

Matt Straub

EDUCATION:

- 1979 BFA, Graphic Design, University of Illinois, Champaign,
1978–79 Northeast London Polytechnic, London

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS: (*Solo Exhibition):

- 2009 *Badlands*, Opus Gallery, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK*
Another Damn Good Painting Show, Lyons Wier Gallery New York, NY
Pulse NY, (Lyons Wier Gallery), New York, NY
Stand Still, You Buzzards—Don't Go For Those Guns!, Lyons Wier Gallery,
New York, NY*
- 2008 Selected Group Exhibition, Lyons Wier Ortt, New York, NY
- 2007 *Farewell 511*, Lyons Wier Ortt., New York, NY *
- 2006 *Mirror Image*, curated by Karen Shaw. Islip Museum, East Islip, NY
- 2005 *Collaboration II* The Center For Emerging Visual Artists, Philadelphia, PA.
Damn Good Painting!, Group Show, Lyons Wier Ortt, New York, NY
- 2001 *Small Works*, 80 Washington Square East Galleries, Juried Show, New York, NY
- 2000 *Private Worlds*, Art In General, Curated Show, New York, NY
Pierogi 2000, Brooklyn, NY. Works on paper on view in flat files.
LFL Gallery, Works on paper on view in flat files
2000, New Jersey Center For Visual Arts, Juried Show. Summit, NJ
- 1999 *1999 Night of 1,000 Drawings*, Artists Space, New York, NY
- 1989 One Person Show, Parkland College, Champaign, Illinois. Springfiled *
The World is Flat Again, Deson-Saunders Gallery, Chicago *
- The Size of Chicago*, Four Person Show, Ricky Renier Gallery, Chicago. IL
- 1987 One Person Show, Marianne Deson Gallery, Chicago, IL *
- 1986 *Self Portraits Then and Now*, A.R.C. Gallery
- 1985 *Chicago Art Show*, curated by Ed and Nancy Kienholz, Museum of
Contemporary Art
- 1985 *Paradisiacal Machine*, Peter Miller Gallery, Chicago, IL *
Convergence: Mind, Myth & Material, curated by Michel Segard,
Peter Miller Gallery, Chicago, IL
Chicago & Vicinity Drawing Show, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

REVIEWS:

- "Provocation Galore," by Alan G Artner. Chicago Tribune. January 26, 1989.
"Chicago's New Expressionism—The Birth of an Aesthetic?" by Michel Segard.
New Art Examiner. May 1985.
"Chicago—Matt Straub," by Jeff Abell. New Art Examiner. December 1985.
"Painters Display Strong Convincing Voices," by Christopher Lyon. Chicago Sun Times.
July 27, 1984.
"Art Galleries," by Alan G Artner. Chicago Tribune. February 3, 1984.

Lyons Wier Gallery

175 Seventh Avenue • NYC • 10011 212.242.6220

“Post-Industrial Paint,” by Michel Segard. *New Art Examiner*. November 1984.
“Sex Show,” by Mark Michael Leonhart. *New Art Examiner*. November 1983.

Born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, Matt Straub reveals his deep nostalgia for the American West in his work. He has hitchhiked across most of the West and hopped a few freight trains. Featured in Straub's painting are the classic Western iconography images of cowboys, cowgirls, guns and horses. Straub's paintings echo the period of transition between Abstract Expressionism and Pop Art and reference Hollywood Westerns as well as the comics and pulps of the 1940's-50's. The paintings' graphic and illustrative narratives combine camp and caricatures inspired by Western pulp writers and illustrators, while varied surfaces resonate with influences from artists such as Willem de Kooning, Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein and Brice Marden.

Ultimately, the work comments on the violent and sentimental mythologies of the American West, an America defined by melancholy sunsets, badlands, gunfights, outlaws and red-blooded heroes. Straub tackles the highs and lows of society with a comic visual vocabulary and a bold, fresh Sixties sensibility. The artist says his "Pop-Westerns are like graffiti splattered box cars rolling across the plains."

Matt Straub has lived in Chicago, London, and Berlin. He graduated with a BFA from the University of Illinois in 1979. He currently resides in New York City.