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#### JULIE MEHRETU (b. 1970)

Julie Mehretu was born in 1970 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In the late 1970s, the Ogaden War created political turmoil in Ethiopia, and in 1977 Mehretu moved to Michigan. After graduating high school, she received a Bachelor of Arts from Kalamazoo College and subsequently earned a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Rhode Island School of Design. In effect, her experiences across multiple continents and cultures have given her a unique view of social and political conditions: she examines the histories of art, architecture and past civilizations and intermingles them with current themes of migration, revolution, climate change, global capitalism and technology.

Recontextualizing notions of realities in past and present conciousness, Mehretu's works span the scale from initimate drawings and prints to monumental canvases. Painting, drawing and complex printmaking techniques are used to create signature abstract forms that are thought-provoking maps of social and political sites and actions, elaborate meditations with shifting points of entry, new visual languages, mediated and figurative images. For Merhretu, it is important for her applied base drawings to remain exposed in her work, be it printmaking, drawings, digital collage or paintings. She views the drawn marks in her paintings as characters, each of which has their own story and is continuously changing. Together, these characters create a language with which she describes the world. Sources of inspirations come from cave paintings, cartography, mathematical designs, Asian calligraphy, graffiti, architetural renderings and news imagery. At times her work is so layered they take on the apperance of fossilized topographies, others are familiar depictions of city plans, architectural images and charts observed within her many layers of graphite and paint. Her use of multiple perspectives, however, makes for an alternative reality in which the features of modern cities are abstracted. Mehretu has been the subject of numerous exhibitions and she currently lives and works in New York City.

#### **EDUCATION**

1997 M.F.A. Honors, Rhode Island School of Design

1992 B.A. Kalamazoo College

1990-91 University Cheik Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal

#### **SELCTED EXHIBITIONS**

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2021	Julie Mehretu, The Whitney Museum of Art, New York, NY
2020	about the space of half an hour, Marian Goodman Gallery, New York, NY
	Julie Mehretu, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
2019	Julie Mehretu, LACMA, Los Angeles, CA
	Julie Mehretu Drawings and Monotypes, Kettle's Yard at University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
2018	Sextant, White Cube, London, UK
	Julie Mehretu: Excavations, University of Virginia Fralin Museum of Art, Charlottesville, VA
	Julie Mehretu/Tacita Dean, Galerie Marian Goodman, Paris, France
	Julie Mehretu: A Universal History of Everything and Nothing, Fundacion Botín. Santander, Spain
2017	A Universal History of Everything and Nothing, Fundação de Serralves, Porto, Portugal
	HOWL, eon (I, II), San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, CA
2016	Hoodnyx, Voodoo and Stelae, Marian Goodman Gallery, New York, NY
	The Addis Show, Gebre Kristos Desta Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
	Struggling With Words That Count, Carlier Gebauer, Berlin, Germany
	Earthfold, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Deurle, Belgium
2014	Half A Shadow, Carlier Gebauer, Berlin, Germany

The Mathematics of Droves, White Cube, Sao Paulo, Brazil

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2013	Liminal Squared, White Cube, London, UK
	Liminal Squared, Marian Goodman Gallery, New York, NY
	Mind, Breath and Beat Drawings, Marian Goodman Gallery, Paris, France
	Excavations: The Prints of Julie Mehretu, School of Art & Design, Ohio University, Athens, OH
2012	Excavations: The Prints of Julie Mehretu, The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, New York, NY
2011	Excavations: The Prints of Julie Mehretu, Davison Art Center, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
2010	Notations After the Ring, Arnold & Marie Schwartz Gallery, Metropolitan Opera House, New York, NY
	Grey Area, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY
2009	Excavations: The Prints of Julie Mehretu, High Point Prints, Minneapolis, MN
	Grey Area, Deutsche Guggenheim, Berlin, Germany
2008	City Sitings, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC
	City Sitings, Williams College Art Gallery, Williamstown, MA
	Eye of the Storm, Carl Scholsberg Gallery, Montserrat College, Beverly, MA
2007	Black City, Louisiana Museum, Humlebaek, Denmark
•	City Sitings, The Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI
2006	Black City, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, León, Spain
	Heavy Weather, The Print Center at Philadelphia and Crown Point Press, San Francisco, CA
2005	Currents 95, St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
	Drawings, Projectile Gallery, New York, NY
2004	MATRIX Manifestation, University of California, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley,
	CA
	Julie Mehretu, Carlier Gebauer, Berlin, Germany
2003	Drawing into Painting, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN; REDCAT, Los Angeles, CA; Albright-Knox Art
	Gallery, Buffalo, NY
2002	Renegade Delirium, White Cube, London, UK
2001	Layering Chaos, The Project, New York, NY
	Julie Mehretu, Art Pace, San Antonio, TX
1999	Module, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX
1998	Julie Mehretu, Barbara Davis Gallery, Houston, TX
1996	Paintings, Sol Koffler Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
1995	Ancestral Reflections, Archive Gallery, New York, NY; Hampshire College Gallery, Amherst, MA
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	Vision & Spirit/African American Art Works from the Bank of America Collection, Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-
	American Arts & Culture, Charlotte, NC
2020	RELATIONS: la diaspora et la peinture, Fondation Phi, Montréal, Canada
	When We First Arrived, The Corner at Whitman-Walker, Washington, DC
	From Hand to Mind, Carlier Gebauer, Madrid, Spain
	yasiin bey: Negus, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, NY
2019	Artistic License: Six Takes on the Guggenheim Collection, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY
	Luogo e segni, Punta della Dogana, Venice, Italy
	About Things Loved: Blackness and Belonging, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA
	Black Refractions: Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI; Gibbes
	Museum of Art, Charleston, SC
	Visible Traces (Mountain Water Air), Levy Gorvy, New York, NY
	A History and a Moment: Works from the UBS Art Collection, UBS Art Gallery, New York, NY

After the End: Timing Socialism in Contemporary African Art, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery at Columbia

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University, New York, NY

Where Oceans Meet, Museum of Art and Design at Miami Dade College, Miami, FL

Beyond the Club: Re-historicizing Women in Abstract Expressionism, Gund Gallery at Kenyon College, Gambier, OH

The Notational Shift, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, León, Spain

2018 Actions. The image of the world can be different, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK

Witness: Themes of Social Justice in Contemporary Printmaking and Photography from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitze, Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Salem, OR

Lydia Cabrera and Edouard Glissant: Trembling Thinking, Americas Society, New York, NY

Selections from The Studio Museum in Harlem, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA

2017 Gray Matters, Wexner Center, Columbus, OH

never free to rest, Kurimanzutto, Mexico, CA

Power, Spruth Magers, Los Angeles, CA

Lines of Thought: Drawing from Michelangelo to Now, The Brynmor Jones Library Art Galleryat University of Hull, Kingston upon Hull, UK; Ulster Museum, Belfast, Ireland; New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe, NM; RISD

Museum, Providence, RI; Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto, Portugal

Exhibition of Newly Elected Members and Recipients of Honors and Awards, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY

Age of Terror, IVM London, London, UK

I am you, you are too, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN

An Incomplete History of Protest: Selections from the Whitney's Collection, 1940-2017, The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

2016 In Context: Africans in America, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

Earthfold, Julie Mehretu and Jessica Rankin, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Deurle, Belgium

Julie Mehretu, Come as You Are: Art from the 1990s, Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, TX

Encounters Beyond Borders: Contemporary Artists from the Horn of Africa, Kennedy Museum of Art at Ohio State University, Athens, OH

Shifting Views: People & Politics in Contemporary African Art, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD

The Serial Impulse at Gemini G.E.L., Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA

L'Iris de Lucy, Musée d'art contemporain de Rochechouart, Rochechouart, France

Lines of Thought: Drawing from Michelangelo to Now, Poole Museum, Poole, UK

2015 Come as You are, University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, MI

Under the Clouds: From Paranoia to the Digital Sublime, Fundação de Serralves, Porto, Portugal

Drawing Now, Albertina, Vienna, Austria

Come as You are, Telfair Museum of Art, Savannah, GA

Fusion: Art of the 21st Century, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA

Divine Comedy, National Museum of Art at the Smithsonian, Washington, DC

Liberated Subjects: Present Tense, Foundation De 11 Lijnen, Oudenburg, Belgium

From Above, Di Donna Gallery, New York, NY

2014 The Forever Now: Contemporary Painting in an Atemporal World, MoMA, New York, NY

Summer Highlights, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA

Divine Comedy: Heaven, Hell, Purgatory Revisited by Contemporary Artists, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt, Germany; Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Georgia

Mind the Map, Punkt Ø, Oslo, Norway

Love Story - The Anne & Wolfgang Titze Collection, 21er House and Winter Palace, Vienna, Austria

Variations, Conversations in and around Abstract Painting, LACMA, Los Angeles, CA

Seeking New Genealogy - Art, Body, Performance, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan

2013 Du Bois in Our Time, UMass Amherst's University Museum of Contemporary Art, Amherst, MA The Gesture and the Sign, White Cube, Sao Paulo, Brazil

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The	Temptation	of the Diagram.	Andrea Rosen	Gallery 2	. New York	. NY
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Yes, No, Maybe, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

Una Posibilidad De Escape Para Asaltar El Estudio De La Realidad Y Volver A Grabar El Universo, Espai d'Art

Contemporani de Castelló, Castelló, Spain

Highpoint Editions: Decade One, Sherman Gallery at Boston University, Boston, MA

2012 Documenta 13, Kassel, Germany

The Painting Factory, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA

Highlights 2012, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2011 Multiplicity, Smithsonian, Washington D.C.

In Praise of Doubt, Punta della Dogana, Venice, Italy

The Bearden Project, Studio Museum in Harlem, Harlem, NY

Seeing/Knowing, Graham Gund Gallery, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH

New Order, White Cube, London, UK

Three Artists: Julie Mehretu, Julian Lethbridge, Wayne Gonzales, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, CA

Shift and Flow, Dorsky Gallery, Long Island City, NY

Inside the Painter's Studio, Paine Gallery at Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA

Embodied: Black Identities in American Art from the Yale University Art Gallery, Yale University, New Haven, CT

2010 From Picasso to Julie Mehretu: Modern Drawing in the Collection of the British Museum, British Museum, London, UK Subversive Abstraction, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK

Kupferstichkabinett: Between Thought and Action, White Cube, London, UK

Immaterial, Ballroom Marfa, Marfa, TX

On Line: Drawing Through the Twentieth Century, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

2009 Automatic Cities, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA

Who's Afraid of the Artists?, Palais des Arts de Dinard, Dinard, France

Extreme Frontiers, Urban Frontiers, IVAM - Institute of Contemporary Art, Valencia, Spain

Signs of the Apolcalypse/Rapture, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL

Untitled (History Painting): Painting and Public Life in the 21st Century, The University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, MI

2008 Vou-te contar uma história: Let me tell you a story, Porta 33, Madeira, Portugal

Collection of Greenberg-Rohatyn, The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY

The Cosmos: A Group Exhibition, Crown Point Press Gallery, San Francisco, CA

Drawn to Detail, Decordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, NE

Disguise: The Art of Attracting and Deflecting Attention, Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

I Bought the Brooklyn Bridge, Kupferstichkabinett, Berlin, Germany

2007 Multiplex: Directions in New Art 1970 to Now, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

African Art Today: An Unbounded Vista, Nelson Atkins Museum, Kansas City, MO

New Directions in American Drawing, The Columbus Museum and Telfair Museum of Art, Savannah, GA

Comic Abstraction, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Paper Trail: A Decade of Acquisitions, The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN; Figge Art Museum, Davenport, FL

Tapping Currents: Contemporary African Art and the Diaspora, Nelson Atkins Museum, Kansas City, MO

2006 Super Vision, The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA

Green Flame, New Crowned Hope Festival, Vienna, Italy

Mapping Space: Selections from the Collection, Miami Art Museum, Miami, FL

Belief & Doubt, Aspen Art Center, Aspen, CO

Archpeinture: Painters Build Architecture, Camden Arts Centre, London, UK

Remote Viewing: Invented Worlds in Recent Painting and Drawing, St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO

Distant Relatives/Relative Distance, Michael Stevenson Contemporary, Cape Town, South Africa

Freeing the Line, Marian Goodman, New York, NY

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When Artist's Say We, Artists Space, New York, NY

The Compulsive Line: Etching 1900 to Now, Mueum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Visual Arts Jury Show, Fine Arts Work Center, Provincetown, MA

The Art of Etching at Crown Point Press, Bobbie Greenfield Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

Collection in Context: Selections from the Permanent Collection, Studio Museum, Harlem, NY

2005 SWARM, The Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, PA

Baroque and Neobaroque, DA2 Domus Artium, Salamanca, Spain

This Storm that We Call Progress, Arnolfini, Bristol, UK

Remote Viewing: Invented Worlds in Recent Painting and Drawing, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

25: Twenty-five Years of the Deutsche Bank Collection, Deutsche Guggenheim, Berlin, Germany

Mythologies, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN

Logical Conclusions: 40 Years of Rule-Based Art, PaceWildenstein, New York, NY

Landings, Susan Inglett Gallery, New York NY

Prints into Drawings, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

On Line, Louisiana Museum of Contemporary Art, Humlebaek, Denmark

Insight, San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, CA

2004 Carnegie International, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA

Africa Remix, Museum Kunst Palast, Düsseldorf, Germany; Hayward Gallery, London, UK; Centre Pompidou, Paris,

France; Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan

Back to Paint, L&M Arts, New York, NY

Firewall, Ausstellungshalle Zeitgenössische Kunst, Münster, Germany

2003 GNS, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

Splat Boom Pow! The Influence of Comics in Contemporary Art, 1970-2000, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX;

Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA; Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH

Ethiopian Passages: Dialogues in the Diaspora, National Museum for African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

Metascape, Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH

Social Strategies: Redefining Social Realism, University of California, Santa Barbara Art Museum, Santa Barbara, CA

The Moderns, Castello di Rivoli, Turin, Italy

2002 Stalder-Mehretu-Solakov, Kunstmuseum Thun, Thun, Switzerland

Drawing Now: Eight Propositions, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Wallow, The Project, New York, NY

Out of Site, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, NY

Terra Incognita: Contemporary Artists' Maps and Other Visual Organizing Systems, Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, MO

Urgent Painting, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris, France

2001 Casino 2001, Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst, Ghent, Belgium

The Americans, Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK

Painting at the Edge of the World, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN

Freestyle, Studio Museum in Harlem, Harlem, NY

2000 Selections Fall 2000, The Drawing Center, New York, NY

Five Continents and One City, Museo de la Ciudad de México, Mexico City, Mexico

Greater New York, PS1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City, NY

Translations, The Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY

Glenn Brown, Julie Mehretu, Peter Rostovsky, The Project, New York, NY

Artistic Centers in Texas, Houston-Galveston, University of North Texas Art Gallery, Denton, TX

Architecture and Memory, Lawrence Rubin Greenberg Van Doren and CRG, New York, NY

1999 Material, Process, Memory, Jones Center for Contemporary Art, Austin, TX

Hot Spots: Houston, Miami, and Los Angeles, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC

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Core 1999, Glassell School of Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
Sheer Abstraction, Barbara Davies Gallery, Houston, TX
Artistic Centers in Texas, Houston-Galveston, University of North Texas Art Gallery, Denton, TX
The Stroke, Exit Art, New York, NY

Texas Draws, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX

- 1998 Universal Pictures, Rudolph Poissant Gallery, Houston, TX
  Text and Territory: Navigating through Immigration and Dislocation, Illinois State University Galleries, Normal, IL
  Core 1998, Glassell School f Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
  Millennium Fever, Diverse Works, Houston, TX
- 1997 Annual Graduate Student Exhibition, The Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
- 1996 The Bombastic Righteous Passively Become Apparent Absurdities, Sol Koffler Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
- 1995 A Woman's View, The World Bank International Women's Exhibition, The World Bank Art Program, Washington, DC Yewenshet, Three Ethiopian Painters, Brooklyn Public Library, New York, NY

#### SELECTED GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2018 Liberty Award for Artistic Leadership, New York, NY
- 2015 Department of State Medal of Arts Award
- 2013 Barnett and Annalee Newman Award
- 2007 American Academy in Berlin Fellowship Joyce Award
- 2006 The Rhode Island School of Design Alumni Council Artistic Achievement Award, RI
- 2005 MacArthur Fellow American Art Award, Whitney Museum of Art, New York, NY Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI
- 2003 Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant
- 2002 Penny McCall Foundation Grant
- 2001 The Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant AIR Program at the Studio Museum in Harlem, NY

Pat Hearn Inaugural Award

#### **SELECTED COLLECTIONS**

Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY

Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA

Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA

The Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, MN

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

National Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, NY

Philadelphia Art Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA

Studio Museum of Harlem, New York, NY

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY