

Serge Sorokko Gallery presents:



*Donald Sultan:  
Four Decades of Painting*



Donald Sultan

Serge Sorokko Gallery is pleased to present *Donald Sultan: Four Decades of Painting*, a retrospective exhibition of paintings and works on paper by internationally renowned artist, Donald Sultan. This remarkable collection consists of recent as well as extraordinary earlier works and features an important, never-before-exhibited painting from the artist's celebrated 1980s *Disaster Paintings* series.

According to Sultan, who spoke about the *Disaster Paintings* during their 2016 – 2018 five-museum national tour, "The thing that drives great painting is paradox...The structure of the painting is made out of materials that a building is made out of, and the surface is fragile and melted. So there's a paradox inherently built into the painting. Same with the flowers. You have the paradox of a vase and flowers because a vase you can use over and over again but flowers you cannot."

Donald Sultan rose to prominence in the late 1970s as part of the "New Image" movement. He is known for elevating the still-life tradition through the deconstruction of his subjects into basic forms and the use of industrial materials. His paintings characteristically employ enamel, roofing tar, aluminum, linoleum, and spackle, pushing the boundaries of the medium through techniques of gouging, sanding, and buffing to create flatness, depth, and texture. The works are made of the same materials as the building in which the viewer stands; the architecture participates in the paintings. Weighty and structured, Sultan's paintings are simultaneously abstract and representational: while his imagery is immediately recognizable – flowers, daily objects, insignia, idle factories – the dominating, abstract forms contradict its common association with fragility.

Sultan has exhibited extensively, both nationally and internationally. He has had solo exhibitions at the Brooklyn Museum; Contemporary Arts Museum Houston; Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth; Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; and the Museum of Modern Art, New York, to name only a few.

Sultan's works are now held in the permanent collections of over 50 major international museums, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Metropolitan Museum, New York; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; the Reina Sofia in Madrid; the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; and Tate Modern, London.

The *Disaster Paintings* are in many prominent public collections, including the Broad Museum, Los Angeles; Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; Cincinnati Art Museum; Cleveland Museum of Art; Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul; Dallas Museum of Art; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh; De Moines Art Center; and Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, New York.

Donald Sultan was born in 1951 in Asheville, North Carolina, and lives and works in New York. He received a BFA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1973 and an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1975.





*Fairview July 25 1986; Latex and tar on tile over Masonite; 96" x 96".*

Illustrated in *Donald Sultan: The Disaster Paintings*; Published by Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth and Del-MonicoBooks/Prestel Munich, London, New York; 2016; page 28.

"Between 1984 and 1990, Sultan started painting catastrophic events that he saw.." [READ MORE](#)



*Peppers March 3 1989*  
Tar, spackle, latex and tile over Masonite  
96" x 96"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Button Down Modernism Coup De Ville September 15 2016*

Enamel and flock over Masonite

96" x 96"

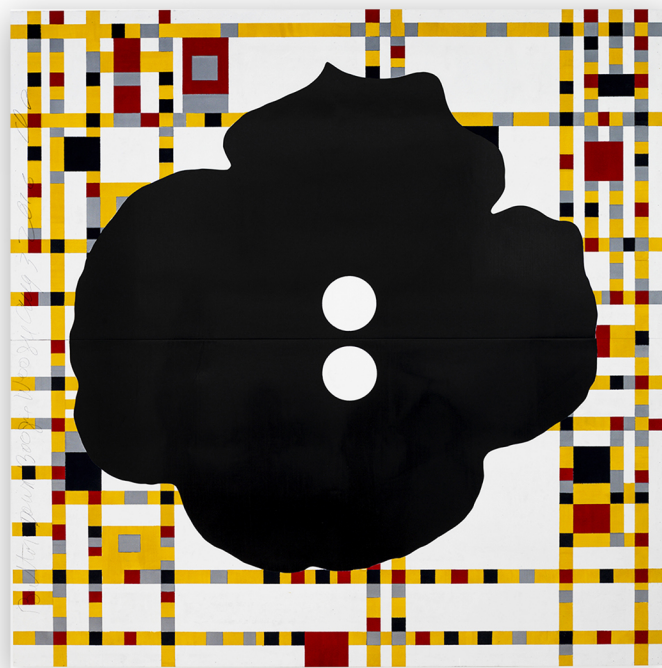
VIEW TO SCALE





*Orange Button December 17 2015*  
Enamel, flock, and oil over Masonite  
72" x 72"  
VIEW TO SCALE





*Button Down Boogie Woogie August 3 2016*  
Enamel and flock over Masonite  
72" x 72"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Button Down Modernism Feb 1 2017*  
Enamel and flock over Masonite  
48" x 48"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Button Down Modernism Black June 12 2016*  
Oil, enamel and flock over Masonite  
48" x 48"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Black Button on Tar Aug 28 2017*

Enamel and tar over Masonite

48" x 48"

VIEW TO SCALE





*Egg and Cup* May 12 2012  
Oil, spackle, and tar on tile over Masonite  
12 1/2" x 12 1/2"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Mimosa With Green and Orange* April 24 2018  
Charcoal, conté, stickers, and enamel on paper  
48 1/2" x 60"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Holly March 19 2014*  
Conté on paper  
27 1/2" x 39 1/2"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Three Black Flowers Feb 16 2018*

Charcoal on paper

22" x 30"

VIEW TO SCALE





*Black Poppies Jan 16 2019*  
Charcoal on paper  
22" x 30"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Three Red Poppies Oct 12 2018*

Conté on paper

22" x 30"

VIEW TO SCALE



*Three Reds* Oct 24 2018  
Conté on paper  
22" x 30"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Wallflowers April 23 2007*  
Watercolor on paper  
14 1/2" x 13"  
VIEW TO SCALE





*Freesia June 26 2018*  
Ink on paper  
16" x 20"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Freesia June 26 2018*  
Ink on paper  
16" x 20"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Freesia June 25 2018*  
Ink on paper  
16" x 20"  
VIEW TO SCALE



*Freesia June 26 2018*  
Ink on paper  
16" x 20"  
VIEW TO SCALE





*Mimosa Aug 5 2015*  
Graphite, gouache, and flock on paper  
13 1/2" x 19 1/2"



*Mimosa Sept 20 2015*  
Graphite, gouache, and flock on paper  
13 1/2" x 19 1/2"

VIEW TO SCALE



*Mimosa Nov 3 2015*  
Graphite, gouache, and flock on paper  
13 1/2" x 19 1/2"



*Mimosa July 23 2015*  
Graphite, gouache, and flock on paper  
13 1/2" x 19 1/2"

VIEW TO SCALE



*Mimosa Sept 14 2015*  
Graphite, gouache, and flock on paper  
13 1/2" x 19 1/2"



*Mimosa Aug 13 2015*  
Graphite, gouache, and flock on paper  
13 1/2" x 19 1/2"

VIEW TO SCALE



*Six Clubs* March 14 1989  
Charcoal on Auvergne a la Main paper 11 5/8" x 8"

*Seven Diamonds* March 14 1989  
Conté on Auvergne a la Main paper 11 5/8" x 8"

VIEW TO SCALE





*Five Hearts* March 31 1989  
Conté on Auvergne a la Main paper  
11 5/8" x 8"

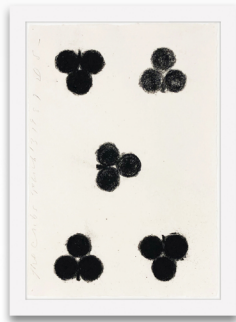


*One Heart* April 6 1989  
Conté on Auvergne a la Main paper  
11 5/8" x 8"

VIEW TO SCALE



*Ten Hearts* March 23 1989  
Conté on Auvergne a la Main paper  
11 5/8" x 8"



*Five Clubs* March 13 1989  
Charcoal on Auvergne a la Main paper  
11 5/8" x 8"

VIEW TO SCALE



*Eight Diamonds* March 18 1989  
Conté on Auvergne a la Main paper  
11 5/8" x 8"



*Nine Hearts* March 30 1989  
Conté on Auvergne a la Main paper  
11 5/8" x 8"

VIEW TO SCALE



*Jack of Diamonds April 3 1989*  
Conté on Auvergne a la Main paper  
11 5/8" x 8"  
VIEW TO SCALE





## Selected Public Collections

The Ackland Art Museum, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, Massachusetts  
Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York  
The Arkansas Art Center, Little Rock  
The Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois  
Art Museum of Southeast Texas, Beaumont  
Australian National Gallery, Canberra  
Bank America Corporation  
Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, Tennessee  
Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio  
Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio  
Cleveland Art Museum, Cleveland, Ohio  
Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, Texas  
Denver Art Museum, Denver Colorado  
Des Moines Art Center, Iowa  
The Detroit Institute of Arts, Michigan  
Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
The Hallmark Art Collection, Kansas City, Missouri  
The High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.  
La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, California  
Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, North Carolina  
Ludwig Museum, Budapest, Hungary  
Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and Design of the Kansas City Art Institute, Missouri  
Kitakyushu Municipal Museum of Art, Tobataku Kitakyushu, Japan  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York  
The Mint Museums, Charlotte, North Carolina  
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Texas  
Modern Museum of Art, New York  
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, La Jolla, California  
The Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan  
The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts  
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas  
The Museum of Modern Art, New York  
Nelson – Atkins Museum, Kansas City, Missouri  
Neuberger Museum, State University of New York, Purchase  
North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC  
Palm Springs Art Museum, California  
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California  
Singapore Museum of Art, Singapore  
Smith College, Museum of Art, Northampton, Massachusetts  
The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York  
The St. Louis Art Museum, Missouri  
Tate Gallery, London  
The Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio  
The Virginia Museum of Fine Art, Richmond, Virginia  
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York





## Serge Sorokko Gallery

[www.sorokko.com](http://www.sorokko.com)

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