

P R I N C I P L E G A L L E R Y

About the Artist: Raymond Bonilla

Raymond Bonilla is a nationally recognized illustrator and fine artist in Buffalo, NY. Raymond graduated from the State University in New York at Fredonia in 2005 with a degree in New Media and Illustration. He continued his studies at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco where he completed his Master of Fine Art in 2009. He was awarded Best in Show in the Great Lakes Emerging Artist Competition, was a finalist in the Artists Magazine Annual Art Competition, has been awarded Gold Medals in advertising from both Society of Illustrators of New York and Los Angeles, and juried into the Communication Arts Illustration Annual. He currently lives in Buffalo, New York where he spends his time painting and teaching part-time at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Artist Statement

My interest in painting and animation lies in the role of an “illustrator as a visual journalist” and the subject of memory. While painting and animation have approaches and aesthetics that may be unique to themselves, at their core these disciplines both allow artists the ability to document the human experience. My art is rooted in the influences of impressionist painters, illustrators, and animators of the 19th and 20th centuries. In my work I use an artistic language that is deeply rooted in the visual vocabulary of figurative and abstract art of the past. From these, I take the traditional artistic tools of color and form, which allow me to immerse viewers in my pictures, allowing those viewers to appreciate my work both for its literal and abstract qualities. I strive to create art that records my observation of the world around me, whether it be a direct observation or a statement of internal reflection. Ultimately, I seek to make work that is a "visual journal" of the human condition.

Selected Exhibitions:

2020

The Great American Paint in Traveling Exhibition, Gallery CERO, Longwood, FL

Black Friday Sale, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO

30th Annual Holiday Miniatures Show, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO

Flower Power, Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA

P R I N C I P L E G A L L E R Y

The First Annual Vining Gallery Invitational Group Exhibition, Vining Gallery, Indianapolis, IN

Solo Exhibition: Recuerdos Privados / Private Memories, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO

5x5 ProjectVII, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO

Five and Under, Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA

Wish You Were Here: work from artists who've left the Bay Area, Studio Gallery, San Francisco, CA

Society of Illustrators New York 62nd Annual Exhibition, New York, NY

2019

Solo Exhibition: Epílogos Privados / Private Epilogues, Meibohm Fine Arts, East Aurora, NY

Dusk To Dawn, Meibohm Fine Arts, East Aurora, NY

In a Nutshell, Meibohm Fine Arts, East Aurora, NY

5x5 project, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO

Horizons, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO

29th Annual MINI SHOW, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO

2018

28th Annual MINI SHOW, Abend Gallery, Denver, CO

Ray Bonilla Lights Up!, Resource Art, Buffalo, NY

Bonilla: Process Work, ART LAB Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA

Summer Show: The Corridors Gallery at Hotel Henry, Resource Art, Buffalo, NY

Summer Salon, Meibohm Fine Arts, East Aurora, NY

2017

Art Invasion House Party IV, Resource Art, Buffalo, NY

Art Invasion House Party III, Resource Art, Buffalo, NY

Raymond Bonilla: Recent Works, Fredonia Incubator Gallery, Dunkirk, NY

2016

Observed and Imagined, Meibohm Fine Arts, East Aurora, NY

Artist to Artist, Benjamen Gallery Group, Buffalo, NY

P R I N C I P L E G A L L E R Y

2015

Society of Illustrators New York 57th Annual Exhibition, New York, NY
Society of Illustrators Los Angeles 53rd Annual Exhibition, Los Angeles, CA
The Ridge, Meibohm Fine Arts Gallery, East Aurora, NY

2013

Society of Illustrators New York 55th Annual Exhibition, New York, NY
Society of Illustrators Los Angeles 51st Annual Exhibition, Los Angeles, CA

2012

Illustrators West 50th Annual Exhibition, Los Angeles, CA 2011
Delicious, Studio Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2010

Tiny, Studio Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Mirror Mirror, Meyer Gallery, Park City, UT

2009

Tiny, Studio Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Portrait Invitational Exhibition, Blue Gallery, Kansas City, MO
Requiem, Gallery 688, San Francisco, CA

Honors and Awards:

2020

Award of Excellence, Society of Illustrators New York 62nd Annual Exhibition

2019

Award of Excellence in Advertising Illustration, Society of Illustrators Los Angeles
57th Annual Exhibition

2014

Award of Excellence in Advertising Illustration, Communication Arts Annual
Illustration Competition
Award of Excellence in Advertising Illustration, Communication Arts Annual
Illustration Competition

P R I N C I P L E G A L L E R Y

Award of Excellence in Editorial Illustration, Communication Arts Annual Illustration Competition

Honorable Mention, Society of Illustrators Los Angeles 54th Annual Exhibition

2013

Gold Medal, Society of Illustrators Los Angeles 52st Annual Exhibition

Bronze Medal, Society of Illustrators Los Angeles 52st Annual Exhibition

Honorable Mention, Society of Illustrators Los Angeles 53st Annual Exhibition

Award of Excellence in Advertising Illustration, Communication Arts Annual Illustration Competition

2012

Gold Medal, Society of Illustrators New York 55th Annual Exhibition

Gold Medal, Society of Illustrators Los Angeles 51st Annual Exhibition

Publications/ Interviews:

2019

Wilder views found in exhibition of small works, Jay Moran WBFO, 12/23/19

2016

Centerfold: Twinbrook Station on the Red Line, The Public, September 28th, 2016

In Art Galleries this Fall, The Public, September 14th, 2016

Features: Raymond Bonilla, Communication Arts Magazine, July/August 2016

Two-person exhibit at Meibohm blurs observation, imagination, Buffalo News, September 15th, 2016

Artists Seen: Raymond Bonilla, The Public, April 20th, 2016

2015

Stirring Memory, Artists on Art Magazine, Fall 2015

Museum Collections:

Ellen Noel Art Museum of the Permian Basin, Odessa, TX

Burchfield Penny Art Center, Buffalo, NY