

JOHN COPLANS

Born in London 1920
Died in New York 2003

Solo Exhibitions

2022

John Coplans: La vie des formes, Le Point du Jour, Cherbourg, France

2021

John Coplans: La vie des formes, Henri Cartier Bresson Foundation, Paris, France

2020

John Coplans, Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zurich, Switzerland

Self-Portrait Polaroids (1984-2002), Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, USA

2019

John Coplans, A Body of Work, The Merchant House, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2018

John Coplans and June Crespo: Foreign Bodies, P420, Bologna, Italy, curated by Joao Laia

2016

Dancing With Myself, Folkwang Museum, Essen, Germany

Human Interest: Portraits from the Whitney's Collection, Whitney Museum, New York, NY, USA

Where Are We Now, Jarla Partilager Gallery, Berlin, Germany

2015

Self Portraits Upside Down, Solo Presentation Galerie Nordenhake, The Armory Show, New York, USA

2009

Self Portrait, Galerie Sandrine Mons, Nice, France

2007

John Coplans - A Legacy, Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, Germany

Project Room: John Coplans, Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, France

2006

John Coplans - one-person exhibition, Reykjavík Art Museum - Kjarvalsstaðir, Reykjavik, Iceland

2005

John Coplans: Backs and Fingers, Galería Elvira González, Madrid, Spain

John Coplans - One Man Show, Art & Public, Geneva, Switzerland

2004

Tang Teaching Art Museum and Art Gallery, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY
Du corps à l'image, FRAC d'Ile-de-France, Les Mesnuls, France
Galerie Kilchmann, Zürich, Switzerland
Body Parts, Wachenheim Gallery, New York, USA, cur. Charles Stainback, Jane Farver
Serial Figures, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, USA

2003

Guardini Stiftung, Germany
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, MA

2002

Body Parts, Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, France

2001

Self Portrait, Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, Germany
Self Portrait, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, USA

2000

Galerie Nordenhake, Stockholm, Sweden
John Coplans: A Self Portrait, 1984–2000, Liljevalchs Konsthall Stockholm, Sweden
Galerie Howard Yezerski, Boston, USA
Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, France
Fondation Icar, Paris, France

1999

A Self Portrait 1984–1999, Malmö Konsthall, Malmö, Sweden
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, USA
Galleria Massimo de Carlo, Milano, Italy
The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK
Art Affairs, Amsterdam, Netherlands

1998

Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zurich, Switzerland
Paco des Artes, Sao Paulo, Brazil

1997

P.S.1, Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City, USA
London Projects, London, UK

1996

Galerie Nordenhake, Stockholm, Sweden
Galerie Coppens, Brussels, Belgium
Galerie Senda, Barcelona, Spain
Galeria Visa, Valencia, Spain
Galerie Peter Kilchman, Zürich, Switzerland
London Projects, London, UK
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, USA
Patricia Faure Gallery, Santa Monica, California, USA

1995

Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Germany
Galerie der Stadt Kornwestheim, Germany

Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York
1994

Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston
Musée National d'Art Modern, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Feigen Gallery, Chicago, USA
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York

1993
Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, France
Massimo de Carlo, Milan, Italy
Asher/Faure Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

1992
Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal
Peter Kilchmann Galerie, Zürich, Switzerland
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston

1991
Liverpool Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Joseloff Gallery, University of Hartford, Connecticut
Galerie Lelong, New York
Matrix Gallery, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut

1990
Frankfurter Kunstverein, Germany
Galeria Comicos, Luis Serpa, Lisbon, Portugal
Museum Boymans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Galerie Lelong, New York
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston
Tomasulo Gallery, Union College, Cranford, New Jersey

1989
Salon d'Angle de la Régionale des Affaires Culturelles, Nantes, France
Musée de la Vieille Charité, Marseille, France
In Extremis / Photographie Contemporaine, Strasbourg, France
Galerie Lelong, Paris, France
Galerie Lelong, New York, USA
Ginny Williams Gallery, Denver, USA
Dart Gallery, Chicago, USA
Blum / Helman Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
Centre d'Art Passages, Troyes, France

1988
Centre de Kerpape, Ploemeur, Rencontres Photographiques en Bretagne
Sala d'Exposicions de la Fundacio Caixa de Pensions, Barcelona, Spain
Dart Gallery, Chicago, USA
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, Traveled to Museum of Modern Art, New York, University of Missouri Art Gallery, Kansas City, Art Institute of Chicago, USA

1987

Perspectief Gallery, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Hillman Holland Fine Arts, Atlanta, Georgia, USA
Blum / Helman Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

1986

Musée du Nouveau Monde, La Rochelle, France
Pace / MacGill Gallery, New York, USA
Martin Gallery, Washington, D.C., USA

1985

Rudolf Kicken Galerie, Cologne, Germany
Galerei 666, Paris, France
Clarence Kennedy Gallerz, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
The Fine Arts Gallery, University of California, USA
Film in the Cities Gallery, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA
Madison Art Center, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

1984

Pace / MacGill Gallery, New York, USA
Emily H. Davis Gallery, The University of Akron, Akron, OH, USA

1982

New Gallery of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH, USA
Daniel Wolf Gallery, New York, USA

1981

Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA
Daniel Wolf Gallery, New York, USA

Selected Group Exhibitions

2024

L'(OEIL OBJECTIF), Musée Cantini, Marseille, France

2023

Talking Bodies – Körperbilder im Plakat, Museum für Gestaltung Zurich, Switzerland

2022

Exhibition for the 30th Anniversary of Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zurich, Switzerland

2020

Masculinities, Barbican Gallery, London, UK

2019

Photographie et documents, 1983 – 2018, FRAC Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur, Marseille, France
Parentescos: John Coplans, June Crespo, Florian Slotawa, Galerie Nordenhake, Mexico City, Mexico

2018

Ageing Pride, Belvedere Museum, Vienna, Austria, cur. Sabine Fellner
Dancing with myself, Palazzo Grassi, Venice, Italy, cur. Martin Bethenod, Florian Ebner

La No Comunidad, Centro Cibeles Madrid, Madrid, Spain
The Museum Imagined, Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea, Luigi Pecci, Prato, Italy
Die Geste, Ludwig Galerie - Schloß Oberhausen, Oberhausen, Germany
Elèctric i llunyà. Fotografia contemporànea colecció olorVISUAL, Centre d'Art Tecla Sala, L'Hospitalet, Spain

2017

The Shape of Things, MoMa, New York, USA
Human Interest: Portraits from the Whitney's Collection, The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA
Acting for the Camera, Albertina Museum, Vienna, Austria
Die Kraft des Alters, Belvedere Museum, Vienna, Austria

2016

Agir, contempler - Musée d'Unterlinden, Colmar, France
Another Objectivity, Collection Display, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain
Dancing with Myself: Works from the Pinault Collection, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
Where Are We Now, Jarla Partilager Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Action, Contemplation, The Unterlinden Museum, Colmar, France
Flesh, York Art Gallery, York Art Gallery, York, UK, cur. Dr. Jo Applin

2015

Chercher le garçon, MAC/VAL, Vitry-sur-Seine, France
Entre Intime et Autoportrait (Un temps dilaté), Galerie Le Réverbère, Lyon
The Day Will Come When Man Falls, Deichtorhallen - Haus der Photographie, Hamburg, Germany
de-formations, Bruce Silverstein Gallery, New York, NY, USA
From Vision to Machines To Instagram, Preus Museum 20 Years, Horten, Norway

2014

A chromatic loss, Galerie Bortolami, New York, USA, cur. Jeffrey Uslip
Second Sight: The David Kronn Photography Collection, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Hyper-Resemblances, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, Columbia University, New York, USA

2013

Focal Points: America Photography Since 1950, MMoCA, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, Wisconsin, USA
SKIN - an Artistic Atlas, RHA Charles Gallagher Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
Finir En Beauté, Musée Nicéphore Niépce, Chalon sur Saône, France
The Solitary Body. Self-portraiture in contemporary photography, CACT Ticino, Bellinzona, Switzerland

2012

Der Nackte Mann, Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, Austria
Körper als Protest, Albertina, Vienna, Austria
Out Figured, Center for Visual Art (CVA) - Metropolitan State College of Denver
Exquisite Corpses: Drawing and Trasfiguration, MoMA - Museum of Modern Art, New York City, USA
Abstraction Paintings and Works on Paper, Redfern Gallery, London, UK

Reconsidering the Photographic Masterpiece, UNM Art Museum - University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

Umstülpung - curated by Günter Umberg, Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, Germany

Theatre Of The World, Mona - Museum of Old and New Art, Hobart, Berriedale, Australia
2011

Fotógrafos da Cena Contemporânea, Museu de Arte Contemporânea da Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil

Black And White, Nina Freudenheim Gallery, Buffalo, USA

Carolina Collects: 150 Years of Modern and Contemporary Art from Alumni Collections, Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, USA

Mortel!, FRAC - Basse-Normandie, Caen, France

Naked, Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, USA

Magie des Objekts - Photographie aus drei Jahrhunderten, Leopold Museum, Vienna

Sex Drive, Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery (CFG), Haverford

2010

El Cuerpo Inventado, TEA Tenerife Espacio de las Artes, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Tenerife, Spain

Post-War American Art: The Novak/O'Doherty Collection, Irish Museum of Modern Art - IMMA, Dublin, Ireland

Off the Wall Part 1: Thirty Performative Actions, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City, USA

Starter Works from the Vehbi Koç Foundation Contemporary Art Collection, ARTER - space for art, Istanbul, Turkey

2009

New York in Amsterdam, Art Affairs Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Self-Portraits, Skarstedt Fine Art, New York City, USA

The Lining of Forgetting: Internal and External Memory in Art, Austin Museum of Art - AMOA, Austin, Texas, USA

Pequeña historia de la fotografía, CGAC - Centro Galego de Arte Contemporánea, Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Impacto! Obras de la colección olorVISUAL, Fundació Vall Palou, Lleida, Spain

PhotoDimensional, MoCP - The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, USA

John Coplans + Amanda Means: Distilled, Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, USA

2008

Hands, SolwayJones, Los Angeles, USA

Xviii Biennale Internazionale di Scultura, Accademia di Belle Arti di Carrara, Italy

Ein Leben lang / All your life, Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst (NGBK), Berlin, Germany

El don de la vida. En torno al envejecimiento y su representación artística, Centre d'Art la Panera, Lleida, Spain

Images Du Corps, Vertiges Et Vestiges, Musée Régional D'Art Contemporain Languedoc-Roussillon, Sérignan, France

Pasión Privadas, Visión Pública, MARCO Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Vigo

About Us, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Boulder, Colorado

Continuum, Collection Frac Basse-Normandie - Musée des Beaux-Arts de Saint-Lô, Saint-Lô, France

The Lining of Forgetting: Internal & External Memory in Art, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina, USA

2007

California Context, MMoCA - The Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Passion Complex, Selected Works from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art - Kanazawa, Kanazawa, Japan

Le cinque anime della scultura, Cesac - Centro Sperimentale per le Arti Contemporanee, Caraglio, Italy

Stichwort Gegenwart - Zwölf Kapitel der Sammlung Ludwig, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany

Mapas, Cosmogonias e Puntos de Referencia, CGAC - Centro Galego de Arte Contemporánea, Santiago de Compostela, Spain

2006

Photo-Kunst der letzten 40 Jahre in der Graphischen Sammlung, Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany

Mémoires - Œuvres du FRAC Champagne Ardenne, FRAC Champagne Ardenne, Reims, France

Passages, Centre d'art contemporain, Troyes, France

2005

Le Musée de Marrakech, Marrakech, Morocco

Exposed! - Thirty Years of collecting Photography, Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, New York, USA

2004

John Coplans, Craigie Horsfield, Ingrid Mwangi, Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, France

2003

Warum, Martin Gropius Bau Berlin, Berlin, Germany

L'esprit des lieux, Frac Haute-Normandie, Normandie, France

2002

Fallen Heroes, Espace d'Art contemporain de Castello, Castello, France

2001

Body's Performance, Art Affairs, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2000

Open Ends, Musée d'Art Moderne, New York, USA *

Vies Parallèles, Ecole Régionale des Beaux Arts de Rouen, Rouen, France

The Persistence of Photography in America Portraiture, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT

Le Corps Morcelé, Fondation Guerlain, Les Mesnuls, France *

Man + Space, Biennale 2000 de Gwangju, Gwangju, South Korea

2000 Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA *

En personne (1), Le Carré, Couvent des Ursulines, Château Gontier, France

Making Choices 1920-1960, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA

Le siècle du corps photographié 1900-2000, Musée de l'Élysée, Lausanne, Switzerland

1999

Art affairs, Paris Photo, Paris, France

1998

Self-Portraits, Galerie Tania Rumpff, Haarlem, Netherlands

1997

The 90's: A Family of Man? Images de l'homme dans l'art contemporain, Casino Luxembourg, Luxembourg

1996

Prospect 96, Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt et Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main
Une Aventure Contemporaine. La Photographie (1955-1995), La Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, France*

Gender Beyond Memory, Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo, Japan *
Collection in Context: Selected Contemporary Photographs of Hands from the Collection of Henry Buhl, Thread Waxing Space, New York; Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, CT; Wesleyan University, DE; Alvin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD *
Carte blanche à Paco Dècina, Coursive du théâtre, Forum Culturel, Le Blanc-Mesnil, France
Alien Bodys, Icebox/Venetia Kapernekas, Athens, Greece

1995

ARS 95 Helsinki, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland

A Corps Perdue, Saint Martin du Méjan, Arles, France *

Rites of passage, Tate Gallery, London, UK *

Inside Out, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, Connecticut, USA *

Body of Evidence: The Figure in Contemporary Photography, Cleveland State University Art Gallery, Cleveland, Ohio, USA

100 Years/100 Images, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

1994

Passing Through, Walcheturm gallery, Zürich, Switzerland

Pictures of the Real World (In Real Time): On Kawara Date Paintings 1966-1993, Paula Cooper Gallery, NY, Etats-Unis; L'Usine, Dijon; Städtische Galerie, Goppingen; Galleria Massimo de Carlo, Milano

The Epic & the Everyday: Contemporary Photographic Art, The South Bank Center/Hayward Gallery, London, UK *

Sum of the Parts, University of Hawaii Art Gallery, Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii *

Face-Off: The Portrait in Recent Art, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

A Positive View, Saatchi Collection, London, UK

Big Shots/Little Shots, Transamerica Pyramid Lobby Gallery, San Francisco, California, USA

Aspects d'une Collection, Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporain de Nice, Nice, France

Embody - The Photograph and the Figure, The Proctor Arts Center, Bard College, Annadale on Hudson, New York, USA

1993

Aspects of Photography I, Locks Gallery, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Autoportraits Contemporains: Here's looking at Me, Espace Lyonnais d'Art Contemporain, Lyon, France

Medaliens Bakside: Pirouettes, Lillehammer Art Museum, Lillehammer, Norway *

Magicians of Light: Photographs from the National Gallery of Canada, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada *

Multiple Images: Photographs Since 1965 From the Collection, Museum of Modern Art, New York*

Das Bild des Körpers, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main *

1992

Persona, Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, California, USA *
De la Curiosité: Petite Anatomie d'un Regard, Dazibao, Centre de Photographies Actuelles,
Montréal, Canada *
Manifeste, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
More than One Photography; Works since 1980 from the Collection, Museum of Modern Art, NY,
USA
Le Portrait dans l'Art Contemporain, 1945-1992, Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporaine,
Nice, France *

1991

1991 Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA
Collection du Fonds Régional d'Art Contemporain de Basse-Normandie, F.R.A.C. Basse-
Normandie, Granville, France *
John Coplans/ Christèle Lerisse, Cardinaux, Châtelleraut, France*
Presenting Rearwards, Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Santa Monica, California, USA *
No More Heroes, San Francisco Camerawork, California, USA *
The Physical Self, Museum Boymans van Beuningen, Rotterdam *
Photographie/Sculpture, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France*

1990

The Indomitable Spirit, International Center of Photography, New York; Los Angeles Municipal Art
Gallery, California, USA *
Je est un Autre, Galeria Comicos, Luis Serpa, Lisbon, Portugal *
Acquisitions 1989, Musée de Saint-Lo, FRAC de Basse-Normandie, Caen, France *
The Decade Show, Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art, New York, USA*

1989

The Photography of Invention: American Pictures in the 80's, National Museum of American Art,
Washington, D.C.; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
Une Autre Objectivité/ Another Objectivity, Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Paris, France
Un'altra obietività, Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, Italy
Prospect Photographie, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main, Germany *
Photo-Kunst, Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany *

* Catalogue

Public Collections

MoMA, New York
Tate Gallery, London
Art Gallery New South Wales
Whitney Museum of Art, New York
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco
Musée d'Art Contemporain Montréal
Montréal Museum Bojmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam
Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris

Bibliography

2021

"John Coplans - Un Corps", Jean-Francois Chevrier, Le Point du Jour

2015

"Body of Art", Jennifer Blessing, New York Phaidon Press Limited

2004

"Die Summe seiner Teile - John Coplans' frühe Fotografien", Muscionico, Daniele, NZZ, Zurich, Oct. 26, p. 54

"Sum of his parts", Artforum, Milan, No. 5, pp. 141 - 142

"Piezas de un autorretrato", Vicente Jarque, El País, Madrid, March 27, p. 17

2003

"Body Parts: A Self-Portrait by John Coplans", PowerHouse, New York

"Self-Portraits/John Coplans", Exit, Madrid, No. 10, May - July, pp. 42 - 48

2002

"John Coplans: A Body", PowerHouse, New York, 2002 2001

"Der menschliche Körper als Terra incognita", Hans-Peter von Däniken, Tages Anzeiger, Zürich, March 7, p. 61

"Eine haarige Sache", Brita Polzer, Annabelle, No. 5, March 3, p. 76

2000

"In the Flesh: John Coplans", David Pagel, Los Angeles Times, March 28, p. F7

"John Coplans: Andrea Rosen Gallery", Eric Gibson Artnews, Apr., pp. 130 - 131

"John Coplans: Andrea Rosen Gallery", Ben Lifson, Artforum, Apr., pp. 98 - 99

"Der anagrammatische der Körper", Peter Weibel, ZKM, Karlsruhe

1999

"John Coplans: Self Portrait Fingers", Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York

"Death-Defying Feet", James Hall Guardian (London), June 20, p. 8

"Mortal Dangers", Sarah Kent, Time Out, June 21 - 28, p. 48

"Only for true Believers", Waldemar Januszczak, Sunday Times (London), June 25, pp. 20 - 21

1997

"John Coplans: A Self-Portrait, 1984-1997", Jean-François Chevrier, PS1, New York, US

1996

"Provocations", John Coplans, London Projects, London

1994

"Körper-kulturen", René Ammann, Tages-Anzeiger und Berner Zeitung, Zurich, pp. 44-49 "John Coplans", Martine Reyss, Éditions du Centre Pompidou, Paris

"John Coplans: Self Portrait Frieze", John Coplans, Paul Bianchini and Galerie Toner, Paris

1992

"John Coplans: A Self Portrait", Jose Sommer Ribeiro and Jorge Molder, Centro de Arte Moderna, Lisboa 1991

"John Coplans: Self-portraits", Jean-François Chevrier, Galerie Lelong, New York

1990

"John Coplans", Peter Weiermair, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt

"John Coplans: Self-portraits", Ben Lifson and Robbert Roos, Liverpool Gallery, Brussels "John Coplans: Self-Portrait, Hand/Foot", Jean-François Chevrier, Museum Boymans-Van Beuningen, Rotterdam

1989

"John Coplans: Autoportraits", Bernard Millet, Musées de Marseille and Actes Sud, Marseille "John Coplans: Hand", John Coplans, Galerie Lelong, New York

"John Coplans: Foot", John Coplans, Galerie Lelong, New York

1987

"John Coplans: A Body of Work", Printed Matter, New York