

Tony Lewis

BORN IN LOS ANGELES, CA, 1986

LIVES AND WORKS IN CHICAGO, IL

Education

- 2012 MFA, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- 2010 BFA, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- 2008 BA, Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, PA

Solo Exhibitions

- 2026 *Tony Lewis: Abstract Slavery*, Olney Gleason, New York, NY
- 2025 *Proost!*, Anthony Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2024 *I Came to Peep*, The University of Chicago John W. Boyer Center in Paris, France
- 2023 *Tony Lewis: CASUAL T*, Orange County Museum of Art, Costa Mesa, CA
New Song We Wrest! Who Throng Heat Yet? Tone Got Flower Work, MASSIMODECARLO, Hong Kong
- 2022 *EONS OF NEON NESCIENT PEONS POPCORN INFLUENCE AND SUCH*, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, CA
- 2021 *Noise! Yourself, Also Distrain*, MASSIMODECARLO, London, UK
Sing Plunder, Think Gentle Damage, Maintain Tomorrow, Et al., MASSIMODECARLO, London, UK
- 2020 *The Dangers (As Far As I Can See)*, Massimo de Carlo, Milan, Italy
- 2019 *Charlatan And Ultimately A Boring Man*, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, CA
- 2018 *Anthology 2014-2016*, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C.
Campo de Juego, Arts Projects Ibiza, Ibiza, Spain
Engine Insist Itself Nothing Short Etc., Massimo de Carlo, Hong Kong, China
- 2017 *Jot*, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, CA
Howling, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
Plunder, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA
When I Felt Like I Could Sing That, Then I Felt Like I Was In, Massimo de Carlo, London, UK
- 2016 *Alms, Comity and Plunder*, Marino Marini Museum, Florence, Italy
- 2015 *Pall*, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
free movement power nomenclature pressure weight, Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH
Wordnonpseudo, Massimo de Carlo, Milan, Italy
- 2014 *I Believe History Is A Force*, Massimo de Carlo, London, UK
- 2013 *Bindery Projects*, St. Paul, MN
- 2012 *Nine Drawings for Charles*, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2011 *Autumn Space Presents: Tony Lewis*, Autumn Space Gallery, Chicago, IL

Group Exhibitions

- 2026 *Let's Go Exploring!*, Patron, Chicago, IL
Palomar (Part 2), The Renaissance Society, Chicago, IL
Palomar (Part 1), The Renaissance Society, Chicago, IL
- 2025 *Over My Head: Encounters with Conceptual Art in a Flyover City, 1984–2015*, curated by Gareth Kaye and Iris Colburn, presented by Gertie, Chicago, IL
Master Class: Inside the Last American Museum School with SAIC Painting Alumni, SECRIST | BEACH, Chicago, IL
What Drawing Can Be: Four Responses, The Menil Collection, Houston, TX
- 2024 *The Death and Untimes of Jackson and CASUAL T*, Anthony Gallery, Chicago, IL
RETROaction, curated by Ellen Tani and Charles Gaines, Hauser & Wirth, Los Angeles, CA
Come One, Come All, Anthony Gallery, Chicago, USA
- 2023 *Levity*, Alexander Berggruen, New York, NY

- 2022 *Citing Black Geographies*, GRAY Gallery, Chicago, IL; traveling to GRAY Gallery, New York, NY
Sculpture as Verb, Gund Gallery, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH
Come As You Are, Anthony Gallery, Chicago, IL
In These Truths, Albright-Knox Northland, Buffalo, NY
- 2021 *Grain of a Hand: Drawings with Charcoal*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Hiding in Plain Sight, Pace Gallery, New York, NY
At The Luss House: Blum & Poe, Mendes Wood DM and Object & Thing, The Gerald Luss House, Ossining, NY
- 2020 *5,471 miles*, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, CA
The Long Dream, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 2019 *Words*, Alexander Berggruen Gallery LLC, New York, NY
- 2018 *Second Sight: The Paradox of Vision in Contemporary Art*, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, ME
This is a Pipe: Realism and the Found Object in Contemporary Art, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
Under Erasure, curated by Heather and Raphael Rubinstein, Pierogi, New York, NY
Untitled (Monochrome), 1957-2017, Richard Taittinger Gallery, New York, NY
- 2017 *The Gap Between the Fridge and the Cooker*, Modern Institute, Glasgow, Scotland
Color People, Rental Gallery, East Hampton, NY
Speech/Arts, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA
- 2016 *Self*, Massimo de Carlo, London, UK
Bortolami Gallery, New York, NY
Chicago Invites Chicago, Galerie Lelong, New York, NY
The Revolution Will Not Be Gray, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO
Chicago and Vicinity, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL
Karl Haendel and Tony Lewis, LAXART, Los Angeles, CA
Imitation of Life: Melodrama and Race in the 21st Century, HOME, Manchester, UK
- 2015 *A Constellation*, Studio Museum Harlem, New York, NY
Civilization and Its Discontents: SAIC Alumni Exhibition, Selections from 1985-2015, curated by Scott and Tyson Reeder, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL
Synecdoche, Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
The Works: Artists in and from Chicago, curated by Dieter Roelstraete and Abigail Winograd, CAB Art Center, Brussels, Belgium
Sharon Hayes, Tony Lewis, Adam Pendleton, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, NY
- 2014 2014 Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Tony Lewis / Nate Young, Room East, New York, NY
Walls and Words, curated by Joel Mesler, Eldridge Street Synagogue, New York, NY
Black Eye, curated by Nicola Vassell, New York, NY
NEXT, Arsenal, Montreal, Canada
Retreat, organized by Theaster Gates, presented by Black Artist Retreat, Valerie Carberry Gallery, and Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2013 *Chris Bradley / Tony Lewis*, Shane Campbell Gallery, Oak Park, IL
Neff/Jackson/Lewis, organized by John Neff, Lump Projects, Raleigh, NC
Edge, Order, Rupture: Geometric Abstraction, Galerie Lelong, New York, NY
... BUT THE CLOUDS ..., Room East, New York, NY
Beyond the Object, Brand New Gallery, Milan, Italy
- 2012 Parade Ground, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY
News from Chicago and New York City, Galerie Fiebach & Minninger, Cologne, Germany
People of Color, Gene Siskel Film Center, Chicago, IL
Ground Floor, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
SAIC MFA Painting, curated by Philip Vanderhyden, Monya Rowe Gallery, New York, NY

- And Then She's Like / And He Goes*, curated by Chris Campe, A+D Gallery, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
- Union League Civic & Arts Foundation, Chicago, IL
- SAIC Graduate Exhibition*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- Assemble*, Carousel Space Project, Chicago, IL
- Kindred Visions*, Blanc Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2nd Floor Rear*, 24-Hour Festival of Art, Its a pony! Projects, Chicago, IL
- 2011 *Dialogical Self*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- Roger's Grocery*, Mess Hall, Chicago, IL
- Umlaut*, DANK Haus, German American Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
- Autumn Space Presents: Instruction Sets*, Autumn Space Gallery, Chicago, IL
- Love, Sex, And Violence*, The Fine Arts Building, Chicago, IL
- Midnight Snacks: Chicago*, 1366 Space, Chicago, IL
- 2010 *SAIC Graduate Exhibition*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- Midnight Snacks: Chicago*, 1366 Space, Chicago, IL

Awards and Grants

- 2012 Archibald Motley Jr. Award
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago Graduate Fellowship
- 2011 Rosaline Cohn Scholarship
- 2009 School of the Art Institute of Chicago Grant
- School of the Art Institute of Chicago Scholarship

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Catalogues

- 2024 *Gray at 60*. Chicago/New York: GRAY, 2024, 56–57, 134–35.
- 2023 *Tony Lewis: Anthology 2014–2016*. Texts by Theaster Gates, Betsey Jonson, and Tony Lewis. Milan: Mousse Publishing, 2023.
- 2021 Walker, Anne. *Rowdy Meadow: House, Land, Art*. New York: Vendome Press, 2021.
- Vitamin D3: Today's Best in Contemporary Drawing*. London and New York: Phaidon, 2021.
- 2019 Girma, Hanna. "Tony Lewis." *In Among Others: Blackness at MoMA*, edited by Charlotte Barat, Carl Darling Buck, and Darby English, 282–83. New York: Museum of Modern Art, 2019.
- 2018 Lewis, Tony. *Anthology 2014–2016*. Chicago: Candor Arts, 2018.
- 2015 *Tony Lewis: Free Movement Power Nomenclature Pressure Weight*. Cleveland: Museum of Contemporary Art, 2015.
- Tony Lewis: Making Room for Drawing*. Copenhagen: Pork Salad Press, 2015.
- 2013 *Tony Lewis*. Chicago: Shane Campbell Gallery, 2013.

Articles and Reviews

- 2026 Odden, Jonathan, "7 Shows to See During Frieze New York 2026," *Frieze* (May 12, 2026).
- White, Kate, "11 Must-See Shows During New York Art Week 2026," *Artsy* (May 11, 2026).
- 2022 Williams, Kaya. "Artist Tony Lewis Explores the Practice of Drawing in Anderson Ranch Talk." *AspenTimes.com*, July 4, 2022.
- 2021 Sweda, Chris. "'The Long Dream' Exhibit at MCA Chicago." *Chicagotribune.com*, March 2, 2021.
- 2020 Fullerton, Elizabeth. "Tony Lewis Interview." *StudioInternational.com*, February 5, 2020.
- Valentine, Victoria L. "Exploring Art Basel Viewing Rooms: Galleries are Displaying Works (and Prices) by Chris Ofili, McArthur Binion, Woody De Othello, Tschabalala Self, and Theaster Gates." *CultureType.com*, March 23, 2020.
- Voon, Claire. "7 Artists on Creating New Work during Quarantine." *Artsy.net*, May 5, 2020.

- White, Katie. "Studio Visit: Artist Tony Lewis on the Comforting Sounds of Chicago Traffic and the Postcards He's Been Mailing to Friends." *Artnet News*, October 13, 2020.
- 2019 Levenson, Rebecca. "Dallas Art Fair: Simply Bold Abstractions." *SMUDailyCampus.com*, May 6, 2019.
- Zara, Janelle. "'It's a Call to Action': Why Artist Tony Lewis Is Battling the Legacy of William F. Buckley, the Godfather of American Conservatism." *Artnet News*, May 31, 2019.
- 2018 Catlin, Roger. "This Artist Deconstructed His Love and Fascination for *Calvin and Hobbes*." *Smithsonianmag.com*, March 14, 2018.
- Gould, Jocelyn. "Tony Lewis Recounts His Evolution as an Artist and His Exploration of Creating Drawings." *Thejustice.org*, April 24, 2018.
- Hallé, Isabelle. "Graphite and Collaboration: Drawing on the Walls with Tony Lewis." *Bowdoinorient.com*, February 23, 2018.
- Hallock, Jeremy. "Dallas Art Fair Works to be Part of DMA's Permanent Collection." *Dallas News* (blog), April 14, 2018.
- "Hirshhorn to Present Tony Lewis' Comic Strip-Based 'Anthology 2014-2016' Collages Together for the First Time." *Webwire.com*, February 26, 2018.
- Selvin, Claire. "Blum & Poe Gallery Now Represents Tony Lewis." *Artnews*, June 12, 2018.
- Touret, Tarina. "Tony Lewis Reimagines 'Calvin and Hobbes' as Poetry." *The Hoya* (Georgetown University newspaper), April 5, 2018.
- Valentine, Victoria L. "Artist Tony Lewis is Now Represented by Blum & Poe Gallery." *Culture Type*, July 3, 2018.
- 2016 Fassi, Luigi. "Tony Lewis 'Alms Comity and Plunder' at Museo Marino Marini, Florence." *Mousse Magazine*, April 23, 2016.
- Mizota, Sharon. "At LAXArt, Boundary-blurring Drawing as a Form of Sculpture." *Los Angeles Times*, May 2, 2016.
- 2015 "Chicago." *Kaleidoscope* (Winter 2015): 168-181.
- Lewis, Tony. "Tony Lewis: Pall." Interview with Jacob Fabricius. *Mousse Magazine* 49 (Summer 2015): 204-206.
- Michalska, Julia. "Black Art Matters." *The Art Newspaper*, June 18, 2015.
- Nelson, Solveig. "Tony Lewis." *Artforum* 54, no. 3 (November 2015): 309-310.
- "Tony Lewis's Epigrammatic Abstractions." *Inside \ Within*, January 2015.
- 2014 Blake, Kevin. "Drawing Lines of Communication: A Conversation with Tony Lewis." *Bad at Sports*, April 2, 2014.
- Duray, Dan, Andrew Russeth, Zoe Lescaze, and M.H. Miller. "12 Things to Do in New York's Art World Before May 11." *Gallerist NY*, May 5, 2014.
- Foumberg, Jason. "Eye Exam: Chicago Art News." *Newcity*, May 23, 2014.
- Loos, Ted. "A Biennial in the Making." *Sotheby's Magazine*, February 2014.
- Pechman, Ali. "Walls and Words." *Artforum*, May 2014.
- Samuels Gibbs, Adrienne. "The 312: Theaster Gates Curates a 'Retreat' Exhibition for Black Artists." *Chicago Sun-Times*, September 4, 2014.
- "Whitney Biennial 2014." *Musée Magazine* (blog), March 10, 2014.
- Young, Paul David. "Texting at the Whitney Biennial." *Hyperallergic*, March 15, 2014.
- 2013 Farago, Jason, "... but the clouds ...", *Artforum.com*, February 2013
- Foumberg, Jason. "There are 17 Chicago Artists in the 2014 Whitney Biennial." *Chicago Magazine*, November 2013.
- Goldstein, Andrew M. "10 Things the 2014 Whitney Biennial List Tells Us." *Artspace*, November 16, 2013.
- Judd, Jason. "Tony Lewis." *Make Space*, April 15, 2013.
- Nance, Kevin. "Chicago's Young Artists: What does the future hold?" *Chicago Gallery News*, May - August 2013.
- Niendorf, Emmaline. "Simply Magnificent: Top Art Exhibitions for January 2013." *Simply Magnificent*, January 10, 2013.

"Nine Drawings for Charles." *Black Visual Archive*, no. 24, April 2013.

Schouweiler, Susannah. "Tony Lewis' exhibition leaves its mark at the Bindery Projects." *Knight Arts*, January 13, 2013.

2012 Bey, Dawoud and Caroline Picard, "Ground Floor." Exhibition Catalogue, August 2012.

Corbett, John, "Thoughts on Structuring Absence in Text-Sound Image." *Columbia College Chicago*, August 2012.

Museum and Public Collections

Buffalo AKG Art Museum, Buffalo, NY

Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C.

Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Quebec, Canada

Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL

Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA

Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington D.C.

Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, Michigan