

WHITE CUBE

AL HELD

1928 Born October 12, Brooklyn, New York
2005 Died July 26, Camerata, Italy

Education

1948–51 Art Students League, New York
1951–53 Académie de la Grande Chaumière, Paris

Solo Exhibitions

2020 *Al Held: The Sixties*, White Cube, London
Al Held: Watercolors, David Klein Gallery, Birmingham, Michigan

2019 *Modern Maverick*, White Cube, Hong Kong
Infinite Choices: Abstract Drawings by Al Held, Joel and Lila Harnett Print Study Center, University of Richmond Museums, Richmond, Virginia

2018 *Al Held: Pigment Paintings*, Cheim & Read, New York, and concurrently Nathalie Karg Gallery, New York
Al Held Luminous Constructs: Paintings and Watercolors from the 1990s, David Klein Gallery, Detroit, Michigan

2016 *Al Held: Brushstrokes, India Ink Drawings from 1960*, Van Doren Waxter, New York
Al Held: Black and White Paintings, 1967–1969, Cheim & Read, New York

2015 *Van Doren Waxter*, Art Basel-Miami Beach/Kabinett, Miami, Florida
Al Held: Particular Paradox, Van Doren Waxter, New York
Al Held: Marker Drawings 1972–1973, Van Doren Waxter at ADAA: The Art Show, New York
Al Held: Armatures, Cheim & Read at ADAA: The Art Show, New York

- 2014 *AI Held: Scale*, Marianne Friedland Gallery, Naples, Florida
- 2013 *AI Held's Taxi Cab III Series*, Gallery 918 of the Lila Acheson Wallace Wing for Modern and Contemporary Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
AI Held: Alphabet Paintings, 1961–1967, Cheim & Read, New York
- 2012 *AI Held: Black and White 1967*, Loretta Howard Gallery, New York
AI Held: Space, Scale and Time, Marianne Friedland Gallery, Naples, Florida
AI Held, Pace Prints 26th Street (project room), New York
- 2011 *AI Held Paintings 1959*, Craig F. Starr Gallery, New York
- 2010 *AI Held: Concrete Abstraction*, Ameringer | McEnery | Yohe, New York
AI Held: Selected Works, Marianne Friedland Gallery, Naples, Florida
- 2009 *AI Held Prints 1973–1999*, Pace Prints Gallery, New York
- 2008 *AI Held Paintings 1979–1993*, Waddington Galleries, London
AI Held Paintings 1979–1993, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York
AI Held: Watercolors, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco
AI Held: The Evolution of Style, University Art Museum, California State University at Long Beach, California
AI Held: The Watercolor Paintings, Marianne Friedland Gallery, Naples, Florida
- 2007 *AI Held: Gravity's Strings*, Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, Florida
- 2006 *The Watercolors of AI Held*, Marianne Friedland Gallery, Naples, Florida
In Memory of AI Held 1928–2005, Galerie Renée Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
AI Held: American Abstract Expressionist Painter, 1928–2005, J. Johnson Gallery, Jacksonville Beach, Florida
- 2005 *AI Held: Public Art*, Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, Florida
Art in Architecture: AI Held, Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, Florida
AI Held: Public Projects, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
- 2003 *AI Held: Beyond Sense*, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
- 2002 *AI Held: Recent Paintings*, MoMA PS1, New York
Expanding Universe: The Recent Paintings of AI Held, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans; traveled to Dennis Museum Center, Northwestern Michigan

College, Traverse City, Michigan; Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery, Reed College, Portland, Oregon; Butler Institute of American Art Youngstown, Ohio; Boston University Art Gallery, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts; University of Maine Museum of Art, Bangor, Maine

- 2001 *Al Held: Large-Scale Watercolor Paintings*, Pillsbury and Peters Fine Art, Ltd., Dallas, Texas; traveled to Gerald Peters Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Al Held in Black and White: Paintings and Works on Paper, Ameringer | Howard | Yohe, New York
- 2000 *Al Held: The Italian Watercolors*, Ameringer | Howard Fine Art, Inc., Boca Raton, Florida
Al Held: Unfolding, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
- 1999 *Al Held*, Dorothy Blau Gallery, Inc., Bay Harbor Islands, Florida
- 1998 *Al Held (The Last Series: 1964–65)*, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
- 1997 *Al Held Recent Paintings*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1996 *Al Held: Graphite/Charcoal Drawings*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Aquarelle, Hans Strelow, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 1995 *Al Held: Time Past – Time Future*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Geometric Abstraction, Allene Lapidés Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 1994 *Al Held: Painting in Paris 1950–1952*, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
- 1993 *Al Held: Italian Watercolors*, Krannert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Illinois traveled to Adams Landing Contemporary Art Space, Cincinnati, Ohio; Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Al Held: Watercolors and Acrylics, Landau Fine Art, Montreal, Canada
Al Held Etchings, Crown Point Press, New York
- 1992 *Al Held*, Hokin Gallery, Bar Harbor Islands, Florida
Al Held: New Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Paintings and Works on Paper, Allene Lapidés Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Al Held, Edwin A. Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas
- 1991 *Harry, If I Told You, Would You Know?* André Emmerich Gallery/Galbreath Co.

storefront 57th Street, New York

Al Held: "The Italian Watercolors," André Emmerich Gallery, New York

Al Held: Paintings 1990, Heland Wetterling Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden

- 1990 *Al Held: Etchings and Color Woodblock Prints,* Crown Point Press, New York
Al Held: New Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Neue Arbeiten, Galerie Hans Mayer, Düsseldorf, Germany
Al Held Arbeiten von 1989, Galerie Renée Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
Al Held: After Paris, 1953–1955, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
- 1989 *Al Held: Watercolours 1989,* Marianne Friedland Gallery, Toronto, Canada
Al Held: Recent Paintings, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco
Al Held: New Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held, Galerie Renée Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
- 1988 *Al Held: Watercolors,* André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: New Paintings, Donald Morris Gallery, Inc., Birmingham, Michigan
- 1987 *Al Held: New Paintings,* André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Zu Zeigen, Galerie Renée Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
Al Held: Taxi Cabs 1959, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
Al Held: Drawings, Juda Rowan Gallery, London
- 1986 *Al Held: Drawings 1980–1986,* André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Recent Paintings, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco
- 1985 *Al Held,* André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: New Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1984 *Al Held: Major Paintings and Works on Paper,* Marianne Friedland Gallery, Toronto, Canada
Al Held: Major Paintings, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
Al Held: Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Zeichnungen von 1976, Gimpel-Hanover & Galerie André Emmerich, Zürich, Switzerland; traveled as *Al Held: Drawings* from 1976 to André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1983 *Al Held: New Paintings,* Donald Morris Gallery, Birmingham, Michigan
Al Held: New Editions, Stone Ridge, Pace Editions, New York
- 1982 *Al Held: New Paintings,* André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: 1954–1959, Robert Miller Gallery, New York

- Al Held: Recent Paintings*, Juda Rowan Gallery, London
Al Held: Drawings, The American Academy in Rome, Italy
- 1981 *Al Held*, Gimpel-Hanover & Galerie André Emmerich, Zürich, Switzerland
Al Held, Grand Palais, Paris, FIAC (Foire Internationale d'Art Contemporain),
exhibition with André Emmerich Gallery
- 1980 *Al Held: New Paintings 1980*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Recent Paintings, Quadrat Bottrop Moderne Galerie, Bottrop, Germany
Al Held: Recent Paintings, Annely Juda Fine Art, London
Al Held 1959–1961, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
Al Held: Neue Bilder/Recent Paintings, Gimpel-Hanover & Galerie André
Emmerich, Zürich, Switzerland
- 1979 *Al Held: New Paintings*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1978 *Al Held: Drawings 1959–1976*, Janus Gallery, Venice, California
Drawings By Al Held, Marianne Friedland Gallery, Toronto, Canada
Al Held: New Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Paintings and Drawings 1973–1978, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston,
Massachusetts
- 1977 *Al Held*, Donald Morris Gallery, Birmingham, Michigan
Al Held: Paintings and Drawings, Annely Juda Fine Art, London
Al Held: New Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held: Neue Bilder und Zeichnungen/Recent Paintings and Drawings, Galerie
André Emmerich, Zürich, Switzerland
Al Held: Frühe Werke/Early Works, Galerie Renée Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
Al Held, Galerie Roger d'Amecourt, Paris, France
- 1976 *Al Held*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1975 *Al Held: New Paintings*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held, Adler Castillo Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela
Al Held, Jared Sable Gallery, Toronto, Canada
Al Held: Drawings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1974 *Al Held*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Al Held, Galerie Müller, Cologne, Germany
Al Held: Recent Paintings and Drawings, Donald Morris Gallery, Detroit,
Michigan
Al Held, Galerie André Emmerich, Zürich, Switzerland

- 1973 *Al Held: New Paintings*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1972 *Al Held: New Paintings*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1971 *Al Held: Recent Paintings*, Donald Morris Gallery, Detroit, Michigan
- 1970 *Al Held: Bilder*, Galerie Renée Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
Al Held: New Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1968 *Al Held: Recent Paintings*, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; traveled to Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, Texas
Al Held, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Al Held, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco California); traveled to Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
- 1967 André Emmerich Gallery/Al Held Studio, New York (simultaneous exhibitions in two locations)
Al Held: Bilder, Galerie René Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
- 1966 *Al Held*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Al Held, Galerie Müller, Stuttgart, Germany
- 1964 *Al Held: Bilder*, Galerie Renée Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
Al Held, Galerie Gunar, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 1962 *Al Held*, Poindexter Gallery, New York
- 1961 *Al Held*, Galería Bonino, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Al Held, Poindexter Gallery, New York
- 1960 *Al Held*, Poindexter Gallery, New York
- 1952 *Al Held*, Galerie Huit, Paris, France

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *Breaking Boundaries: The Vision of Jacqueline B. Holmes*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Jacksonville, Florida
Les Murs Reculent, Musée Matisse, Nice, France
- 2019 *Systems of Viewing*, Western Gallery, Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington
Bauhaus: Our Play, Our Party, Our Work, Israel Museum, Jerusalem
Encounters, American Academy in Rome, Rome, Italy
Summer Choices: A Group Exhibition, Crown Point Press, San Francisco
Abstract USA, Museum No Hero, Delden, The Netherlands
Downtown Painting: Presented by Alex Katz, Peter Freeman, Inc., New York
Double Edged: Geometric Abstraction Then and Now, Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina Greensboro
Winter Selections: Prints & Drawings, Senior & Shopmaker Gallery, New York
Pollock and the New York School, Complesso del Vittoriano - Ala Brasini, Rome, Italy
Art Within Art: The Everson at 50, Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, New York
Printing Abstraction, Saint Louis Art Museum, Saint Louis, Missouri
- 2018 *Irving Sandler: Points of View*, Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase College, State University of New York
Paris without Regret: Foreign Artists, 1944-1968. Museo Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain.
Giant Steps: Artists and the 1960s. Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York.
Three Americans: Al Held, Nicholas Krushenick, Kimber Smith. Galerie Ziegler, Zurich, Switzerland.
Spheres Of Influence: Al Held, Michael Craig-Martin, Judy Pfaff, And Stanley Whitney. Senior & Shopmaker Gallery, New York.
Three Americans: Al Held, Nicholas Krushenick, Kimber Smith. Galerie Mueller, Basel, Switzerland.
American Masters. National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia.
Montauk Highway II: Postwar Abstraction in the Hamptons. Eric Firestone Gallery, East Hampton, New York.
1960s: A Survey of the Decade. Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina.
Pictures without Shadows: A Selection from the Kemp Collection. Museum Kunstpalast, Dusseldorf, Germany.

Line, Form and Colour. Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon, Portugal.
Carry the Bend. Brennan & Griffin, New York.
Black and White. Downing Yudain LLC, Greenwich, Connecticut.
American and Canadian Masters. Marianne Friedland Gallery, Naples, Florida.
Selections, Pace Prints, New York

2017

Degrees of Abstraction, Crown Point Press, San Francisco, California
Expanding Space – Ronald Bladen, Al Held, Yvonne Rainer, George Sugarman,
Loretta Howard Gallery, New York
Inventing Downtown: Artist-Run Galleries in New York City, 1952–1965, Grey Art
Gallery, New York University, New York and Abu Dhabi Art Gallery, Abu Dhabi,
United Arab Emirates
Disorderly Conduct: American Painting and Sculpture, 1960–1990, Nasher
Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina
Weber Fine Art in Black and White, Weber Fine Art of Greenwich, Connecticut
Montauk Highway: Postwar Abstraction in the Hamptons, Eric Firestone Gallery,
East Hampton, New York
The Horizontal, Cheim & Read, New York
To Distribute and Multiply: The Feibes & Schmitt Gift, The Hyde Collection, Glens
Falls, New York
Summer Choices: A Group Exhibition, Crown Point Press, San Francisco, California
Organic Impulse in Contemporary Art & Design, Jeff Lincoln Art + Design,
Southampton, New York
nonObjectives, Sheldon Museum of Art, University of Nebraska at Lincoln,
Nebraska
Shaping a Modern Legacy: Karl and Jennifer Salatka Collect, Carnegie Museum of
Art, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Abstraction: Stories Told in Shape, Color and Form, Berggruen Gallery, San
Francisco
Winter Assembly, Austin/Desmond Fine Art, London
Inspired by Matisse: Selected Works from the Collection, Montclair Art Museum,
New Jersey
American Masters, Marianne Friedland Gallery, Naples, Florida

2016

End of Year Review, Loretta Howard Gallery, New York
Big Picture: Art After 1945, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington
American Masters 2016: A 25th Anniversary Exhibition, Marianne Friedland Gallery,
Naples, Florida

- 2015
- Inaugural Exhibition*, Weber Fine Art, Greenwich, Connecticut
Color(less), Van Doren Waxter, New York
American Array, Honolulu Museum of Art, Honolulu, Hawaii
Three Graces: Polly Apfelbaum, Tony Feher and Carrie Moyer, Everson Art Museum, Syracuse, New York
Testing Testing: Painting and Sculpture Since 1960 form the Permanent Collection, Ackland Art Museum, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Choice: Contemporary Art from the Akron Art Museum, Transformer Station/Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio
Another Look at the Permanent Collection, Anderson Collection at Stanford University, Stanford, California
Corita Kent and the Language of Pop, Harvard Art Museums, Boston, Massachusetts; traveled to San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, Texas
TXT/MSG, Spalding House/Honolulu Museum of Art, Honolulu, Hawaii
On the Front Lines: The GI Bill and Art Students League Artists, Art Students League of New York, New York ; traveled in a revised presentation organized by Robert Scalise to University of Buffalo Anderson Gallery, Buffalo, New York
Coordinates, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, Wisconsin
Showing Off: Recent Modern & Contemporary Acquisitions, Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado
- 2014
- Irving Sandler: Out of 10th Street and Into the 1960's*, Loretta Howard Gallery, New York
Al Held & Robert Mangold: B/W to Color, Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, North Carolina
Summer Group Exhibition: Part II: Al Held, Alan Shields, Frank Stella, Van Doren Waxter, New York
Make It New, Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, Massachusetts
Green Circle, Black Diamond, Ratio 3, San Francisco, California
- 2013
- Multiplicity*, Akron Art Museum, Akron, Ohio
Highways and Byways: Together Again, Daimler Art Collection, Berlin, Germany
Shifting Planes: Held, Kelly, McLaughlin, Van Doren Waxter, New York
From Abstract Expression to Colored Planes, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington
My Echo My Shadow, Gavlak Gallery, Palm Beach, Florida
- 2012
- The Geometric Unconscious: A Century of Abstraction*, Sheldon Art Museum,

University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska
The Artist's Hand: American Works on Paper 1945–1975, Museum of Art,
Washington State University, Pullman, Washington
Abstract Drawings, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.
Ronald Bladen in Context: Works on Paper by Fellow Sculptors, Loretta
Howard Gallery, New York
Il Guggenheim, L'avanguardia Americana 1945–1980, Palazzo delle
Esposizioni, Rome, Italy

- 2011 *Forms of the Fifties: Tendencies in Mid-Century Fine and Decorative Arts*, James
Reinish & Assoc., Inc., New York
*Painterly Abstraction, 1949–1969: Selections from the Guggenheim
Collections*, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, Bilbao, Spain
70 Years of Abstract Painting—Excerpts, Jason McCoy, Inc., New York
New Colors: Selections from the Kemp Collection, Museum Kunstpalast,
Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2010 *Abstract USA 1958–1968: In the Galleries*, Rijksmuseum Twenthe, Enschede,
Netherlands
Group Show: Process/Abstraction Continued, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York
Pictures About Pictures: Discourses in Painting from Albers to Zobernig, Museum
Moderner Kunst, Vienna, Austria
Psychedelic: Optical and Visionary Art Since the 1960s, San Antonio Museum
of Art, San Antonio, Texas ; traveled to Memorial Art Gallery, University of
Rochester, Rochester, New York ; Telfair Museum of Art, Savannah, Georgia
- 2009 *New Works: Highlights from the Permanent Collection*, Tyler Museum of Art,
Tyler, Texas
Pearlstein/Held: Five Decades, Betty Cunningham Gallery, New York
Pop to Present, Cantor Arts Center, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California
A Matter of Form, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, California
Five Decades, Betty Cunningham Gallery, New York
- 2008 *Circa 1958: Breaking Ground in American Art*, Ackland Museum of Art, University
of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Fernand Leger: Paris – New York, Foundation Beyeler, Basel, Switzerland
From Picasso to Warhol, Art Museum at the University of Kentucky, Lexington,
Kentucky
New York Cool: Painting and Sculpture from the NYU Art Collection, Grey Art
Gallery, New York University, New York
Sensory Overload: Light, Motion, Sound and the Optical in Art Since 1945,
Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Arp to Reinhardt: Rose Geometries, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University,

Waltham, Massachusetts

- 2007 *Modern and Contemporary Masterworks*, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
Americans in Paris: Abstract Paintings in the Fifties, Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York
Full Color: Painting and Sculpture from 1960–1980, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York
Summer Show, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco
What is Painting? Contemporary Art from the Collection, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Grand Gestures: The Gordon F. Hampton Collection, University Art Museum, California State University at Long Beach, Long Beach, California
- 2006 *Pre-Post*, Greenberg Van Doren Gallery, New York
Berlin – Tokyo/Tokyo – Berlin, Die Kunstzweier Städte, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, Germany
- 2005 *American Masters: Important Paintings and Works on Paper*, Marianne Friedland Gallery, Naples, Florida
- 2004 *Kleinformat und Originalgraphik*, Galerie Renée Ziegler, Zürich, Switzerland
Ground – Field – Surface, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
- 2003 *Masterworks*, Joan T. Washburn Gallery, New York
- 2002 *To Be Looked At: Painting and Sculpture from the Collection*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Plane: The Essential of Painting, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, New York
New York Renaissance: Masterworks from the Whitney Museum of American Art, Palazzo Reale, Milan, Italy
- 2001 *A Defining Generation, Then and Now: 1961 and 2001*, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts
Watercolor: In the Abstract, Hyde Collection, Glens Falls, New York; traveled to Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center Gallery, State University College at Fredonia, New York; Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown,; Ben Shahn Gallery, William Patterson University, Wayne, New Jersey; Sarah Moody Gallery of Art, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
- 1999 *The American Century: Art & Culture 1950–2000*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Alchemies of the Sixties From the Rose Art Museum Permanent Collection,

- Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts
Abstractions Americaines 1940–1960, Musée Fabre, Montpellier, France
Postwar to Pop: Masterworks from MoMA's Collection, Museum of Modern Art, New York
- 1998 *Abstracted Presence*, Edward Thorp Gallery, New York
Defining Structures, LaSalle Partners at Nations Bank Plaza, Charlotte, North Carolina
- 1997 *Abstract Expressionism in the United States*, Centro Cultural Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico City, Mexico
Thirty-Five Years at Crown Point Press, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; traveled to Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco
After the Fall: Aspects of Abstract Painting Since 1970, Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art, Staten Island, New York
- 1996 *New Visions*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Abstract Expressionism in the United States, Centro Cultural Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico City, Mexico
Thinking Print: Books to Billboards, 1980–1995, Museum of Modern Art, New York
- 1995 *Abstraction, Pure and Impure*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
- 1994 *Abstraction – Geometry – Painting*, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York
- 1993 *Geometric Abstractions*, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Spheres of Influence, Whitney Museum of American Art at Champion International Corporation, Stamford, Connecticut
The Usual Suspects, Manny Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles, California
The League at the Cape, Provincetown Art Association and Museum, Provincetown, Massachusetts
Abstract-Figurative, Robert Miller Gallery, New York
- 1992 *AI Held, Milton Resnick 1955–1965*, Manny Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles, California
Not for Sale: Loans from the Private Collection of New York Art Dealers, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Israel
AI Held, Romare Bearden, Edwin A. Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas
Contemporary American Painting & Sculpture, American Embassy, Tel Aviv U.S. Department of State, Art & Embassies Program

- 1990 *Contemporary Painting and Sculpture Galleries: Reinstallation*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
The Humanist Icon, New York Academy of Art, New York
The Great Decade: The 1960s, A Selection of Paintings and Sculpture, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1989 *Abstract Expressionism*, Manny Silverman Gallery, Los Angeles, California
Art in Place: Fifteen Years of Acquisitions, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Contemporary Works from the Collection, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Selected Works II, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
Seven Abstract Paintings, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, California
Ronald Bladen: The 1950s, Washburn Gallery, New York
- 1988 *Abstractions*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Works on Paper, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, California
The Non-Objective World Revisited, Annely Juda Fine Art, London
Selected Works, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
25 Years: Crown Point Press, Museum of Modern Art, New York
- 1987 *Contemporary Works from the Collection*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
For 25 Years: Crown Point Press, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Strong Statements in Black and White, James Goodman Gallery, New York
Drawing since 1940, Museum of Modern Art, New York
1967: At the Crossroads, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Generations of Geometry, Whitney Museum of American Art at Equitable Center, New York
- 1986 *Painting and the Third Dimension – Viewpoint 86*, Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
Boston Collects: Contemporary Painting and Sculpture, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
Seven American Masters, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
Contemporary Works from the Collection, Museum of Modern Art, New York
After Matisse, Queens Museum, Flushing, New York, organized and circulated by Independent Curators Incorporated, New York; traveled to Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, Virginia; Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine; Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach, Florida; Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, Ohio; Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts
Twentieth-Century American Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York at Equitable Center, New York

An American Renaissance: Painting and Sculpture Since 1940, Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

- 1985 *Large Drawings*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Contrasts of Form: Geometric Abstract Art, 1910–1985, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Geometric Abstraction: Selections from a Decade, 1975–1985, Bronx Museum of Arts, Bronx, New York
The Bronx Celebrates, Lehman College Art Gallery, Bronx, New York
Reinstallation of the Contemporary Galleries, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Action/Precision: Paintings from the 1950's and 1980's, Washburn Gallery, New York
- 1984 *Action/Precision: The New Direction in New York 1955–1960*, Newport Harbor Art Museum (now Orange County Museum of Art), Newport Beach, California; traveled to Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts; Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, Ohio; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; University of Texas at Austin, Texas
Beauties & Beasts or What Makes Great Art Great?, Pratt Institute Gallery, Brooklyn, New York
American Art Since 1970, La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, organized by Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; traveled to Museo Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico; North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina; Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Center for the Fine Arts, Miami, Florida
American Post War Purism, Marilyn Pearl Gallery, New York
- 1983 *The American Artist as Printmaker: 23rd National Print Exhibition*, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York
Language, Drama, Source & Vision, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York
Minimalism to Expressionism: Painting and Sculpture Since 1965 from the Permanent Collection, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
The 60s in Painting, Sculpture, Video, Film, Music, Photograph, Fashion, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, New York
- 1982 *American Artists Abroad 1900–1950*, Washburn Gallery, New York
A Private Vision: Contemporary Art from the Graham Gund Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
Surveying the Seventies, Whitney Museum of American Art at Champion International Corporation, Stamford, Connecticut

Black and White, Museum of Modern Art, New York; traveled to Freeport-McMoran Company, New York

- 1981 *Amerikanische Malerei: 1930–1980*, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
Color, Surface and Geometry: American Painting of the 1940s and 1950s, Marilyn Pearl Gallery, New York
Recent Acquisitions: Drawings, Museum of Modern Art, New York
1981 Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
- 1980 *American Drawings in Black and White 1970–1980*, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York
From Matisse to American Abstract Painting, Washburn Gallery, New York
Art in Our Time (from the collection of the HHK Foundation for Contemporary Art, Inc.), Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; traveled to Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia; Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Illinois; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, Ohio; High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia; University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, Iowa; Brooks Memorial Art Gallery, Memphis, Tennessee; University Art Museum, University of Texas at Austin, Texas
The Geometric Tradition in American Painting: 1920–1980, Rosa Esman and Marilyn Pearl Galleries, New York
L'Amérique aux Indépendants 1944–1980, Grand Palais des Champs-Élysées, 91ème Exposition, Société des Artistes Indépendants, Paris
- 1979 *Constructivism and the Geometric Tradition: Selections from the McCrory Corporation Collection*, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; traveled to the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, Dallas, Texas; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California; La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art (now Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego), San Diego, California; Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington; Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri; Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, Michigan; Milwaukee Art Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado; San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, Texas; New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, Louisiana; Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio; Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, Indiana; Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan; Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, Hokkaido, Japan
The 1970s: New American Painting, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, exhibition sponsored by the United States Information Agency (USIA); traveled to venues in Belgrade, Serbia; Budapest, Hungary; Bucharest, Romania; Zagreb, Croatia; Ljubljana, Slovenia; Rome, Italy; Copenhagen, Denmark; Warsaw, Poland

- Art Inc.: American Paintings from Corporate Collections*, Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, Alabama; traveled to Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis,; San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, California
- 1978 *Recent Acquisitions: Painting and Sculpture*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
American Painting of the 1970's, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; traveled to Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, California; Oakland Museum, Oakland, California; Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio; Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, Texas; Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
- 1977 *Artists Salute Skowhegan*, Kennedy Galleries, New York
A View of a Decade, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois
Documenta VI, Kassel, Germany
- 1976 *Surface, Edge and Color: Paintings by Al Held, Ellsworth Kelly, Agnes Martin, Kenneth Noland, Larry Poons, Frank Stella*, Whitney Museum of American Art, Downtown Branch, New York
A Selection of American Art: The Skowhegan School 1946–1976, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; traveled to Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine
- 1975 *76 Jefferson: Fall Penthouse Art Lending Service Exhibition*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
34th Biennial of Contemporary American Painting, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
El Lenguaje del Color, Museo De Arte Moderno, Bogotá, Colombia; traveled to Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela; Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City; Museum of Modern Art, New York
American Abstract Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
American Works on Paper 1945–1975, M. Knoedler & Co., New York
Large-Scale Paintings, André Emmerich Gallery, New York
- 1974 *1961: American Painting in the Watershed Year*, Allan Frumkin Gallery, New York
Painting and Sculpture Today 1974, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, Indiana
- 1973 *1973 Biennial Exhibition: Contemporary American Art*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Small Works: Selections from the Richard Brown Baker Collection of

- Contemporary Art*, Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art, Providence, Rhode Island
- 1972 *Fall Exhibitions 1972: Selections from the Aldrich Museum Collection and the Invitational Showing of Paintings on Paper*, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, Connecticut
- 1971 *Rose '71: the poetry of vision*, Royal Dublin Society, Dublin, Ireland
Art of the Decade, 1960–1970: Exhibition of Paintings from the Collections of Greater Detroit, University Art Gallery, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan
Die Sammlung der Emanuel-Hoffmann-Stiftung, Kunstmuseum Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- 1970 *Contemporary Art from Dayton Collections*, Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, Ohio
American Painting 1970, Virginia Museum, Richmond, Virginia
Exhibition of Contemporary Art – 1970, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas
- 1969 *1969 Annual Exhibition: Contemporary American Painting*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
29th Exhibition by the Society for Contemporary Art, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Drawings: An Exhibition of Contemporary American Drawings, Fort Worth Art Center, Fort Worth, Texas
- 1968 *The Pure and Clear: American Innovations*, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
In Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Museum of Modern Art, New York
Signals in the Sixties, Honolulu Academy of Arts, Hawaii
Documenta IV, Kassel, Germany
- 1967 *Frank O'Hara/In Memory of My Feelings*, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Large Scale American Paintings, Jewish Museum, New York
1967 Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Paintings, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
The Visual Assault, Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, Georgia
- 1966 *Two Decades of American Painting*, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (organized by the International Council of the Museum of Modern Art, New York); traveled to Kyoto, Japan; Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, India; Melbourne and Sydney, Australia
Vormen van de Kleur (New Shapes of Color), Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam,

Netherlands; also shown as *Formen der Farbe*, Württembergischer Kunstverein, Stuttgart, Germany; Kunsthalle, Bern, Switzerland
American Schilderijen Collages, Museum Voor Stad en Lande, Groningen, Netherlands
Art of the United States: 1670–1966, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Systemic Painting, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York
The First Flint Invitation, Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, Michigan
Amerikanische Kunst aus Schweizer Besitz, Kunstmuseum, St. Gallen, Switzerland

- 1965 *Signale: Held, Kelly, Mattmüller, Noland, Olitski, Pfahler, Plumb, Turnbull*, Kunsthalle, Basel, Switzerland
Concrete Expressionism, Loeb Student Center, New York University, New York
1965 Annual Exhibition: Contemporary American Painting, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
One Hundred Contemporary American Drawings, University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- 1964 *1964 Annual Exhibition Contemporary Art*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
67th Annual American Exhibition: Directions in Contemporary Painting and Sculpture, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Abstract Watercolors by 14 Americans, American Embassy, London (organized by Museum of Modern Art, New York)
Post Painterly Abstraction, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles; traveled to Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Art Gallery of Toronto, Canada
Some Paintings to Consider, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, California
Sammlung La Peau de l'Ours, Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland
- 1963 *Annual Exhibition 1963 – Contemporary American Painting*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Toward a New Abstraction, Jewish Museum, New York
Banners, Graham Gallery, New York
Twenty-Eighth Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting, Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 1962 *Geometric Abstraction in America*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
- 1961 *1961*, Dallas Museum of Contemporary Art, Dallas, Texas

American Abstract Expressionists and Imagists, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York
New New York Scene, Marlborough Gallery, London; traveled to Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Massachusetts
The 1961 Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture, The Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

- 1960 *The Mysterious Sign*, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London
- 1959 *Neue Amerikanische Malerei*, Kunstmuseum, St. Gallen, Switzerland
Twenty-Seven Collages, Area Gallery, New York
Art, USA, 59: A Force, A Language, A Frontier, New York Coliseum, New York
- 1958 *Donald Berry/Al Held Paintings*, Poindexter Gallery, New York
Brata Gallery, New York
- 1957 Brata Gallery, New York
Tanager Gallery, New York
- 1956 *Mid-season Salon*, Camino Gallery, New York

Selected awards

- 2008 America's Best Public Art Projects (2008 Americans for the Arts Annual Convention)
- 1984 Member, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York
- 1983 Jack I. and Lillian L. Poses Creative Arts Award, Painting Medal, Brandeis University
- 1969 Award for Artists, National Endowment for the Arts
- 1966 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship in Painting
- 1964 Frank G. Logan Medal of the Art Institute of Chicago

Toggle navigation. About al held. In His Own Words. Bibliography. Al Held (October 12, 1928 – July 27, 2005) was an American Abstract expressionist painter. He was particularly well known for his large scale Hard-edge paintings. As an artist, multiple stylistic changes occurred throughout his career, however, none of these occurred at the same time as any popular emerging style or acted against a particular art form. Al Held - Pan North IV [1986]. Al Held (Brooklyn, New York, October 12, 1928 - near Camerata, Italy, July 27, 2005) was an American Abstract expressionist painter. He was particularly well known for his large scale Hard-edge paintings. As an artist, multiple stylistic changes occurred throughout his career, however, none of these occurred at the same time as any popular emerging style or acted against a particular art form. Al Held was an American painter, who represented Abstract Expressionism, Post-Painterly Abstraction and Abstract Illusionism movements. In his best-known works, he focused on abstract, geometric forms.Â October 12, 1928 (age 76). Brooklyn, New York City, New York, United States. In 1952, Al held his first solo exhibition at the Galerie Huit in Paris. The following year, he settled down in New York, where he started to paint in the Abstract Expressionist manner.