

ELENA SISTO

Born 1952, Boston, MA

Lives and Works in New York, NY

EDUCATION

1970-77

Brown University, BA in Art

New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting & Sculpture

ONE-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2024

"Elena Sisto: Trickster Makes This World (For Lewis Hyde)," Bookstein Projects, New York, NY

2022

"Elena Sisto: wonder woman," Pamela Salisbury Gallery, Hudson, NY

2021

"Empathy Machine", Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2018

"Elena Sisto: As We Dream," Bookstein Projects, New York, NY

2016

"Elena Sisto: Afternoons," Lori Bookstein Fine Art, New York, NY.

2012 - 2013

"Between Silver Light and Orange Shadow, Paintings by Elena Sisto," Miami Dade College Museum of Art + Design, Miami, FL, University Galleries, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, Lori Bookstein Fine Art, New York, NY

2008

Katzen Museum of Art, American University, Washington, DC

2004

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY

2003

Harrisburg Community College, Rose Lehrman Art Center, Harrisburg, PA

2002

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY

2001

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY

1999

Maier Museum, Randolph-Macon College, Lynchburg, VA

1998

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY

1997

Greenville County Museum of Art, SC

1995

David Beitzel Gallery, New York, NY

1993

Stephen Wirtz Gallery, San Francisco, CA

1992

Germans Van Eck Gallery, New York, NY

1991

Gallery 210, University of Missouri at St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

1991

Germans Van Eck Gallery, New York, NY

1990

Damon Brandt Gallery, New York, NY

1986

Vanderwoude Tananbaum Gallery, New York, NY

1984

Vanderwoude Tananbaum Gallery, New York, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026

"With Quiet Eyes: An Exhibition of NY State-Based Millay Arts Visual Arts Alumni," Time & Space Limited, Hudson, NY

"Springtime," Art Sales and Research, Clinton Corners, NY

"Fresh Cut," Bookstein Projects, New York, NY

"Party in Hell," Ruthann Gallery, Catskill, NY

2022

"Balance," Platform Project Space, New York, NY

"Acid Garden," Charles Moffett, New York, NY

2021

"I Dream in Black and White," Curated by Madeleine Bialke, Olympia, New York, NY

2020

"All Small," Pamela Salisbury Gallery, Hudson, NY

2019

"At the Core: New Members of the National Academy of Design," Core: Club, New York, NY

"American Earthquake," curated by Madeleine Bialke, Vacation Gallery, New York, NY

"New Faces: Mid-Career Artists LA/NY," Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

"Notebook," curated by Joanne Greenbaum, 56 Henry, New York, NY

"Up With People!," curated by Patrick Neal, Joyce Goldstein Gallery, Chatham, NY

2018

"Modern & Contemporary Selections from the Permanent Collection," The Maier Museum of Art at Randolph College, Lynchburg, VA

"Chromalicious," Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA

2017

"Women Painting," Curated by Michelle Weinberg and Sarah Michelle Rupert, The Girls Club, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

"The Nature Lab," LABSpace, Hillsdale, NY

2016

"Representing Rainbows," Curated by Lisa Corinne Davis, Gerald Peters Gallery, New York, NY

2015

"Group 2015-2016," Lori Bookstein Fine Art, New York, NY

"Gallery Selections: 2015," Lori Bookstein Fine Art, New York, NY

2013

"[Mostly] White," Lori Bookstein Fine Art, New York, NY

2011

"Heads," Lori Bookstein Fine Art, New York, NY

2010

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, "Works on Paper"

Schlesinger and Coleman Bancroft, New York, NY, "Oil and Water"

2009

Bucheon Gallery, San Francisco, CA (two-person show with Jenny Dubnow)

Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey, "Octet"

Sue Scott Gallery, New York, NY, "Subverted Genre"

2008

Hunterdown Museum, Clinton, NJ, "Inner Child: Good and Evil in the Garden of Memories"

The National Academy, New York, NY 183rd Annual Invitational

Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY, "Gouache and Only Gouache"

2007

Hunterdon Museum of Art, Clinton, NJ, "Inner Child: Good and Evil in the Garden of Memories"

EFA Gallery, New York, NY, "Horizon"

2006

Andrea Meislin Gallery, New York, NY, "Oh, You Beautiful Doll"

Storefront Artists Project, Pittsfield, MA, "Selections from the Cultural Corridor"

Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA, "Light in August"

University of Virginia Art Museum, Charlottesville, VA, "Complicit! Contemporary American Art and Mass Culture"

The Philoctetes Center, New York, NY, "Objects in Mind"

Trierenberg Corporation Gallery, Traun, Austria, "New Art, New York: Reflections on the Human Condition"

2005

Obsolete Gallery, Venice, CA, "Private Drama"

Bucheon Gallery, San Francisco, CA, "Face Paint"

New York Studio School Gallery, New York, NY, "The Continuous Mark: 40 Years of the New York Studio School"

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY

2004

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY

New Jersey Center for the Visual Arts, Summit, NJ, "Unveiling the Image"
Mary Baldwin College, Hunt Gallery, Staunton, VA, "Mirror, Mirror: Imaging the Magic Tale"

2002

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY
Bucheon Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2001

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY
University Galleries of Illinois State University, Normal, IL, "Pixierina Witcherina," traveled to: Sarah Moody Gallery of Art, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa; Hanes Art Gallery, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC
Bucheon Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2000

Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery, New York, NY

1999

Allen Sheppard Gallery, New York, NY

1998

Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC, "Women, Women, Women: Artists, Objects, Icons"

1997

The Work Space @ Dolgenos Newman & Cronin, New York, "Hair-Do"
DNA Gallery, Provincetown, MA, "Domestic Bliss"

1996

DNA Gallery, Provincetown, MA
Thread Waxing Space, "SCRATCH"
Adam Baumgold Fine Art/Simon Capstick-Dale Gallery, New York, NY, "Comic Inspirations"
Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, "Range of Effect"

1995

Weatherspoon Gallery, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, "Art on Paper 1995"
Dru Arstark Gallery, New York, NY

1994

Adam Baumgold Fine Art, New York, NY, "Selections"
ICA, Portland at MECA, Maine College of Art, Portland, ME, "Intimate"
Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY, "Single-Cell Creatures: Cartoons and their Influence on Contemporary Arts"
Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA, "Soliloquies"
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, MA, "Nine Months: Art & Pregnancy"
UCLA Wight Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, "Bad Girls, West"

1993

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, The 43d Biennial of Contemporary American Painting
UCI Fine Arts Gallery, University of California at Irvine, Irvine, CA
Germans Van Eck Gallery, New York, NY, "Gallery Artists and Friends"
Robert Morrison Gallery, New York, NY, "Summer Salon Show"
Pamela Auchincloss Gallery, New York, NY, "Drawing Conclusions"
Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC, "Already"
Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL, "The Eidetic Image: Contemporary Works on Paper"
New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting, and Sculpture, "Formative Past, Present Form"

Maier Museum of Art, Randolph Macon College, Lynchburg, VA. "Making Connections: Approaches to Space in Drawing"

1992

Wallach Art Gallery, Columbia University, New York, NY

Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, "On Condition: Painting Between Abstraction and Figuration"

Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, "Re: Framing Cartoons"

Germans Van Eck Gallery, New York, NY, "Play Between Fear and Desire"

1991

Marc Richards Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, "Personal Mythologies"

Jamison Thomas Gallery, New York, NY, "Compulsion"

Ruggiero Gallery, New York, NY, Group Drawing Show

1990

Roy Boyd Gallery, Santa Monica, CA, "Examples Cool & Lonely"

Cummings Art Center, Connecticut College, New London, CT, "Fluid Geometry"

Tom Cugliani Gallery, New York, NY, "Eros/Thanatos, Death & Desire"

Loughelton Gallery, New York, NY, "Re: Framing"

1989

Fawbush Gallery, New York, NY, Drawings

City Gallery, New York Dept. of Cultural Affairs, New York, NY, "Personal Icons"

Damon Brandt Gallery, New York, NY

New York Studio School, New York, NY, "Field and Frame: Meyer Schapiro's Semiotics of Painting"

Ruggiero Henis Gallery, New York, NY, "Immanent Space"

Henry Feiwei Gallery, New York, NY, "Is this a small picture?"

1988

Bali Miller Gallery, New York, NY

New Visions Gallery, Ithaca, NY

One Penn Plaza, New York, NY, "Nature in Art - 44 Women Artists"

1987

Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, NY, "To Objectify the Subjective: Contemporary Symbolist Sensibilities"

Winston Gallery, Washington, D.C.

1986

Leo Castelli Greene St. Gallery, New York, NY, Skowhegan 40th Anniversary Exhibition

One Penn Plaza, New York, NY, "Short Stories"

San Francisco Int'l Airport, Airport Café, San Francisco, CA

Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME, "Inner Images"

The Newark Museum, Newark, NJ. "Recent American Painting and Sculpture: 1975-1985"

1985

New York Studio School, New York, NY, Alumni Show.

Vanderwoude Tananbaum Gallery, New York, NY, "Notions of Surrealism"

New York Studio School, New York, NY, 20th anniversary show.

Jersey City Museum, Jersey City, NJ, "Mystery Show"

Sordoni Art Gallery, Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, PA. "New Expressive Landscape"

1984

Weatherspoon Gallery, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, "Art on Paper 1984"

Jamaica Arts Center, Queens, NY, "Situations"

A.I.R. Gallery, New York, NY, "Women Artists of the 80s: New Talent"
Yale University at Norfolk Gallery, Norfolk, CT
Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA, "Fears"

1983

Weatherspoon Gallery, UNC at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, Art on Paper
Rotunda Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2026

Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant

2021

American Academy of Arts and Letters, Art Purchase Prize Recipient

2015

National Academy Inductee

2013

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship

2008

Inglis Griswold Nelson Prize, National Academy Museum and School of Fine Arts 183rd Invitational

2007

Yaddo, Artist's Fellowship

1999

Peter S. Reed Foundation Grant

1996

Fine Arts Work Center, Provincetown, Artist's Fellowship

1995

Hand Hollow Foundation Fellowship

1989-90

National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artist's Fellowship

1987

Millay Colony for the Arts. Artist's Residency

1983-4

National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artist's Fellowship

1976

Skowhegan School

1975

Yale Norfolk Program

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ambrose, David. "Elena Sisto: As We Dream at Bookstein Projects," Whitehot Magazine. October 26, 2018.

Pardee, Hearne, "A New Ecology of Signs: Elena Sisto beyond the studio," Artcritical, Sunday, October 21, 2018.

Butler, Sharon, "Elena Sisto: A new kind of freedom," Two Coats of Paint. October 7, 2018.
 Pardee, Hearne. "ELENA SISTO Afternoons." The Brooklyn Rail. The Brooklyn Rail, 3 May 2016.
 Schwendener, Martha. "What to See in New York Art Galleries This Week." The New York Times. The New York Times, 14 Apr 2016. Web. 15 Apr. 2016.
 Coates, Jennifer. "Elena Sisto." Time Out New York 13 Apr. 2016: 50.
 The New Yorker, "Goings on About Town – Art," March 28, 2016. Web and print.
 Leslie Wayne, Artcritical. 2016, one-person show at Lori Bookstein Fine Art
 Robert Storr, What Gets You Up in the Morning and Keeps You Going at Night, 2016, published on the occasion of the exhibition Elena Sisto: Afternoons
 Robert Berlind, The Brooklyn Rail, 2013, one-person show at Lori Bookstein Fine Art
 Dennis Kardon, Artcritical, 2013, review of one-person show at Lori Bookstein Fine Art
 Julian Kreimer, Art in America, 04/25/13, Interview for one-person show at Lori Bookstein Fine Art
 Goings on About Town, The New Yorker, May 11, 2013, review of one-person show at Lori Bookstein Fine Art
 Stephen Westfall, 2012, catalog essay for Between Silver Light and Orange Shadow, Paintings by Elena Sisto
 Blake Gopnik, Washington Post, Critic's Choice, 3/13/08, Washington, DC
 Michael F. Alexander, Art Life, 2006 Charlottesville, VA
 Stephen Maine, New York Sun, 2007, review of Horizon show
 Lily Wei, Art News, May 2005, review of one-person show at Littlejohn
 Hearne Pardee, Art in America, March 2005, review of one-person show
 Tyler Clever, 2004, Catalog essay and interview, One person show at Harrisburgh Community College
 Dynah Ryan, 2004, Catalog Mirror, Mirror, Mary Baldwin College, Hunt Galley
 Nancy Cohen, 2004, Catalog, Unveiling the Image
 Arturo Martinez, The Sunday Star Ledger, 2004, review of Unveiling the Image
 Benjamin Gennochio, New York Times, 2004, review of Unveiling the Image
 Dan Bischoff, the Star Ledger, 2004, review of Unveiling the Image
 Hearne Pardee, Artzine #8, 2003
 Amy Jean Porter, Review.com, March 2001, review of one-person show
 Eleanor Heartney, Art in America, June 1999, review of one-person show
 Anne Shostrom, New Art Examiner, March 1999, review of one-person show
 Rick Moody, Catalog for Maier Museum one-person show, Pan's Fair Throng (fiction inspired by Elena Sisto's painting), 1999
 Cathy Gant-Hill, Greensboro News & Record, 11/11/98 Art & Access
 Ken Johnson, New York Times, 10/23/98, short review of one-person show
 Douglas Maxwell, Review Magazine, 10/15/98, review of one-person show
 Sue Lile Inman Emrys Journal, 1998 And There He Kept Her Very Well
 Rick Moody, Modern Painters, spring 1998, Long Live Painting
 Faye Hirsch, On Paper, 1997, review of Tin Man wood cut
 Roberta Smith, New York Times, 4/19/96, review of Comic Inspirations
 Tom Patterson, Winston-Salem Journal, 3/3/96, review of Range of Effect
 Jennifer Gross, catalog essay for Intimate Observations, 1994
 Benjamin Weissman, Artforum, May 1994. Review of Bad Girls West Julia Clinger, The Chautauqua Daily, 7/5/94. Profile article
 Nancy Stapen, The Boston Globe, 7/21/94. Review of Nine Months
 Michael Rogers, Orange County Register, 10/15/93. Review of UC Irvine show
 Cathy Curtis, Los Angeles Times, 10/93. Review of UC Irvine show
 Terrie Sultan and Maia Damianovic, Catalog for 1993 Corcoran Biennial
 Carol Kino, Modern Painters, Spring 1993. Review of one-person show
 Debra Bricker Balken, Art in America, May 1993. Review of one-person show
 Ruth Bass, Art News, February 1993. Review of one-person show
 Charles Hagen, New York Times, 12/4/92. Review of one-person show
 Tom Zimmer, Essay published for Germans Van Eck one-person show, 1992.
 Roberta Smith, New York Times, 6/28/91. Review of one-person show.
 Cathy Curtis, Los Angeles Times, 1/15/91. Review of Examples: Cool & Lonely
 William Zimmer, New York Times, 12/9/90 (CT edition). Fluid Geometry review
 Hearne Pardee, Art News, September 1990. Review of one-person show

Robert Mahoney, Arts, Summer 1990. Review of one-person show
 Charles Hagen, Artforum, Summer 1990. Review of one-person show
 Ken Johnson, Art in America, June 1990. Review of one-person show
 Ruth Bass, Art Talk, June/July 1990. Review of one-person show
 Stephen Westfall, Art in America, February 1987. Review of one-person show
 Roberta Smith, New York Times, 11/7/86. Review of one-person show
 Hearne Pardee, Arts, November 1986. Paintings by Five Contemporary Artists
 Stephen Westfall, Art Journal, Winter 1985. Surrealist Modes Among Contemporary New York Painters
 Hearne Pardee, catalog for Inner Images show, 1986
 Eileen Watkins, Newark Star-Ledger, 5/85. Review of Mystery Show
 Vivien Raynor, New York Times, 6/2/85 (NJ Edition). Review of Mystery Show
 Michael Brenson, New York Times, 5/24/85. Review of NY Studio School show
 Gilbert Carpenter, catalog for Art on Paper 1985 show at Weatherspoon
 William Sterling, catalog for New Expressive Landscape, 1985
 Victoria Donohoe, Philadelphia Inquirer, 2/17/84. Review of Tyler show
 Corinne Robins, catalog for Women Artists of the 80s
 The Sciences, 11-12/84 issue. Full-page reproduction of painting
 Ellen Klein, Arts, September 1984. Review of one-person show
 Bill Miller, catalog for Jamaica Arts Center show, 1984

TEACHING

1997-	The School of Visual Arts, New York. Painting and drawing.
1997-98	Yale Norfolk Summer Program. Norfolk, CT. Drawing.
1990-97	Columbia University School of Fine Arts. Painting and drawing.
1993-95, 09	The Chautauqua Institution. Painting and drawing.
1987-96	New York Studio School. Painting and drawing.
1987-91	Rhode Island School of Design. Painting and drawing.
1988	SUNY Purchase. Drawing.

ART WRITING

2026	"See Me Now, A Painter's Appreciation," <i>Kathy Butterly: Assume Yes</i> , New York: DelMonico Books, 2026
	"Ornithology: In Conversation with Stephen Westfall," <i>Snapshot of the Art World</i>
2025	"It Is What It Is, Isn't It?: An Interview with Catherine Murphy," <i>Snapshot of the Art World</i>
2018	"'Going on Being': Kathy Butterly in conversation with Elena Sisto," <i>artcritical</i>