

**Benjamin Merris (Born 1978 in Boise, Idaho)**  
**Lives in Brooklyn, New York**

**Upcoming Exhibitions and Projects**

- 2018 Shandaken Paint School  
Cleopatra's, New York NY (solo)  
Jeff Bailey Gallery, Hudson NY (solo)

**Solo Exhibitions**

- 2014 Stranger, Gallery Diet, Miami FL  
All Ways Always, Jeff Bailey Gallery, Hudson  
How Forests Think, Battat Contemporary, Montreal
- 2013 ltd los angeles presents...Benny Merris, ltd los angeles, LA  
Dessicated Punch Bowl, Orgy Park, Brooklyn NY (w/ Ben Dowell)
- 2011 Cave Painting: Spirit Level, Kunsthal Rotterdam
- 2010 Happy As An Asteroid, Push Galerie, Montreal  
Bubble and Squeak, Glasgow International, curated by Jim Lambie, Glasgow  
ECSTATIC INSISTANCE, Cokkie Snoei Gallery, Amsterdam
- 2009 Non-Invasive Pioneers (with Bas Zoontjens), Cokkie Snoei Gallery, Rotterdam  
Maximalism: Phase Three, The Project Room, Glasgow  
SUPER DEUTSCHLAND BOOGIE WOOGIE 78, MAXHANS DANIEL, Berlin  
Meaningism, Sweet Geranium Gallery, Glasgow UK  
I Think I Don't When I Do But Uhhh, The Brunswick Hotel, Glasgow
- 2007 Maximalism: Phase Two, inter/media gallery, Glasgow
- 2006 Territory, E.S.U. Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2003 It Doesn't Matter, Espresso Royale, Boston  
September, The Moan and Dove, Amherst

**Selected Group Exhibitions**

- 2017 Life's Rich Pageant, Jeff Bailey Gallery, Hudson  
In Between Two Bodies (w/ Luke Armitstead and Zoe Nelson), South Of The  
Tracks Projects, Chicago
- 2016 Protuberances, LAXART, (curated by Jess Arndt and Catherine Taft), LA  
Shroom Show, Helper, (curated by Nicholas Moenich), Brooklyn  
Sexting, Kate Werble Gallery, New York  
Dude...Heavy, South Of The Tracks Projects, Chicago
- 2015 The Secret Life, Murray Guy, (curated by Leidy Churchman), New York
- 2014 Trioceros (w/ Judy Chicago and Sascha Braunig), Regina Rex, New York  
Half Drop, Telluride Arts Center, (curated by Meredith Nemerov), Colorado  
Nascent Magma Far Flung (w/ Mike Welch), Helper, Brooklyn
- 2013 Outside The Lines, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (curated by Dean  
Daderko), Houston  
As Tears Go By, Cokkie Snoei Gallery, Rotterdam  
Element, Rudiments, and Principles, Boston University Art Gallery, (curated  
By Kate McNamara and Dana Frankfort), Boston
- 2013 Pleinairism, Walter Phillips Gallery (curated by Kitty Scott and  
Silke Otto Knapp) Banff

### **Selected Group Exhibitions Continued ...**

- 2013 Mind The Gap, ff Konzepte zu Aktueller Kunst (curated by Veit Rieber), Frankfurt  
The End, Beginnings, Brooklyn
- 2012 Bred and Fed, Shoot The Lobster@BS Gallery, (curated Gracie Wright) Iowa City  
5 Positions, WWTWO Project Space, Montreal  
Artypes Portrait Salon, Public Assembly, Brooklyn  
Artypes Still Life Salon, Wandering Around Wondering, Brooklyn
- 2009 Way Out Is The Way Out, Embassy Gallery (curated by Jamie Kenyon)  
Edinburgh  
Die Die Die, Member's show, Transmission Gallery, Glasgow  
Neither Bird Nor Fish (w/ Ragnar Jonasson), SWG3, Glasgow
- 2008 You Can't Hide Your Love Forever, Galerie LHK, Paris  
You Should Be On Holiday, Member's Show, Transmission Gallery, Glasgow  
Future Greats, Salon Gallery, London  
A Painting, A Guitar, A Wig and A Wheelie Bag (curated by Jim Lambie) Glasgow  
The State, A. Vermin in association with Glasgow International Festival of  
Contemporary Art, (curated by Alhena Katsof), Glasgow
- 2007 No Way Out, Living Art Museum, Reykjavik  
Furthermore, Artnews Projects, Berlin  
MFA Degree show, Tramway, Glasgow  
Today Your Love, Tomorrow The World, Low Salt, Glasgow  
Royal Scottish Academy Student Exhibition, Edinburgh, Scotland
- 2006 Solo, Member's Show, Transmission, Glasgow  
MFA Interim Show, Macintosh Gallery, Glasgow  
De Kunstvlaii 6, Westergas Fabriek, Amsterdam  
Mercury Art Prize, The Hospital Gallery, London  
Royal Scottish Academy Student Exhibition, Edinburgh  
The Russian Doll Show, Assembly Gallery, Glasgow
- 2005 It Shouldn't Matter, The Moan and Dove, Amherst  
Annual Show, Jamaica Plain Open Studios, Boston
- 2004 The Otherside, The Otherside, Boston  
Annual Show, Jamaica Plain Open Studios, Boston
- 2003 Annual Show, Jamaica Plain Open Studios, Boston
- 2002 Boston Printmakers Biennale, 808 Gallery, Boston  
Annual Show, Jamaica Plain Open Studios, Boston
- 2001 Guest Show, Kingston Gallery, Boston

### **Performance**

- 2001 – 2004 Kaiju Big Battel. Japanese monster combat. Live performances in NYC, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston and Los Angeles. Produced 3 DVD's with International distribution. Live performance on national television: MTV and "The Jimmy Kimmel Show" ABC broadcasting.

### **Residencies**

- 2015 Denniston Hill, Catskills, NY
- 2012 The Banff Centre Thematic Residency w/ Jan Verwoert and Silke Otto-Knapp
- 2000 University of Massachusetts Boston Summer Residency on Nantucket

### **Awards/Grants**

- 2016 Louis Comfort Tiffany Award (nominee)
- 2009 British Arts Council Travel Grant
- 2007 Glasgow Sculpture Studios Graduate Award
- 2006 Royal Scottish Academy DCA Data Solutions Prize for Painting

### **Public Lectures**

The Museum of Modern Art Fort Worth, Oct 2016

### **Bibliography**

- "Chelsea on Warren", *imby (in my back yard)*, John Isaacs, 25/05/14
- "Must See This Week", *Canadian Art*, 15/05/14
- "Exploring the Spiritual Through Art" *BU Today*, John O'Rourke, 04/12/13
- "Benny Merris: An Embodiment of the Abstract" CAMH TV, 14/09/13
- 'Outside the Lines' Opens Up a World of Abstraction" *Houston Chronicle*, Molly Glentzer, 08/09/13
- "Maximal Abstraction", *Montreal Mirror*, Stacey DeWolfe, 21/10/10
- "Benny Merris: Bubble and Squeak", *The Skinny*, Andrew Cattanach, 21/04/10
- "Benny Launches Surprise Attach on Third Person. Position. Pictures." John Calcutt, *It's Not Hard: Explorations of Live Art*, 2008
- "Glasgow International", Martin Vincent, *Frieze*, Issue 116 June/July/August 2008
- "A. Vermin", Jenny Richards, *The Skinny Online*, 23/04/2008
- "High thrills and ungodly chills", Moira Jeffrey, *Scotland On Sunday*, 20/04/08
- "No Mean City For Art", Susan Mansfield, *The Scotsman* 18/04/2008
- "Outsiders Give The Art Festival Its Edge", Jack Mottram, *The Herald*, 18/04/2008

### **Education**

- 2007 MFA, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow UK
- 2002 BA, University of Massachusetts Boston, USA

### **Public Collections**

AkzoNobel Art Collection

### **Contact information**

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