2011 Modern Painters, 100 Artists to Watch, December 1, p. 60
- 2008 Fusco, Maria. The Happy Hypocrite: Issue 1 – Linguistic Hardcore, Bookworks, London
Fisher, Matthew. "The Distance of Drawing." Matthews the Younger blogspot
- 2006 Risemberg, Rafael, "A Weekend in the Country." The New York Blade, April 3: p.16
- 2005 New American Paintings, [North Eastern Ed., Vol. 56](#), Open Studio Press, Boston, MA
Harper's Magazine, [Readings](#), January, p. 22
Orden, Abraham. "[Circus Without a Tent.](#)" Artnet.com, February 11.
- 2004 VOGUE (Portugal), November p.104
The New York Sun, Calendar, October 19, p.15
Iwasaki Hitomi, Robert Lee and Timothy Liu. Mitochondria Emancipation, Asian American Arts Centre, New York, NY

2001 Smith, Roberta. "[Funky Digs with Lots of Space for Performance-Oriented Hipsters.](#)" The New York Times. September 28. E39.
Ramoran, Edwin, and Lydia Yee. Artist in the Market Place: 21st Annual Exhibition.
Bronx Museum of the Arts, NY

COLLECTIONS

The Columbus Museum, Columbus, GA
The Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA
The Progressive Art Collection
The Capital One Art Collection
The Morgan Stanley Art Collection
Fidelity Investments
Private Collections