

Bockley Gallery

George Morrison

1919–2000

Education

1952-53 University of Aix-Marseilles Aix-en-Provence, France

1943-46 Art Students League, New York

1943 BFA, Minneapolis College of Art and Design (Minneapolis School of Art)

Grants and Awards and Residencies (selected)

2022 Forever Stamp, United States Postal Office

1999 Inagural Master Artist in the Eiteljorg Fellowship for Native American Fine Art

1991 Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, Rhode Island School of Design

1969 Honorary MFA Minneapolis College of Art and Design (Minneapolis School of Art)

1968 Grand Award, Fourth Invitational Exhibition, Center for Arts of Indian America, Washington DC

1965 First Prize, Rhode Island Arts Festival, Providence

1953-54 John Hay Whitney Fellowship, New York

1952-53 Fulbright Scholarship (France)

1946 Second Prize, Critics' Show, New York

Solo Exhibitions (selected)

2022 *George Morrison: Traversal*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis MN (Nov 12–Dec 31)

2019 *George Morrison*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis MN (Sep 12–Oct 19)

2015 *George Morrison: Drawing at the Horizon*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis MN (Feb 13–Mar 21)

2013-15 *Modern Spirit: The Art of George Morrison*, traveling exhibiton: Plains Art Museum, Fargo ND (Jun 16–Sep 1, 2013); National Museum of the American Indian, New York (Oct 5, 2013–Feb 23, 2014); Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, Indianapolis IN (Mar 29–Sep 14, 2014); Heard Museum, Phoenix AZ (Oct 25, 2014–Jan 12, 2015); Minnesota History Center, St. Paul MN (Feb 14–Apr 26, 2015)

2014-15 *Drawing at the Horizon*, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth MN (Nov 14, 2014–Feb 8, 2015)

2011 *New York School*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis (May 14–Jun 11)

2010 *From the Minnesota Museum of American Art*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis MN

1998 *Morrison's Horizon*, Minneapolis Institute of Arts (Minnesota Artists Exhibition Program), Minneapolis MN (Oct 25–Dec 6)

George Morrison: Recent Acquisitions, Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota-Duluth (Feb 10–Apr 12)

1993 *George Morrison: Horizon Series*, Dolly Fiterman Fine Arts, Minneapolis MN (Apr 15–Aug 24)

1992 *Drawings and Small Sculpture*, Bockley Gallery, Minneapolis MN

1990 *Standing in the Northern Lights: George Morrison, a Retrospective*, The Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul (May 6–Jun 24); Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota-Duluth (Jul 28–Sep 9); Plains Art Museum, Moorhead MN (Sep 28–Nov 25)

1987 *HORIZON: Small Painting Series, 1980–1987*, Tweed Museum of Art, University of

- Minnesota-Duluth (Jul 10–Jul 19); Minnesota Museum of Art, St. Paul MN
(Nov 14–Jan 17)
- 1984 *George Morrison: Paper Collages*, Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota-Duluth (Jul 22–Aug 26)
University of North Dakota, Grand Forks
- 1983 *George Morrison: Entries in an Artist's Journal*, University Art Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis (Mar 28–May 1)
- 1982 The College of St. Catherine, St. Paul MN
- 1979 Carl N. Gorman Museum, University of California, Davis CA
- 1978 *George Morrison: Impressions*, Macalester College, St. Paul MN (Oct 27–Nov 19)
University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie WI
- 1977 Bemidji State University, Bemidji MN
- 1976 *George Morrison–Wood Collages*, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis MN
Touchstone Gallery, New York (Feb 15–Mar 28)
Bethel University (Bethel College), Saint Paul MN
- 1973-74 *George Morrison: Drawings*, traveling exhibition: Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
(Apr 15–May 27); Heard Museum, Phoenix AZ (Jun 23–Aug 5); Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi TX (Sep 9–Oct 8); Amon Carter of American Art (Amon Carter Museum of Western Art), Fort Worth TX (Nov 8, 1973–Jan 30, 1974)
- 1970 Cyrk Gallery, Providence RI
- 1967 *George Morrison: Tempera Paintings*, Lynchburg Fine Arts Center, Lynchburg VA
(Apr 2–21)
- 1964 J. Thomas Gallery, Provincetown MA
- 1962 *George Morrison*, Antioch College, Yellow Springs OH (Aug 2–6)
Cornell University, Ithaca NY
- 1961 *Paintings and Drawings by George Morrison*, University of Northern Iowa (State College of Iowa), Cedar Falls, IA (Jul 23–Aug 9)
- 1960 *Recent Oils by George Morrison*, Grand Central Moderns, New York (Nov 26–Dec 15)
Dayton Art Institute, Dayton OH (Jun 7–Jul 10)
- 1959 *14 Gouaches*, Grand Central Moderns Gallery, New York (Feb 3-21)
Kilbride-Bradley Gallery, Minneapolis MN
- 1958 *George Morrison: New Paintings*, Grand Central Moderns Gallery (Apr 15–May 3)
- 1957 *George Morrison Paintings*, Grand Central Moderns Gallery, New York
(Jan 25–Feb 13)
University of Georgia, Athens GA
- 1955 Shorter University (Shorter College), Rome GA (Nov 20–Dec 14)
Paintings by George Morrison, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis MN (Feb 20–Mar 20)
- 1954 *George Morrison*, Grand Central Moderns Gallery, New York (Mar 6–26)
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale IL
Bethel College, St. Paul MN
St. Paul Left Bank Gallery, St. Paul MN
Painting of George Morrison, Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota-Duluth
University of Wisconsin-River Falls
- 1951 Grand Central Moderns Gallery, New York
- 1950 *George Morrison: Gouaches–Oils–Drawings*, Grand Central Moderns Gallery,
New York (May 2–13)
Ed Weiner Gallery, Provincetown MA
- 1949 Hart Gallery, Duluth MN (May 2–Jun 15)
- 1948 *George Morrison: Paintings*, Grand Central Moderns Gallery, New York
(Apr 26–May 8)

Group Exhibitions (selected)

- 2019-22 *Stretching the Canvas: Eight Decades of Native Painting*, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, NYC (Nov 16, 2019–Jan 2, 2022)
- 2018-20 *Art for a New Understanding: Native Voices, 1950s to Now*, curated by Mindy Besaw, Candice Hopkins, and Manuela Well-Off-Man, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville AR (Oct 6, 2018–Jan 1, 2019); Museum of Contemporary Native Arts, Santa Fe NM (Jan 25, 2019–Jul 19, 2019); Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University, Durham NC (Aug 22, 2019–Jan 5, 2020); Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis TN (Feb 22, 2020–Sep 27, 2020), catalogue
- 2004-05 *Native Modernism: The Art of George Morrison and Allan Houser*, National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC (Sep 21–Nov 6)
- 2000 *Listening with the Heart: The Works of Frank Big Bear, George Morrison, and Norval Morrisseau*, Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN (Sep 9–Dec 31)
- 1997-98 *Twentieth Century American Sculpture at the White House: Honoring Native America*, curated by Margaret Archuleta, Washington DC
- 1981 Santa Fe Arts Festival, Santa Fe
Dayton Arts Institute, Dayton OH
Museum of the Southwest, Midland TX
Kuopio Museum, Finland
Philbrook Art Center, Tulsa OK
- 1980 Niagra University, Niagra Falls NY
Museor del Arte, Santiago, Chile
- 1979 Casa de las Americas, Havana, Cuba
University of California, Davis
- 1977 The Native American Heritage: A Survey of North American Indian Art, Art Institute Chicago
- 1974 University of Notre Dame, South Bend IN
- 1973 Ojibwe Art Expo Annuals, Bemidji MN; through 1988
- 1971 University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; additional shows in 1973, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1981, 1983
- 1965 Museum of Rhode Island School of Design, Providence; additional shows in 1967, 1969
- 1961 Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati OH
- 1958 Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles
Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, Dallas TX
- 1957 Brooklyn Museum Watercolor Biennials, New York; additional shows in 1959, 1961
James Gallery, New York
Two Approaches to Landscapes, Philadelphia Art Alliance, PA (Apr 10–May 5)
- 1956 Gallery 256, Provincetown, MA; additional show in 1957
- 1955 Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit MI
Federation of Modern Painters and Sculptors Fifteenth Annual Exhibition, Riverside Museum, NYC (Nov 13–Dec 4)
- 1954 M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco; additional show in 1955
- 1952 Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo OH; additional show in 1955
- 1951 Tokyo Independent Art Exhibition
- 1948 Corcoran Biennials, Washington DC; additional show in 1950
Pennsylvania Academy of Art Annuals; additional shows in 1949, 1950
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; additional shows in 1949, 1950, 1952
- 1947 Walker Biennials, Minneapolis; additional shows in 1951, 1954
- 1942 Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis; additional show in 1943

Bibliography (selected)

- Abbe, Mary. "Distinguished Artist George Morrison Dies." *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, April 18, 2000.
- . "Hymns to the horizon: Art of George Morrison at Minnesota History Center." *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, Feb 19, 2015.
- Anthes, Bill. *Native Moderns: American Indian Paintings, 1940-1960*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2006.
- Archuleta, Margaret, and Rennard Strickland. *Shared Visions: Native American Painters and Sculptors in the Twentieth Century*. New York: New Press of the Heard Museum, 1991.
- Arginteanu, Judy. "Turning toward the Horizon." *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, Jan 20, 1998, 1B-2B.
- Camp, John. "Artist Confronts Life, Death." *St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch*, Sept 7, 1986, 11A.
- Casey, Chris. "A Bridge Between Two Culture: Artist George Morrison Dead At 80." *Duluth News-Tribune*, April 18, 2000.
- Dentinger, Hannah. "Abstract Hepcat." *MN Artists*, March 4, 2015.
- Doyle, Cherie. *Impressions*. St. Paul: Macalaster College, 1978. Exhibition catalogue.
- Erickson, Elizabeth. "An Interview with George Morrison." *Artpaper* (Summer 1978): 28.
- Espeland, Pamela. "George Morrison show at the History Center: It's a must." *MinnPost*, Feb 17, 2015.
- Fineberg, Earl. "Morrison Exhibit Hung in Tweed." *Duluth News-Tribune*, Nov 7, 1954.
- Frankenstein, Alfred. "Survey of Indian Art at de Young Museum." *San Francisco Chronicle*, Dec 1, 1954.
- Friedman, Martin, Ron Libertus, and Anthony M. Clark, et al. *American Indian Art: Form and Tradition*. Minneapolis, Minn.: Walker Art Center and the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 1972.
- "George Morrison: His Art Enriched Our Lives." *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, April 19, 2000.
- "George Morrison Named Forst 'Master' Artist." *Indian Trader*, June 1999, 13.
- Goldstein, Caroline. "Ojibwe Artist George Morrison, an Undersung Abstract Expressionist, Gets a Line of USPS Postage Stamps." *ArtNet*, April 25, 2022.
- Gordon, Allan M. "Confluences." In *Confluences of Tradition and Change/24 American Indian Artists*. Davis, Calif.: Richard L. Nelson, in cooperation with the C.N. Gorman Museum and the Museum of the Southwest, 1981. Exhibition catalogue.
- "Grand Portage Proud of Chippewa Tribal Artist." *Minneapolis Star*, Feb 12, 1954, 28.
- Gustafson, Amy Carlson. "Modern Spirit: the Art of George Morrison comes home." *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, Feb 13, 2015.
- Highwater, Hans. *The Sweet Grass Lives On: Fifty Contemporary North American Indian Artists*. New York: Lippincott & Crowell, 1980.
- Hooley, Matt. [*Against Extraction: Indigenous Modernism in the Twin Cities*](#). Durham: Duke University Press, 2024.
- Houlihan, Patrick. *Invitational Drawing Show*. Phoenix: Heard Museum, 1977. Exhibition catalogue.
- J.K.R. "George Morrison Debut." *Art Digest* 22 (May 1, 1948): 19.
- Katz, Jane B., ed. *This Song Remembers: Self-Portraits of Native Americans in the Arts*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1980.
- King, Lyndel. *George Morrison: Entries in an Artist's Journal*. Minneapolis, Minn.: University Art Gallery, 1983. Exhibition catalogue.
- Kostich, Dragos D. *George Morrison: The Story of an American Indian*. Minneapolis, Minn.: Dillon Press, 1976.
- Kraskin, Sandra, et al. *The Indian Space Painters: Native American Sources for American Abstract Art*. New York: Baruch College Gallery, 1991. Exhibition catalogue.

- Larson, Philip, and George Morrison. *George Morrison*. Minneapolis, Minn.: The Walker Art Center, 1973. Exhibition catalogue.
- Liddle, Nancy H., and Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, et al. *Our Land/Ourselves: American Indian Contemporary Artists*. New York: University of Albany, 1990. Exhibition catalogue.
- Lowe, Truman T., ed. *Native Modernism: The Art of George Morrison and Allan Houser*. Washington, D.C., and New York: Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in association with the University of Washington Press, 2004. Exhibition catalogue.
- Makholm, Kristin, ed. *Our Treasures: Highlights from the Minnesota Museum of American Art*. St. Paul: Minnesota Museum of American Art, 2011. Exhibition catalogue.
- Maurer, Evan M. *The Native American Heritage: A Survey of North American Indian Art*. Chicago: Art Institute of Chicago, 1977. Exhibition catalogue.
- Montiel, Anya. "The Art of George Morrison and Allan Houser: The Development and Impact of Native Modernism." *American Indian Quarterly*, Vol. 29, No. 3/4, Special Issue: The National Museum of the American Indian (Summer–Autumn, 2005), pp: 478-490.
- Morrison, George, and Katherine Van Tassell, et al. *Standing in the Northern Lights: George Morrison, A Retrospective*. St. Paul: Minnesota Museum of Art, 1990.
- , as told to Margot Fortunato Galt. *Turning the Feather Around: My Life in Art*. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1998.
- . *Morrison's Horizon: New Paintings from the Horizon Series by George Morrison*. Minneapolis: The Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 1998.
- . *George Morrison: Horizon: Small Painting Series, 1980-1987*. St. Paul: Minnesota Museum of American Art, 1987. Exhibition catalogue.
- . *Paper Collages: The Artist Series*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 1983. Exhibition catalogue.
- . *Paper Collages*. Duluth, Minn.: Tweed Museum of Art, 1984. Exhibition catalogue.
- Olbekson, Sam. "Beyond the Horizon: An Interview with Anishinabe Artist George Morrison." *Akw:kon Journal* 10 (Spring 1993): 33-34.
- Olson, Melissa. "George Morrison's legacy honored by new Indigenous arts center at the U of M." [MPR News](#), February 2, 2024.
- Proceedings: Shared Visions: Native American Painters and Sculptors in the Twentieth Century Conference*. Phoenix, AZ: Heard Museum, 1991.
- Riddle, Mason. "George Morrison." *Arts Magazine* 65 (Oct 1990): 105.
- . "Modern Spirit: The Art of George Morrison." *Twin Cities Daily Planet*, March 23, 2015.
- Russel, Karen Kramer, ed. *Shapeshifting: Transformations in Native American Art*. New Haven and London: Peabody Essex Museum in collaboration with Yale University Press, 2012: 134-37.
- Rushing, W. Jackson, and Kristin Makholm; foreword by Kay WalkingStick. *Modern Spirit: The Art of George Morrison*. In cooperation with the Minnesota Museum of American Art. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2013. Exhibition Catalogue.
- Sherman, John K. "George Morrison's Art Lyrical and Subjective." *Minneapolis Star*, Feb 13, 1959.
- Silberman, Rob. "A Long Look at the Art of George Morrison." *Artpaper* 10 (Sept 1990): 16-17.
- Snodgrass, Jeanne O. *American Indian Painters: A Biographical Directory*. New York: Museum of American Indian, Heye Foundation, 1968.
- Steele, Mike. "George Morrison Weaves Heritage Into Landscapes." *Minnesota Tribune*, April 22, 1973.
- Touchette, Charleen. "George Morrison (1919-2000) Standing on the 'Edge of the World.'" *American Indian Art Magazine* 27 (Winter 2001): 83.
- Van Tassell, Katherine. *Standing in the Northern Lights: George Morrison, A Retrospective*. St. Paul: Minnesota Museum of American Art, 1990. Exhibition catalogue.
- Vizenor, Gerald. "George Morrison: Anishinaabe Expressionist Artist." *American Indian Quarterly* 30, No. 3/4 (Summer–Autumn, 2006): 646-660. Special Issue: Decolonizing

Archaeology.

- Wade, Edwin L., and Rennard Strickland. *Magic Images: Contemporary Native American Art*. Philbrook Art Center and University of Oklahoma Press, 1981. Exhibition catalogue.
- West, W. Richard, Jr., et al. *Essays on Native Modernism: Complexity and Contradiction in American Indian Art*. Washington, D.C., and New York: National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian, 2006.

Collections (selected)

- Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth TX
- Ashville Art Museum, Ashville NC
- Bethel College, St. Paul MN
- Canton Art Institute, OH
- Carl N. Gorman Museum, University of California, Davis
- Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk VA
- Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville AR
- Daybreak Star American Indian Art Center, Seattle WA
- Dayton Art Institute, OH
- Detroit Institute of Arts, MI
- Eiteljorg Museum, Indianapolis IN
- Gochman Family Collection, NY
- Heard Museum, Phoenix AZ
- Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca NY
- IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts, Santa Fe NM
- Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha NE
- Macalester College, St. Paul MN
- Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, NY
- Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC
- Minneapolis Institute of Art, MN
- Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul MN
- Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul MN
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston MA
- National Gallery of Art, Washington DC
- National Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, Smithsonian Institution, NYC
- Pacific Northwest Indian Center, Gonzaga University, Spokane WA
- The Philbrook Museum of Art, University of Tulsa, OK
- Plains Art Museum, Fargo ND
- Provincetown Art Association and Museum, MA
- Randolph-Macon College, Lynchburg VA
- Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham MA
- promised gift to Saint Louis Art Museum, MO
- Seattle Art Museum, WA
- Smith College, Northampton MA
- Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington DC
- Tia Collection, Santa Fe NM
- Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota, Duluth MN
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- Ulrich Museum, Wichita State University, KS
- University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond
- Walker Art Center, Minneapolis MN
- Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN
- Whitney Museum of American Art, NYC