

# PAULA COOPER GALLERY

## VERONICA RYAN Biography

**Born:** Plymouth, Montserrat 1956  
Lives and works in London and New York City

### EDUCATION

2023 Bath Spa University (Honorary Doctorate of Arts)  
1981-83 The School of Oriental and African Studies, London University  
1978-80 The Slade School of Art, University College, London  
1975-78 Bath Academy of Art, Corsham Court  
1974-75 St. Albans College of Art and Design

### GRANTS AND AWARDS

2022 Turner Prize  
2022 PSSA Marsh Award for Excellence in Public Sculpture  
2020 Recipient of the Windrush Commission, Hackney, London  
2019 Pollock Krasner Grant  
2018 Freelands Award, for 2021 exhibition, Spike Island, Bristol  
2017 Artist Fellowship, Inc.  
2016 Artist Fellowship, Inc.  
2012 American Arts and Letters  
2006 Artist Fellowship  
2004 Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts  
2002 Wheeler Foundation  
1987 Henry Moore Foundation  
1985 Greater London Arts Association Award  
1983 Greater London Arts Association Award, Second Prize Winner, Cleveland (UK)  
International Drawing Biennale  
Prize Winner, Cleveland (UK) International Drawing Biennale  
1980 Boise Traveling Scholarship

### ONE-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Veronica Ryan: Unruly Objects*, Pulitzer Art Foundation, St. Louis, MO  
2024 *Collective Moments*, White Columns, New York, NY  
2022 *Veronica Ryan*, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY  
*Veronica Ryan*, Alison Jacques, London, UK  
2021 *Along a Spectrum*, Spike Island, Bristol, UK  
2019 *The Weather Inside*, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY  
2018 *Virginia Woolf: Exhibition Inspired by Her Writings*, Tate St. Ives & Tour

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- The Sculpture Collections Exhibition, Leeds Gallery Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, UK  
*In My Shoes: Art & The Self since the 1990s*, Longside Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Arts Council Touring Exhibition
- 2017 The Hepworth Museum, Wakefield, Yorkshire, UK  
Salvage, The Art House, Wakefield, Yorkshire, UK
- 2011 *The Weather Inside*, The Mattress Factory, Pittsburg, PA
- 2005 *Archaeology of the Black Sun 1956-2002*, Musings After Kristeva, Salena Gallery, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY
- 2003 *Archaeology of the Black Sun 1956-2002*, Salena Gallery, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY
- 2000 *Veronica Ryan: Artist in Residence*, Tate, St. Ives, Cornwall, UK
- 1995 *Veronica Ryan*, Angel Row Gallery, Camden Arts Centre, London, UK  
*Compartments Apartments*, Camden Arts Centre, London and Angel Row, Nottingham, UK
- 1993 *Veronica Ryan*, Wood Street Gallery, Three Rivers Arts Festival, Pittsburgh, PA
- 1988 *Veronica Ryan*, Kettle's Yard Gallery, Cambridge, UK  
Riverside Studios, London, UK
- 1987 *Veronica Ryan*, Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol, UK  
Wolverhampton Art Gallery, UK  
Third Eye Centre, Glasgow, Scotland
- 1984 *Drawings and Sculpture*, The Tom Allen Centre, London, UK  
*Drawings*, South of the Border Restaurant, London, UK

## **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2024 *Each now, is the time, the space*, Lismore Castle Arts, Lismore, Ireland.  
*An Axis of Abstraction: Art in Cornwall and Yorkshire - Then and Now*, Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds UK
- 2023 *If Not Now, When*, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK  
*Making Their Mark*, Shah Garg Foundation, New York, NY; traveling to Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA and Kemper Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
- 2022 Whitney Biennial: *Quiet As It's Kept*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
*A Clearing in the Forest*, Tate Modern, London, UK  
*Stitched*, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY
- 2021 *Life Support: Forms of Care in Art and Activism*, Glasgow Women's Library, Glasgow, Scotland

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- Ghosts from the Recent Past*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*Barbara Hepworth: Art and Life*, Hepworth Wakefield, Wakefield, UK  
*Portable Sculpture*, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, UK  
*Breaking the Mould: Sculpture by Women since 1945*, Longside Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, UK; traveled to Djanogly Gallery, Lakeside Arts, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK; The Levinsky Gallery, The Art Institute, University of Plymouth, Plymouth, UK; Ferens Art Gallery, Hull, UK; The New Art Gallery Walsall, Walsall, UK
- 2020 *Natural Encounters*, Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds, UK  
*Sarah Charlesworth, Douglas Huebler, Donald Judd, Walid Raad, Veronica Ryan*, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY  
*Exercising Freedom: Encounters with Art, Artists and Communities*, Whitechapel Archive Gallery, London, UK  
*Unquiet Moments: Capturing the Everyday* (online exhibition), Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset House, London, UK
- 2019 *No Particular Place to Go?*, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK  
*The Weather Garden*, Anne Hardy curates the Arts Council Collection, Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, UK
- 2017 *The Place Is Here*, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, UK
- 2015 *Making It: Sculpture in Britain 1977-1986*, Arts Council Collection Tour
- 2009 *Drawings*, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, UK
- 2007 *Infinite Islands: Contemporary Caribbean Art*, The Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
- 2006 *Site Specific*, The Carriage House Museum, Islip, NY
- 2005 Tate Modern, London, UK
- 2001 *Open Studios*, Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York, NY
- 2000 *Confluence*, Five Myles, Curated by Marian Griffiths, Brooklyn, NY  
*Modern British Art*, Tate Collection, Tate Gallery, Liverpool, UK
- 1999 *Five Myles*, Curated by Marian Griffiths, Brooklyn, NY
- 1998 *Artists' Projects*, Tate Gallery, St. Ives, Cornwall, UK  
*Caribbean Contemporary Art*, MEIAC, Badajoz. Tour to: Madrid, Casa de America; Paris, Maison de l'Amérique Latine; Berlin, Hans den Welt
- 1997 *Transforming the Crown: African, Asian, and Caribbean Artists in Britain 1966-1996*, Bronx Museum, The Studio Museum in Harlem, NY  
*Drawing Exhibition*, Selena Gallery, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY  
The Rotunda Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 1996 *Landscape Reclaimed*, Curated by Harry Philbrick, Aldrich Museum, CT  
*British Abstract Art, Part 3: Works on Paper*, Flowers East Gallery, London, UK  
*Sculpture*, Jesus College, Cambridge, UK  
*Swinging the Lead*, Lead Works, Bristol, UK

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- Petrona Morrison and Veronica Ryan: Sculptural Works*, The Bronx Museum, Bronx, NY
- 1995 *Six Sculptors*, Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus, NY  
Weltkunst Foundation, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*Body as Metaphor*, Bard College, New York, NY  
*Natural Settings*, Chelsea Physic Garden, London, UK  
*British Abstract Art Part 2: Sculpture*, Flowers East Gallery, London, UK
- 1994 *Trophies from the Civil Wars*, Memorial Arch, Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn, NY
- 1993 *Natural Order*, Tate Gallery, Liverpool, UK. Arts Council Touring Exhibition
- 1992 *Recent Acquisitions*, Tate Gallery, London, UK  
Group Show, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, NY  
*Columbus Drowning*, Rochdale Arts Gallery, Rochdale, UK
- 1991 Open Studio, Pietrasanta Fine Arts, New York, NY  
*Virtual Realities*, Scottish Arts Council Touring Exhibition  
Centenary Exhibition, Goldsmiths' College, London, UK
- 1990 *Sculpture Triennale*, Budapest, Hungary  
*Sculptors' Drawing Exhibition*, The New York Studio School, New York, NY  
*River*, selected by John Maine, Goldsmiths' College, London, UK  
*A New Necessity*, First Tyne International, Newcastle, UK  
*Garden Festival: 'A New Necessity'*, Gateshead, UK  
*The British Art Show*, McLellan Galleries, Glasgow, Scotland  
Leeds City Gallery, Leeds, UK  
Hayward Gallery, London, UK
- 1989 *New York Contemporaries*, ICA, London, UK  
Contemporary Art Fair, Covent Garden, London, UK
- 1988 *Sculpture in the Close*, Jesus College, Cambridge, UK  
*Dislocations*, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK  
*Inside Out*, Nottingham Castle Museum, Nottingham, UK
- 1987 *Vessels*, Serpentine Gallery, London, UK  
*A System for Support*, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK
- 1986 Blond Fine Art, London, UK  
*From Two Worlds*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK  
Interim Art, London, UK  
The Minorities, Colchester, Essex, UK  
*Caribbean Expressions in Britain*, Leicester Museums and Art Galleries, UK  
Garden Festival, Stoke-on-Trent, UK  
*Coloured Sculpture*, Stoke-on-Trent Museum and Art Gallery, UK
- 1985 *The Thin Black Line*, Institute of Contemporary Art, London, UK  
*Relics in the Pillow of Dreams*, Angela Flowers Gallery, London, UK  
Whitechapel Open, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK  
*Beyond Appearances: Sculpture for the Visually Handicapped and Sighted to Share*,

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Castle Museum, Nottingham and Arts Touring

- 1984 The Mappin Gallery, Sheffield and tour, UK  
*Sculptors and Modellers*, Tate Gallery, London, UK  
Christmas Show, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK
- 1983 *Black Women Artists*, The Africa Centre, London, UK  
6th Cleveland (UK) International Drawing Biennale and tour  
Creation for Liberation, Brixton, London, UK
- 1982 Fine Art Staff Show, Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth, UK
- 1981 *Third World Show*, London School of Economics, London, UK

## **TEACHING AND RESIDENCIES**

- 2018 Porthmeor Studios, St. Ives, UK
- 2017 The Art House, Wakefield, UK
- 2011 The Mattress Factory, Pittsburg, PA
- 2000 Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 1999 Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 1998 Delfina Studio Trust, London
- 1998 - 2001 Tate Gallery St. Ives, Cornwall, UK
- 1993 - 1999 School of Visual Arts, NY
- 1994 Residency, Camden Arts Centre, London
- 1982 - 2011 Visiting Lecturer at various colleges, including: Chelsea; Slade; Farnham;  
Middlesex Winchester; Newport; Portsmouth; Birmingham; Falmouth; Byam  
Shaw; Limerick, Ireland; New York Studio School, Moore College, BA/MFA The  
New School (Parsons); Goldsmiths; School of Visual Arts
- 1991 International Symposium, Africa Explores: 20th Century African Art, Centre for  
African Art, Hunter College, NY
- 1988 Co-curated 'Dislocations' exhibition, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK  
Inside Out, Nottingham Castle Museum, UK  
In the Close, Jesus College, Cambridge, UK
- 1987 - 1988 Kettle's Yard Residency/Jesus College, Cambridge, UK  
Serpentine Gallery Workshops: *Air, Earth, Water*, London, UK
- 1987 Vessels, Serpentine Art Gallery, London, UK

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Work for Shelves: A System for Support, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK  
Dislocations, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK

- 1986 Workshops, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK  
From Two Worlds, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK  
Interim Art, London, UK  
The Minorities, Colchester  
Caribbean Expressionists in Britain, Leicester  
Four London Artists, Oriol Theatre, Clwyd, North Wales  
Whitechapel Open, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK  
Stoke City Garden Festival, Stoke-on-Trent Museum and Art Gallery  
Coloured Sculpture, Stoke-on-Trent Museum and Art Gallery  
Blond Fine Art, London, UK
- 1985 The Thin Black Line, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK  
Manna in the Wilderness, Angela Flowers Gallery, London, UK  
William Morris Museum, Walthamstow, London, UK  
The Whitechapel Open, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK  
New Horizons, Royal Festival Hall, London, UK
- 1984 Workshops with the blind and partially sighted, Castle Museum, Nottingham  
Christmas Children's Workshops, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK  
Summer term Sculpture Residency, Templars  
Sculptors and Modellers, Tate Gallery, London, UK  
The Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield  
The Elizabeth Gallery, London, UK
- 1983 The Show Room, Bonner Road, London, UK  
Black Women Time Now, Battersea Arts Centre, London, UK  
Five Black Women Artists, The Africa Centre, London, UK  
Creation for Liberation, Brixton, London, UK  
6<sup>th</sup> Cleveland (UK) International Drawing Biennale  
The Gallery, Acre Lane, Brixton
- 1982 Fine Art Staff Show, Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth
- 1981 Third World Show, London School of Economics, London, UK