

Biography

Ann Craven (b. 1967, Boston) has developed a deeply personal yet rigorously conceptual painting practice rooted in seriality, observation, and memory. Working with a consistent repertoire of imagery—birds, flowers, the moon—Craven returns to the same subjects over and over, not in pursuit of variation or novelty, but as an act of visual devotion. Her work resists the notion of progress in favor of sustained attention. Each painting exists not in isolation but as part of a larger, lifelong continuum—what the artist herself refers to as an “archive of visual memory.”

The same ethos runs through her paintings of birds and flowers, many of which are based on imagery drawn from mid-twentieth-century children’s books, greeting cards, and other forms of vernacular illustration. These sources carry emotional weight—nostalgia, sentimentality, the texture of memory—and Craven does not attempt to neutralize them. Instead, she leans into their affective power, embracing what might otherwise be dismissed as kitsch. Colours are lush and saturated, her brushwork immediate and unguarded.

Integral to Craven’s methodology is the creation of her *Palettes*—secondary canvases used to mix and test the colors for each painting. These are not studio detritus but carefully preserved documents, exhibited alongside her paintings or archived in her studio for years at a time. Similarly, her ongoing *Stripes* series, composed of horizontal bands of leftover paint, functions as both a record of time and a formal counterpoint to her more representational work. Together, these elements form a kind of personal cosmology: one that is as much about process and repetition as it is about image and form.

While Craven’s work often invites comparisons to artists like On Kawara or Agnes Martin—figures who also used repetition to mark time—her sensibility is unmistakably her own. There is a diaristic quality to her practice, but also a refusal to separate the personal from the aesthetic. Her paintings are, in a sense, documents of lived experience—but they also operate as formal experiments, exploring the limits and possibilities of painting itself. Craven’s brushstroke, always visible and direct, becomes both a record of her presence. Each work, no matter how small or modest, insists on its place in a larger narrative—one that is still unfolding.

CV

Born 1967, Boston

Lives in New York and Cushing, Maine

EDUCATION

MFA, Columbia University, New York	1993
BFA, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston	1986

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine, Ann Craven: Painted Time (2020–2024)	2025
Portland Museum of Art, Maine, Spotlight: Ann Craven	
Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, Maine, Painted Time: Moons (Laboratory)	
The 'Quin House, Boston, Long Nights Moon	2024
Karma, New York, Night	2023
SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, Georgia, Twelve Moons	
Hannah Hoffman Gallery, Los Angeles, Flowers (Watercolors)	2022
Karma, New York, Animals Birds Flowers Moons	2021
Parapet / Real Humans, St. Louis, Missouri, Ann Craven: Pensée #59	2020
Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, Birds We Know	2019
Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, Promise (Birds for Chicago)	
Karma, New York, Sunset Moon	2018
Nina Johnson, Miami, Snowbirds	
Southard Reid, London, Animals 1999–2017	2017
Parapet / Real Humans, St. Louis, Missouri, A Robin Singing, 2011	
Maccarone, New York, Hello, Hello, Hello	2016
Gallery Diet, Miami, I Like Blue	2015
Southard Reid, London, Untitled (Palettes: Naked, Tagged), 2013–14	

	2014
Hannah Hoffman, Los Angeles Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers, France, TIME	
	2013
Maccarone, New York Southard Reid, London, Hello, Hello, Hello	
	2011
Southard Reid, London, Summer 39 Great Jones, New York, Reims Moon #1 Conduits Gallery at ReMap3, Athens, Conceptual Romantic: Ann Craven Galerie Forsblom, Helsinki, Ann Craven: New Works Maccarone, New York, Watercolors 2005–2010	
	2010
Maccarone, New York, Flowers Blancpain Art Contemporain, Geneva	
	2009
CIAP, Hasselt, Belgium, Shadows Moon Conduits Gallery, Milan, Puff Puff Galerie LHK, Paris, Golden Swamp Warbler	
	2008
SculptureCenter, New York, Against the Stream FRAC Champagne-Ardenne, Reims, France, Shadows Moon Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, Snoom Knoedler & Co., New York, Moon Birds Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, Moon Birds	
	2007
Mandrake, Los Angeles, Deer and Beer LA	
	2006
Galerie Catherine Bastide, Brussels Klemens Gasser & Tanja Grunert, Inc., New York Klemens Gasser & Tanja Grunert, Inc., New York, Deer + Beer	
	2005
Angstrom Gallery, Dallas The Horticultural Society of New York, A Poppy is a Poppy is a Poppy	
	2004
Marc Selwyn Fine Art at Domestic, Los Angeles, After Nature Galleria Paolo Curti / Annamaria Gambuzzi & Co., Milan Klemens Gasser & Tanja Grunert, Inc., New York Mario Diacono, Boston, This way No This way (Aut Aut)	
	2002
Klemens Gasser & Tanja Grunert, Inc., New York Allston Skirt Gallery, Boston	
	1998
Curt Marcus Gallery, New York Gallery Ha Ha, Knoxville, Tennessee	

Lauren Wittels Gallery, New York 1997

Lauren Wittels Gallery, New York 1995

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

Nicelle Beauchene Gallery, New York, Friends in Both Places 2025
FLAG Art Foundation, New York, A Rose Is

70 Main Street, Thomaston, Maine, A Particular Kind of Heaven 2024
James Cohan, New York, Mother Lode: Material and Memory, curated by Abigail Ross Goodman, Molly Epstein, and Ellen Langan
James Fuentes, New York, A Study in Form (Chapter Two), curated by Arden Wohl
Phillida Reid, London, Love Will Come Back: Ann Craven with Robert Mapplethorpe and Mohammed Z. Rahman
125 Newbury, New York, Animal Watch

The Ranch, Montauk, New York, Drunk vs. Stoned 3 2023
Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine, Farnsworth at 75

Berkshire Botanical Garden, Stockbridge, Massachusetts, Symbiosis, curated by Beth Rudin DeWoody 2022
Acquavella Galleries, New York and Palm Beach, Unnatural Nature: Post-Pop Landscapes
deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum and Fruitlands Museum, Boston, New England Triennial
White Columns, New York, Looking Back
Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York, Singing in Unison: Artists Need to Create On the Same Scale That Society Has the Capacity to Destroy
Parker Gallery, Los Angeles, Nothing is to be Done for William T. Wiley
Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, The View from Here
Kranzberg Arts Foundation, St. Louis, Missouri, Songs of Fire, curated by JPW3 and Torie Zalben
The Perimeter, London, My Reflection of You, curated by Russell Tovey and Alexander Petalas
La Galerie, centre d'art contemporain de Noisy-le-Sec, France, Des Champs de Fraises pour L'éternité, curated by Marc Bembekoff and It's Our Playground
Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine, Farnsworth Forward

Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, Vermont, EXPEDITION 2021
70 Main Street, Thomaston, Maine, Moons and Angels, with Reggie Burrows Hodges
FLAG Art Foundation, New York, and I will wear you in my heart of heart

2020

Adams and Ollman, Portland, Oregon, Eartha: Hayley Barker, Amy Bay, Mariel Capanna, Emma Cook, Ann Craven, Ka'ila Farrell-Smith, and Maureen St. Vincent
 CHART, New York, Imperfect Clocks
 Dallas Museum of Art, Contemporary Art + Design: New Acquisitions
 François Ghebaly, Los Angeles, Materia Medica
 Karma, New York, (Nothing but) Flowers

2019

Concord Center for the Visual Arts, Massachusetts, The Moon: Eternal Pearl, curated by Kate James and Kathleen O'Hara

2018

Centre Pompidou-Metz, France, Painting the Night, curated by Jean-Marie Gallais
 Tops Gallery, Memphis, Tennessee, Screen Door, curated by Hunter Braithwaite
 Jack Hanley, New York, A Rose is a Rose is a Rose, curated by Nikki Maloof and Louis Fratino
 Tripoli Gallery, Southampton, New York, Night, curated by Katherine Bernhardt

2017

Institute of Contemporary Art, Maine College of Art, Portland, American Genre: Contemporary Painting, curated by Michelle Grabner
 Centre d'art contemporain La Halle des bouchers, Vienne, France, Coquet Mais Pas Trop, Ann Craven, Armand Jalut, Neil Raitt, curated by Marc Bembekoff
 Galerie Frank Elbaz, Paris, A Birthday Present As A Watch, curated by Julia Trotta
 Rosenwald-Wolf Gallery, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, Quicktime

2016

University of Tennessee, School of Art, Knoxville, Art Box, with Wade Guyton, Meredyth Sparks, and Josh Smith
 Karma, Amagansett, New York, Before Midnight
 Hannah Hoffman Gallery, Los Angeles, A Change of Heart, curated by Chris Sharp
 Eric Firestone Gallery, East Hampton, New York, Fresh Cuts, curated by Agathe Snow
 Gesso Artspace, Vienna, The Good The Bad The Ugly Part 3, curated by Andreas Reiter Raabe

2015

Kimmerich, Berlin, Structural Emotion, organized by Shane Campbell
 Kunstverein am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, Berlin, Saturn Drive, organized by Renaud Regnery
 68Projects, Berlin, You Don't Bring Me Flowers (The Mistress Project)

2014

Florence Loewy, Paris, Faire des Fleurs, curated by Camille Azaïs
 Retrospective Gallery, Hudson, New York, Ambulance Blues, curated by Erin Falls
 Ancient & Modern, London, A Poem For Raoul And Agnes, curated by Sherman Sam
 Galerie Bernard Ceysson, Paris, Stars, a Bridge and Birds, Ann Craven and Marianne Vitale, curated by Yann Chevalier
 Southard Reid, London, Staging Interruptions (The Stream of Life), curated by Sarina Basta and Mary Reinbold
 Essex Flowers, New York, Personal Space

2013

Fondazione Corriere Della Sera, La Triennale de Milano, Cento
 Dairy Art Center, London, Island, curated by Sarina Basta
 The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Beer, curated by Drew Heitzler
 Galerie Perrotin, Paris, Souvenir, curated by Lucie Fontaine
 White Columns, New York, The Cat Show, curated by Rhonda Lieberman
 Galleria In Arco, Turin, Italy, Femminile Plurale, curated by Sara Boggio
 Salvatore Ferragamo Museum, Florence, The Amazing Shoemaker, Fairy Tales About
 Shoes and Shoemakers, curated by Demetrio Paparoni
 Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, 39greatjones, curated by Ugo Rondinone

2012

Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia, Italy, Painting as a Radical Form, curated by Mario
 Diacono
 Marianne Boesky, New York, Estate, curated by Lucie Fontaine
 Galerie des Multiples, Paris, Sous Le Signe Du Cancer, curated by Olivier Mosset
 Dickinson Gallery, New York, Howling at the Moon
 Gladstone Gallery, New York, The Spirit Level, curated by Ugo Rondinone
 Cluj Museum, Cluj, Romania, Modern Talking, curated by Nicola Trezzi

2011

Espacio 1414, Santurce, Puerto Rico, Painting . . . E X P A N D E D, curated by Marysol
 Nieves
 Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw, Four Rooms, curated by Ewa
 Gorzadek, Helena Kontova, Giancarlo Politi, and Nicola Trezzi
 Maruani & Noirhomme Gallery, Brussels, 8 Americans, organized by Keith Mayerson
 Bergen Kunsthall, Norway, Chaos As Usual, curated by Hanne Mugaas
 Rubicon Gallery, Dublin, Kilkenny Arts Festival, organized by Josephine Kelliher
 Maccarone, New York, The Medicine Bag, organized by Ellen Langan and Jasmine
 Tsou
 La Fondation d'entreprise Pernod Ricard, Paris, Rituels
 Prague Biennale, Painting Overall, curated by Giancarlo Politi and Helena Kontova in
 collaboration with Nicola Trezzi
 Vilma Gold, London, The Great White Way Goes Black

2010

Museum of Comic and Cartoon Art, New York, Neo Integrity: Comics Edition, curated by
 Keith Mayerson
 Emily Harvey Foundation, New York, Exhibition #3, organized by João Simões

2009

Sullivan Galleries, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Picturing the Studio, curated by
 Michelle Grabner and Annika Marie
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Constellations: Paintings from the MCA
 Collection
 Emily Harvey Foundation, New York, Strip / Stripe, a project by Test
 Apartment Show at Artists Space, New York, If the Dogs are Barking

2008

Emily Harvey Foundation, New York, Nov 5 – 26, 2008, by Joao Simoes
 Maccarone, New York, Pretty Ugly, curated by Alison Gingeras

Karma International, Zurich, Tales of the Grotesque, curated by Gianni Jetzer
 Rental, New York, Fair Market, curated by Haley Mellin
 White Flag Projects, St. Louis, Missouri, Cinema Zero: Hangover/Bendover, curated by Amy Granat
 Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, Oregon, The Searchers, curated by Amoreen Armetta and Molly Dilworth
 Triple Candie, New York, Thank You For Coming: Triple Candie 2001–2008

2007

Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, Catawampus (For H.D.), curated by Matt Keegan and Amy Granat (traveled to Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis, Minnesota)
 Galerie LHK, Paris, All Mirrors Are Broken, curated by Anthony Huberman
 Zach Feuer Gallery, New York, Joe Bradley, Ann Craven, Dana Frankfort, and Keith Mayerson
 Heidelberger Kunstverein, Germany, Re-dis-play I Non-Art-Collections from Artists and Curators, curated by Anna-Catharina Gebbers
 Blanpain Art Contemporain, Geneva, What We Do Is Secret, curated by Amy O'Neill
 Collective Unconscious, New York, Cinema Zero Presents: Etceteras of the CarreRond (what comes is better than what came before)

2006

Centre culturel suisse (CCS), Paris, CarreRond in Paris
 The Kitchen, New York, Cinema Zero Presents, with Amy Granat and Dusty Santos
 Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati, Ohio, Bunch Alliance and Dissolve, organized by Public-Holiday Projects
 Talbot Rice Gallery, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, Girl Power and Boyhood, curated by Lene Burkard (traveled to Kunsthallen Brandts, Odense, Denmark; and Sølvsberget, Stavanger Kulturhus, Norway)
 John Connelly Presents, New York, Kamp K48, curated by Scott Hug
 SculptureCenter, New York, Cinema Zero Presents
 Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Los Angeles, Portraits

2005

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Modest Sublime, curated by Leila Amalfitano
 Islip Museum, New York, Sports Illustrate
 Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, Kamp K48 – The Zine Unbound, curated by Scott Hug
 Galleri Christina Wilson, Copenhagen, New Figuration
 Klemens Gasser & Tanja Gruner, Inc., New York, Flower Power
 Biblos Center for the Arts, Verona, Italy, Neo-Baroque, curated by Micaela Giovannotti
 Perugi Arte Contemporanea, Padova, Italy, Ciao! Manhattan: Recent Painting from New York, curated by Joseph R. Wolin

2004

Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago, Emo Eco, curated by Simon Watson/Scenic
 Artemis Greenberg Van Doren, New York, She's Come Undone, curated by Augusto Arbizo
 Elizabeth Dee Gallery, New York, AC
 Esso Gallery, New York, Portraits

Galerie St. Etienne, New York, ANIMALS & US: The Animal in Contemporary Art
ArtSpace, New Haven, Connecticut, For the Birds, curated by Denise Markonish
Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, Birdspace: A Post-Audubon Artists Aviary,
curated by David S. Rubin (traveled to Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach,
Florida; Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, New York; McDonough Museum of Art,
Youngstown, Ohio, 2005; and Tuscon Museum of Art, Arizona, 2006)

2003

Salon 94, New York, Giverny, curated by Yvonne Force and Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn
Space 101, Brooklyn, New York, City Mouse, Country Mouse, curated by David Hunt
Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, Mixer03: An Ornithological Group Show in All Media
Allston Skirt Gallery, Provincetown, Massachusetts, Gone Fishin' in Provincetown

2002

Triple Candie, New York, Hotel/Motel, 11 Artists with Studios in Harlem
Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami, Primal Screams and Songs, curated by Bonnie
Clearwater

2001

Hammond Museum, North Salem, New York, Many Moons, curated by Barbara
Bloemink

2000

Columbus Museum of Art, Ohio, Extraordinary Realities, curated by Annegreth Nill

1999

Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami, Heads Up, curated by Bonnie Clearwater

1998

Ewing Gallery of Art and Architecture, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Visiting Artist
Biennial

1997

Wooster Gardens, New York, Group Show, curated by Michael Jenkins
New York Hospital, Gay Men's Health Crisis, sponsored by David Geffen
Provincetown Art Museum, Massachusetts, Invitational Exhibition, curated by Milena
Kanovska

1996

Swiss Institute, New York, Time Wise, curated by Carin Kuony
American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts,
juried by Chuck Close, Charles
Gwathmey, Nathan Oliveira, and Robert Ryman
Lauren Wittels Gallery, New York, Three Painters

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine
Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine
FRAC Champagne-Ardenne, Reims, France
Henry Art Gallery, Faye G. Allen Center for the Visual Arts, Seattle
Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami
Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers, France
Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Museum of Modern Art, New York
Pérez Art Museum Miami
Portland Museum of Art, Maine
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

PUBLICATIONS

	2024
Night Karma, New York	
	2023
Twelve Moons SCAD Museum of Art	
	2022
Ann Craven, Reggie Burrows Hodges Moons and Angels Karma, New York	
(Nothing but) Flowers Karma, New York	
	2021
Animals Birds Flowers Moons Karma, New York	
	2019
Birds We Know Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland	
Gertrude Abercrombie, Ann Craven, Nicolas Party, Matthew Wong Karma, New York	
	2018
Ann Craven Karma, New York	

CV Courtesy of Karma, NYC