

Ray Donley

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Ray Donley was born in Austin, Texas, in 1950. He attended the University of Texas at Austin, graduating summa cum laude in 1981. He completed his master's degree in art history with particular focus on Dutch and Spanish baroque art.

Donley is what is known as a *New Old Master*, newly uncovering the subtleties and mysteries of old style oil painting method for a modern audience. He masters oil painting, using chiaroscuro to define the features of his models. And while, he may be getting his inspiration from the Great Masters from the XVIIth century, he has created his very own...very contemporary world with his series *Los Bien Perdidos* (the profoundly lost ones).

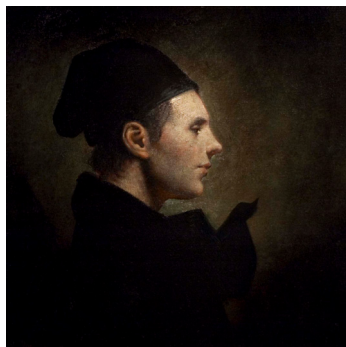
According to Ray *"I choose to use such imagery and technique as a point of departure for exploring a world that is idiosyncratic, personal, and capable of transcending time and place. And whereas much of the portraiture of the Renaissance and Baroque sought to reveal something of the state of mind of the subject, there is an aspect of my work that seeks to turn this idea around by presenting a kind of imagery that, instead, reveals something about the state of mind of the viewer."*

"With their suggestions of silence, solitude, reverie and even madness these paintings are meant to evoke aspects of our more reflective (and sometimes darker) states. By tapping into these introspective states, I seek above all to create an art that, while seemingly possessing a Renaissance or Baroque pedigree, is itself rich with its own mythic and symbolic potential."

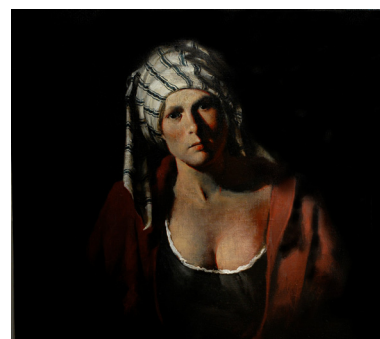
The expressions of his fictional subjects are enigmatic and ambiguous. The absence of movement is noticeable in all the paintings. They are frozen for eternity, yet they will be as relevant tomorrow as they were yesterday. They are forever provoking, disturbing and fascinating.

Since 1981, Ray has exhibited in numerous museums, universities and galleries throughout the US, Europe and Mexico.

He and his wife Sharon currently divide their time between Austin, New York City and Guanajuato, Mexico.



Cap 25, Oil on Linen, 20 x 20



Striped Cap, Oil on Linen, 24 x 24

Selected Solo Exhibitions (partial listing)

- 2009 Blackheath Gallery, London, U.K.
Gallery Bienvenu, New Orleans, Louisiana
Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, Illinois
Medici Gallery, London, U.K.
Sarah Bain Gallery, Los Angeles, California
The Russell Collection, Austin, Texas
- 2008 Galerie Utrecht, Utrecht, The Netherlands
Meyer Gallery, Park City, Utah
Principle Gallery, Alexandria, Virginia
Sarah Bain Gallery, Los Angeles, California
Touchet Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland
Blackheath Gallery, London, U.K.
Sharon Lynch Fine Art, Austin, Texas
- 2007 Touchet Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland (3-person exhibition)
Marshall Gallery, Scottsdale, Arizona
Sharon Lynch Fine Art, Austin, Texas
Blackheath Gallery, London, U.K.
Jack Meier Gallery, Houston, Texas
Sarah Bain Gallery, Los Angeles, California
The Marshall Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
- 2006 Meyer Gallery, Park City, Utah (2-person exhibition)
Principle Gallery, Alexandria, Virginia
- 2005 Blackheath Gallery, London, U.K.
The Marshall Gallery, Scottsdale, Arizona
8 Fine Art, Austin, Texas
- 2004 Blackheath Gallery, London, U.K.
- 2003 San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, San Angelo, Texas
Galleria Il Canovaccio, Rome, Italy
- 2002 Alexandria Museum of Art, Alexandria, Louisiana
Beeville Museum of Art, Beeville, Texas
- 2001 Wright Gallery, New York, New York
- 2000 Jack Meier Gallery, Houston, Texas
- 1995 Jack Meier Gallery, Houston, Texas
- 1994 Dishman Gallery, Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas
- 1994 Hall-Barnett Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana

Selected Group Exhibitions (partial listing)

- 2003 Galería Estela Shapiro, Mexico City, MEXICO
- 2002 Concorso Biennale Internazionale di Pittura, San Remo, Italy
Hanson Gallery, San Francisco, California
Wright Gallery, New York, New York
- 2000 Carmen Llewellyn Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 1991 Arlington Museum of Art, Arlington, Texas
- 1990 Mexic-Arte Museum, Austin, Texas
- 1980 Huntington Art Gallery, The University of Texas at Austin

Film

- 2003 The Life of David Gale, an Alan Parker film starring Kevin Spacey

Education

- 1983 M.A., The University of Texas at Austin
- 1980 B.F.A., The University of Texas at Austin, summa cum laude