
COLIN MCCALLUM



NoonPowell Fine Art



PROFILE

Colin McCallum was born in 1956 in Glasgow, Scotland and studied at Camberwell School of Art, London between 1975 and 1979. He lived in Barcelona, Spain from 2002 until 2016 and currently lives and works in East London, UK.

McCallum's practice extends across painting, printmaking and video-mapped painting installation, through which he evokes the hidden rhythms and patterns of the urban landscape. McCallum makes vibrant, multi-layered abstractions which respond to the visual experience of contemporary urban life and the influence of an 'always on' digital culture. His work draws from the vast amount of visual information which informs the sensory experience of urban living, including the pace and speed of the city, its architecture, neon signage, monitor screens, and airport and station displays. Dedicated to exploring the possibilities of abstraction, he has stated that his intention is to "reproduce without representing, evoke without illustrating and express without formulating."

Recalling computer programming languages or the structure of electrical circuits, the machine aesthetic of McCallum's work belies its meticulous hand-built method of construction. Juxtaposing technological precision with the imperfection of the artist's hand, McCallum often uses repeating motifs of vibrating dots and lines, to evoke the colour, light, texture and complex patterns of the city's digital landscape. In his recent work McCallum is inspired by the vibrance and energy of the city at night, particularly the area around his studio near London's Canary Wharf, where illuminated skyscrapers rise above a diminishing backdrop of post-industrial docklands.

McCallum's practice incorporates a variety of materials and techniques, including acrylic, metallic and fluorescent paints, spray paint, stencils and pen. Working in series, his process relies heavily on memory and imagination as opposed to direct observation. In the Template series, paint is poured directly onto the canvas, allowing the material itself to partially dictate line and form. Impossible to replicate,

these densely patterned works, like crowd masses or visualisations of digital data, construct an equivalent reality to the immeasurable complexity of the city. In the Flux series, poured paint is dragged across the canvas in long fluid bands of colour, which reveal changing harmonies and disharmonies according to the position of the viewer and suggest a constant rhythm of construction and destruction.

EDUCATION:

1975-79 – Camberwell School of Art, London, UK – BA Hons Fine Art

SELECTED SOLO SHOWS:

2019 *Traces of the Real* (with Roy Amiss), 286 Gallery, London, UK

2018 *Pop up studio solo exhibition*, 347 The Arches, London

2018 *Metropolis*, Lever Gallery, London

2016 *Largescale Paintings by Colin McCallum* 88 Wood Street, Barbican, London

2014 New Paintings by Colin McCallum, B&C, Barcelona, Spain

2012 *Signals, New Abstract Paintings*, Bicha Gallery, London

2006 New Paintings Colin McCallum, Euro Star Cristal Palace Hotel, Barcelona, Spain

2003 Pinturas, Sala Gracia, Barcelona, Spain

1994 New Paintings Colin McCallum, CSK Gallery, Eton, Windsor, UK

GROUP SHOWS / ART FAIRS:

2019 *By Beck Road 19*, Open House London, curated by Alastair Curruthers, London

2019 *Open Day*, Arches 347 Studios, London

2019 The Other Art Fair presented by Saatchi Art, Truman Brewery, London

2018 *Group Exhibition*, 286 Gallery, London

2018 The Other Art Fair presented by Saatchi Art, Victoria House, London

2018 Art Expo New York, New York, USA

2018 The Other Art Fair present by Saatchi Art, Truman Brewery, London

2017 *Saatchi Art X Frame* (Collaboration with Samsung), London Design Festival,
Truman Brewery, London

2017 Gallery Artists, 286 Gallery, London

2017 *ArtRooms*, Melia Hotel, London

2017 Affordable Art Fair, Battersea with Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London

2017 *City Art*, Steidel Fine Art, Austin, USA

2017 The Other Art Fair presented by Saatchi Art, Truman Brewery, London

2017 *The British Are Coming*, Steidel Fine Art, Wimberley, Texas, USA

2017 Affordable Art Fair, Hampstead, London

2017 *Sentient Room*, Arts Quarter, Folkestone, Kent, UK

2017 Spectrum Art Fair, with Steidel Fine Art, Maimi, USA

2017 The Other Art Fair presented by Saatchi Art, Victoria House, Bloomsbury,
London

2017 Spectrum Miami, USA

2017 Naples Fine Art Fair, Naples Florida, USA

2016 *Feast of Fools, Addicted to Life*, Poble Nou, Barcelona, Spain

2016 *Conexio Cromatica*, Addicted to Life, Barcelona, Spain (with 2 artists)

2016 The Other Art Fair, Truman Brewery, London

2016 The Other Art Fair, Victoria House, London

2015 *Collaboration Station Art Event*, Mutuo Gallery, Barcelona, Spain

2015 Affordable Art Fair, Brussels, Belgium

2015 Affordable Art Fair, New York, USA

2015 Affordable Art Fair, Singapore

2014 London Art Fair, Business Design Centre, London

2014 *Piel Magazine launch*, invited artist, Barcelona, Spain

2014 Korea International Art Fair, Seoul, South Korea

2014 *Collaboration Station Art Event*, Mutuo Gallery, Barcelona, Spain

2014 *UK Youth Art Auction*, Boisdale Canary Wharf, London

2014 Art Hamptons, Hamptons, New York, USA

2014 Southampton Art Fair, New York, USA

2013 Affordable Art Fair, Battersea, London

2013 Affordable Art Fair, Hampstead, London

2013 *Collaboration Station Art Event*, Mutuo Gallery, Barcelona, Spain

2013 Affordable Art Fair, New York, USA

2012 Affordable Art Fair, Stockholm, Sweden

2012 Affordable Art Fair, Hamburg, Germany

2012 Affordable Art Fair, Hong Kong, China

2012 Toronto International Art Fair, Toronto, Canada

2011 Affordable Art Fair, Milan, Italy

2011 Affordable Art Fair, Bristol, UK

2011 Affordable Art Fair, New York, USA

2011 Chicago International Art Fair, Chicago, USA

2011 Toronto International Art Fair, Toronto, Canada

2010 Affordable Art Fair, Singapore

2010 Affordable Art Fair, Brussels, Belgium

2010 *Christmas group exhibition*, Bicha Gallery, London

2004 *Tallers Oberts*, organised by FAD, Cuitat Vella, Barcelona, Spain

2004 4 International Artists in Barcelona, CreArt Gallery, Barrio Gotico, Barcelona, Spain

1999 *Art at Institute of Physics*, Institute of Physics, Portland Place, London

1998 Vital Art, London Arthouse, Atlantis Gallery, London

1997 The Motor Show, Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne Sussex, UK

1995 Group Show, Gallery Duncan Terrace, Islington, London

1993 *Interiors*, Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, UK.

1992 *Art of the Urban Now*, Small Mansion House Gallery, London, UK

1989 Inaugural Exhibition, Corr Contemporary Art, London, UK

1987 100 Artists in London, (group show), UK

1986 Whitechapel Open, Brick Lane, London

1986 Art East, London

1986 Bruton Street Gallery, Mayfair, London

1985 Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London

1983 Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy, London

1981 The London Group, Camden Arts Centre, London

1979 *Northern Young Contemporaries* (prize winner and Granada TV purchase), Granada TV, Manchester, UK

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