



## BARBARA EARL THOMAS

### Public Collections:

- Cedar Hall at U.S. Bank Center, Seattle, WA
- Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA
- 21 Century Museum Hotels, Louisville, KY
- 4 Culture Portable Works Art Collection, Seattle WA
- Bainbridge Island Art Museum, Bainbridge Island, WA
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA
- Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA
- City of Everett, Portable Works Collection, Everett WA
- City of Seattle 1% Portable Works Collection, Seattle, WA
- Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA
- Junior League of Seattle, Seattle, WA
- King County Arts Commission 1% Collection, Seattle, WA
- Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA
- Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, MN
- Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR
- Safeco Corporate Collection, Seattle, WA
- Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
- Seattle First National Bank, Seattle, WA
- Sound Transit Authority, Seattle, WA
- Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA
- University of Washington Medical Center Collection, Seattle, WA
- Walker Richer & Quinn Inc., Seattle, WA
- Washington Arts Consortium, WA
- Washington State Arts Commission, Portable Works Collection, Kent, WA
- Washington State Convention Center, Portable Works Collection, Seattle, WA
- Western Washington State University, Bellingham, WA
- Wichita Museum of Art, Wichita KA



### **Selected Solo Exhibitions:**

- 2023 Illuminated Body, Wichita Museum of Art, Wichita, KS  
Illuminated Body, Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA
- 2022 A Joyful Noise, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York, NY
- 2021 Packaged Black, A Collaboration: Barbara Earl Thomas & Derrick Adams, Henry Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2020 Geography of Innocence, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
- 2017 The Blood Catcher and Other Stories, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York, NY
- 2016 Heaven on Fire, Bainbridge Island Art Museum, Bainbridge Island, WA
- 2013 Story Line, Prints 2006-2013, Paper Hammer, Seattle, WA
- 2005 Big Fish, The Meadows Museum, Shreveport, LA  
Elements, Evansville Museum of Arts and Science, Evansville, IN  
Last Seen: Altar of Memory, an installation, Edmonds Community College Gallery, Edmonds, WA
- 2003 A Fire in the Landscape, Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle, WA  
Northwest Traditions, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA
- 1998 In Fire and Water, Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1997 Barbara Earl Thomas: An Exhibition, Olympic College Art Gallery, Bremerton, WA
- 1995 The Book of Telling, Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1994 The Fallen House, Whatcom Museum of History and Art, Bellingham, WA
- 1990 Requiem for a Tilted World, Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle, WA  
Talking Back to the Storm: New Figurative Work by Barbara Thomas, Mitchell Museum, Mt. Vernon, IL
- 1989 Art Gym: Gallery 2, Marylhurst College, Marylhurst, OR
- 1985 Sheehan Gallery, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA
- 1984 Recent Work, Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1983 Executive Office Gallery, King County Courthouse, Seattle, WA  
Art Center Gallery, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, WA

### **Selected Group Exhibitions:**

- 2021 For Now, Claire Oliver Gallery, New York, NY
- 2019 EXPOChicago, Chicago, IL
- 2018 Shattered, EXPOChicago, Claire Oliver Gallery, Chicago, IL  
Becoming American, Studio e, Seattle, WA  
English and American camps, San Juan Island, WA



- 2017 Lines of Influence, SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, GA  
Dark and Stormy Night, The Gothic in Contemporary Art, Lehman College Art Gallery, Bronx, NY  
ExpoChicago, Claire Oliver Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2016 Seattle Art Fair, Woodside/Braseth Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Out of Sight, A Survey of Contemporary Art in the Pacific Northwest, Seattle, WA  
Stereotype, Installation, Northwest African American Museum, Seattle, WA  
Good Neighbor, an art lending experience, Seattle University, Seattle, WA
- 2014 Ink This, Contemporary Prints in the Northwest, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA  
Inner Portraits, Bainbridge Island Art Museum, Bainbridge Island, WA
- 2012 Best of the Northwest, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA
- 2010 Safeco Collection, The Wright Space, Seattle, WA  
Northwest Women Artists 1880-2010, Whatcom Museum of History and Art, Bellingham, WA
- 2009 A Concise History of Northwest Art, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA  
What is Black?, Seattle Art Museum
- 2000 Building Community: Truth & Reconciliation, A Work-in-Progress Part II, Patricia Wismer Women's Center, Seattle University
- 1999 Drawing Revisited, Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA  
Memory & Mourning: American Expressions of Grief, Washington State History Museum, Tacoma, WA  
Civil Progress: Life in Black America, Greg Kucera Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1996 Raven: Icons and Omens, Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, WA  
The Narrative Impulse: Visual Storytelling, Rental Sales Gallery, Seattle Art Museum
- 1995 Wings, Rental Sales Gallery, Seattle Art Museum  
Washington: 100 Years, 100 Paintings, Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA  
Art Works for AIDS, Seattle Center Pavilion
- 1994 A Matter of Colors III, The African Connection, Pacific Arts Center, Seattle Center  
The Northwest Art Collection of the Junior League of Seattle, Kinsey Gallery, Seattle University
- 1993 The Art of Microsoft, Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle  
XX: An Exhibition on the Occasion of the Women's Caucus for Art National Conference, Francine Seders Gallery II, Seattle, WA
- 1992 Documents Northwest, The PONCHO Series: 1492/1992, Seattle Art Museum
- 1991 Please and Thank You: 100 True Stories/Collaborators, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA
- 1990 Washington: 100 Years, 100 Paintings, Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA  
Art Works for AIDS, Seattle Center Pavilion



- 1989 Washington to Washington: Women in Art Today, Washington State Museum of Art, Pullman, WA; the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.; and The Nordic Heritage Museum, Seattle, WA  
Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
- 1988 School of Art 1975-1988, Safeco Corporation, Seattle, WA
- 1987 Northwest '87, Seattle Art Museum  
Aesthetics of the American Northwest, The Evans-Tibbs Collection, Washington, D.C.  
Masks: A Contemporary Perspective, Whatcom Museum of History and Art, Bellingham, WA
- 1986 Poetry in Art, Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle, WA  
Figure: Narrative, Whatcom Museum of History and Art, Bellingham, WA

#### **Public Commissions:**

- 2023 University of Washington, Jacob Lawrence Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2022 Yale University, Hopper College Commission, New Haven, CT
- 2021 Sound Transit Public Art Program, I-90 Portal interior art design project, Seattle, WA
- 2020 Multnomah County Courthouse, Portland Regional Arts & Culture Council, Portland, OR
- 2019 Boulevard Park Library, King County Library System, Burien, WA
- 2011 Story Stones, Portage Bay Park, Seattle, WA
- 2009 The Story House, Evergreen State College, Washington State Arts Commission, Olympia, WA
- 2008 Electric Raven, Walden Triangle, Sound Transit, Seattle, WA
- 2001 Art in Public Places Hatch Cover Design Award – Raven Shouts Water, Seattle, WA

#### **Special Projects/Collaborations:**

- 2019 From Brooklyn to Ballard with Derek Bermel, Octave 9, Seattle Symphony
- 2017 What Remains, Wayne Horvitz, Seattle Art Museum

#### **Awards/Honors:**

- 2023 Anderson Ranch Residency, Aspen, CO
- 2018 Seattle Girls School's Grace Hopper Outstanding Achievement Award, Seattle, WA
- 2016 *Seattle Magazine* 's Hall of Fame, Arts and Culture, Seattle, WA  
Irving and Yvonne Twining Humber Award, Seattle, WA  
Stranger Genius Award, Nominee, Seattle, WA  
Women's University Club, Brava Award—for exceptional achievements, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Artist in Residence, Pilchuck School, Stanwood, WA



- 2014 Artist in Residence, Museum of Glass, Tacoma, WA  
Artist in Residence, Goathead Press, Tieton, WA
- 2013 Mayor's Arts Award, Office of Arts and Culture, Seattle, WA
- 2009 Hauberg Fellowship, Pilchuck Glass School, Stanwood, WA
- 2003 Poster Design Award, Bumbershoot, A Seattle Arts Festival, Seattle, WA
- 2002 Visual Arts Honors Program, Seattle Collects, Seattle Arts Commission  
Jack Straw Writer's Award, Seattle, WA
- 1999 Hedgebrook Writer's Residency Retreat, Whidbey, WA
- 1998 Seattle Artist Writer's Award, Seattle Arts Commission, Seattle WA  
Neddy Award Nominee, The Behnke Foundation, Seattle, WA
- 1997 Artist Trust Tenth Anniversary Presidents' Award, Seattle, WA
- 1996 The Howard S. Wright Award, Seattle Arts Commission
- 2001 Seattle Artist Writer's Award, Seattle Arts Commission
- 2006 Neddy Award Nominee, The Behnke Foundation, Seattle, WA

**Catalogues:**

- 2023 Illuminated Body, Exhibition Catalogue, Chrysler Art Museum, Carolyn Needell, Norfolk, VA:  
Marquand Press, Seattle, WA
- 2021 Geography of Innocence, Exhibition Catalogue, Seattle Art Museum, Catharina Manchanda:  
Lucia/ Marquand Press, Seattle, WA
- 2020 Geography of Innocence, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA  
Jacob Lawrence Struggle Series, Peabody Essex, Salem, MA
- 2016 Heaven on Fire, Exhibition Catalogue, Bainbridge Island Art Museum, Greg Robinson  
Lucia/Marquand Press, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Portraits. Mary Randlett, Francis McCue, University of Washington Press  
Looking for George, La Nordo, A Seattle Art Journal, Seattle, WA
- 2014 An Excavation of the Heart. Grantmakers in the Arts
- 2013 StoryLine Prints 2013 – 2014. Marquand Press, Seattle, WA  
What to Do in the Rain, The Mail, Short Story, 826 Anthology, Seattle, WA
- 2008 Vital Signs, Joe Fedderson, essay introduction, University of Washington Press
- 2005 Barbara Earl Thomas, Elements. Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science,  
Evansville, IN  
Faith and the Ultimatum, Journal for Social Justice, Law Journal, Seattle University
- 2004 Meditation on the Word House, Arcade Magazine, Seattle, WA



- 2003 Neddy Exhibition, The Behnke Foundation, Seattle, WA  
Never Late for Heaven: Co-authored monograph on the life and work of Gwen Knight Lawrence, University of Washington Press
- 2000 Sweet Hope Waiting, The Gift of Birds: True Encounters, Travelers Tales
- 1999 Making a Place: The Art of Julie Speidel, Idaho  
Together in the World: Art Catalogue Essay on the Life of Jacob and Gwendolyn Lawrence, Bumbershoot, Seattle Arts Festival
- 1998 Testimonies: Barbara Earl Thomas. Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA  
Halper, Vicki and Thomas, Barbara Earl. The Storm Watch: The Art of Barbara Earl Thomas, University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA  
Storm Watch: The Art of Barbara Earl Thomas, The University of Washington Press, Seattle WA  
Making Peace, essay in The Spirit of the Canyon, Katherine Jo Ryan, Ed., NorthLand Press, Arizona
- 1997 Taha, Halima, Thomas, Barbara Earl, and Kucera, Greg, Civil Progress: Life in Black America. Greg Kucera Gallery, Seattle, WA  
Intersections, catalogue essay in Civil Progress: Life in Black America, Greg Kucera Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1995 King-Hammond, Leslie (introduction). Gumbo Ya Ya, Anthology of Contemporary African American Women Artists. Midmarch Arts Press, New York, NY
- 1993 Bruce, Chris. The Art of Microsoft. Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
McLerran, Jennifer. "Narrative and Figurative Trends: Telling Differences." Brunzman, Laura and Ruth Askey. Modernism and Beyond, Women Artists of the Pacific Northwest. Midmarch Arts Press, New York, NY
- 1992 Documents Northwest, The PONCHO Series: 1492/1992. Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
- 1991 Savage, Georgia. The House Tibet (cover design). Graywolf Press, St. Paul, MN 1990  
Art Works for AIDS. Seattle Center Pavilion, Seattle, WA  
Northwest Originals, Washington Women and Their Art. MatriMedia, Portland, OR

**Selected Press:**

- 2023 Davis, Brangian Northwest Artists Making News, New Sound Transit Installation at Judkins Park Station, Crosscut, Seattle, WA  
20 Spring Exhibition & Art Shows to Explore, Essence Magazine, New York, NY
- 2022 Cascone, Sarah, Yale Replaces Racist Stained-Glass Windows...With New Commission by Faith Ringgold and Barbara Earl Thomas, *Artnet*, New York, NY  
Wozniak, Stephen, Make/Believe and Make a Joyful Noise: Judith Schaechter and Barbara Earl Thomas at Claire Oliver Gallery, *White Hot Magazine*, New York, NY



- Brauner, Brooklyn, Barbara Earl Thomas contextualizes Grace Hopper's new windows in talk on campus, *Yale News*, New Haven, CT
- Voon, Claire, Faith Ringgold and Barbara Earl Thomas Created stained-glass windows at Yale addressing the university's ties to racist practices, *The Art Newspaper*, New York, NY
- Macaulay, Berette S, The Poetics of BARBARA EARL THOMAS, University of Washington Alumni Magazine, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2021 Zimmerman, Emily, Between Fragility and Strength, *Bomb Magazine*, Brooklyn, NY
- Paul, Crystal, Derrick Adams and Barbara Earl Thomas highlight Black joy and aesthetics in Henry Art Gallery's 'Packaged Black', *Seattle Times*, Seattle, WA
- Boone, Keyaria, 11 Must See Exhibitions Open this Spring, *Essence Magazine*, Brooklyn, NY
- Gallow, Lauren, SAM Brings Hometown Artist's work to Light, *Luxe Magazine*, Burbank, Megan, Geography of Innocence Invites Transformation, *Seattle Times*, Seattle, WA
- Milne, Stephen, Jacob Lawrence, and Barbara Earl Thomas Witness America in their SAM shows, *Met Magazine*, Seattle, WA
- Webster, Peter, A Cut Above, *Interior Design Magazine*, Boca Raton, FL
- Allen, Aaron, The illuminating Work of Barbara Earl Thomas, *Seattle Medium*, Seattle, WA
- 2020 Loos, Ted, From 2 Artists, 2 Ways to Tell Stories of Black America, *New York Times*, New York, NY
- Cummings, Mike, New Hopper College Dining Hall Windows Confront the Past, *Yale News*, New Haven, CT
- De Avila, Joseph, Black Artist to Help Yale Confront the Past, *Wall Street Journal*, New York, NY
- Burbank, Megan, Gallery Round Up, *Seattle Times*, Seattle, WA
- Imperial, Aileen, The New Normal, Seattle Artist Cuts Through the Chaos, *Cross Cut*, Seattle, WA
- 2019 Cult Classic Magazine, Artist Profile, Brooklyn, NY
- 2018 Seattle Art Fair, Artist Profile, Seattle, WA
- Foster, Anne Steward, Five Artists You Should Know, Seattle Business Magazine, Seattle, WA
- Culture Type, Lines of Influence: Commissioned Works by Barbara Earl Thomas Derrick Adams Respond to Legacy of Jacob Lawrence
- 2017 VICTORIA JOSSLIN, Urban Glass Magazine, 2016/17



- 2016 Kangas, Matthew, "Barbara Earl Thomas: 'Heaven on Fire at Bainbridge Island Museum of Art'", *art ltd.*, Sept/Oct 2016  
Platt, Susan Noyes, "Barbara Earl Thomas: Heaven on Fire," *Art Access*, Volume 25, Number 5, September/October 2016  
Demetri, Jim, "Spirit in the Sky," *Seattle Magazine*, Seattle, WA  
Graves Jen, "The 2016 Stranger Genius Awards: Barbara Earl Thomas," *The Stranger*  
Edge, Lisa, "Fahrenheit 451," *Real Change*, Volume 23, Number 35  
Graves, Jen, "Why We Need Barbara Earl Thomas Now," *The Stranger*  
Upchurch, Michael, "A look back at 30 years of talent still burning brightly," *Seattle Times*  
Marano, Luciano, "Living Legend on Bainbridge," *Bainbridge Island Review*, Bainbridge Island, WA  
"Barbara Earl Thomas," *The Seattle Medium*  
Graves, Jen, "2016 Stranger Genius Award Nominee...Barbara Earl Thomas," *The Stranger*, May 26, 2016
- 2015 Graves, Jen, You Standing in My Practice, *The Stranger*, June
- 2013 Graves, Jen, Diet of Worms, Reading the Wordless Stories of Barbara Earl Thomas, *The Stranger*, June  
Upchurch, Michael, Linocuts Blend the Surreal and the Lyrical, *Seattle Times*  
*Vanguard Seattle Arts and Culture*, *City Arts*, *Art Beat*
- 2010 Nicol, Ilene, *Seattle Woman Magazine*, Cover Story
- 2008 Huberman, Bond, "What to Look For When You Are Making a Museum," *City Arts*, Cover Story
- 2005 Beason, Tyrone, A Life Lived in Two Worlds, *The Seattle Times*, February
- 2004 Rowell, Charles Henry, An Interview with Barbara Earl Thomas, Callaloo, The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD
- 2003 Mulgrew, Ian, Manhole Art Great Idea Overdue in Vancouver, *The Vancouver Sun*, December 30
- 1999 Fahey, Anna, Where Are They Now? Local Women Artists in Their Moments Out of the Limelight, *She Speaks*, Spring, Volume 3, Number 1
- 1998 Mitchell, Leatha Simmons, Grief Recycled, *The International Review of African American Art*, Washington DC, Volume 15, Number 2  
Hackett, Regina, Three Northwest Artists of Different Sensibilities Given Their Due at SAM, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, September 9  
Updike, Robin, Busy Artist Weathers a 'Storm' of Activity, *The Seattle Times*, Sept Hamill, Sam, A Seattle Painter's History, *Family Matters*, *The Stranger*, June 11





- Schneider, Bart, Invisible Currents, Hungry Mind Review (Minneapolis, MN), Summer 1997
- Mitchell, Leatha S., Before/During/After the Flood/Middle Passage/Conflagration, The International Review of African American Art, Washington DC, Volume 14, Number 2
- 1996 Tremblay, Gail, Prayers for Being Human, Reflex, Volume 9, No. 11, December/January
- Harris, Joanne, Portfolio, American Visions, Washington DC, August/September
- 1995 Tremblay, Gail, Prayers for Being Human, Reflex, Volume 9, No. 11, December/January
- Hackett, Regina, Painting is Positive Energy for Late-Bloomer Thomas, Seattle PostIntelligencer, October 17
- An Artist's Portfolio, Utne Reader, online edition, July
- 1994 Tremblay, Gail, Images of Upheaval, Reflex, Vol. 8, No. 3, May/June/July
- 1993 Hackett, Regina, A NW Tribute: 'The Art of Microsoft', Seattle Post-Intelligencer, July
- Hackett, Regina, Individualists' Styles Share the Spotlight in Show of Women Artists, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, January 19
- 1990 Askey, Ruth, Barbara E. Thomas, Artweek, September 27
- Mathieson, Karen, Thomas Underlines Work with Disastrous Mischief, Seattle Times, September 22
- Bryant, Elizabeth, Precision Thrives Beneath the Chaos in Thomas Paintings, Seattle PostIntelligencer, September 20
- 1989 Hackett, Regina, Exhibit Hangs the Good and Bad Side-By-Side, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, November 29
- 1988 Brunsman, Laura, Distinct Voices, Reflex, March/April
- 1987 Hackett, Regina, NW '87 is Startling Collection of Current and Diverse Regional Art, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, August 6
- 1986 Basa, Lynn, Three Artists Mix Poetry with their Painted Artwork, Journal-American, June 22

**Education:**

- 2000 Flight of the Mind Writer's Workshop, Oregon
- 1977 M.F.A., University of Washington, Seattle; Multi-media, design program, Seattle, WA
- 1976 University of Grenoble, France
- 1973 B.A., University of Washington, Seattle WA