

Tom Duncan

Born 1939, Shotts, Scotland; lives and works in New York.

Tom Duncan's love for sculpture began at age 4 when he was given a clay set by his aunt. Born in Shotts, a mining village about halfway between Glasgow and Edinburgh, Duncan spent his early childhood there until emigrating to the United States, specifically the Bronx, in 1947. After attending classes at the Art Students League and the National Academy of Art from 1959 to 1964, he began working for the New York Port Authority where he built architectural models, including the original iterations of the World Trade Center. Duncan has prowled the city's streets and junk shops for the cast-off materials that enrich his creative vocabulary. Discarded toys, figurines, and mechanical bric-a-brac are integrated with elaborate handmade cabinets to depict dynamic scenes of real and imagined memory. The process of collection, selection, and fashioning is meticulous — some of his larger sculptures have taken over twenty-five years to complete.

EDUCATION

1964

Art Students League of New York, New York, NY

National Academy of Design School of Fine Art, New York, NY

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023

Tom Duncan: ...It Isn't Even Past, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2014

Tom Duncan: Portrait of Tom with a Migraine Headache, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2013

Dedicated to Coney Island, The Armory Show, New York, NY

2008

In Search of Lost Time, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2004

Tom Duncan, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2002

Tom Duncan: A Retrospective. The Art of War and Peace, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2001

Five Nuns Get Undressed and Other Works, Genovese/Sullivan Gallery, Boston, IL

1998

All the World's a Stage, The Noyes Museum, Oceanville, NJ

1996

G.W. Einstein Company, Inc., New York, NY

1992
G.W. Einstein Company, Inc., New York, NY

1987
Prince Street Gallery, New York, NY

1982
Prince Street Gallery, New York, NY

1980
Prince Street Gallery, New York

1978

Prince Street Gallery, New York, NY

1972
Westbeth Gallery, New York, NY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025
Carnival, curated by Joe Coleman, Jeffrey Deitch Gallery, New York, NY

2021
"Super-Rough", Outsider Art Fair, curated by Takashi Murakami, New York, NY

2019
Summer Exhibition: Recent Works, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2016
World Made By Hand, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2014
The Visionary Experience: Saint Francis to Finster, American Visionary Art Museum, Baltimore, MD

2013
Raw Vision: 25 Years of Art Brut, Halle Saint Pierre, Paris, France

2011
All Folksed Up!, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2010
NeoIntegrity: Comics Edition, Museum of Comic and Cartoon Art, New York, NY

2009
In Through the Out Door, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2008

The Marriage of Art, Science and Philosophy, American Visionary Art Museum, Baltimore, MD
Salon du Dessin Contemporain, Andrew Edlin Gallery, Paris, France

2006

Five Year Anniversary Show, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

2004

Holy H2O, American Visionary Art Museum, Baltimore, MD

2001

The Art of War and Peace, American Visionary Art Museum, Baltimore, MD

1999

Privacy, Projects United, Kreuzlingen, Switzerland

1991

Art and the Law [traveling show], New Visions Gallery of Contemporary Art, Atlanta; Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul, MN; Kennedy Galleries, New York, NY

1988

Influences from the Untaught, Contemporary Drawings, The Drawing Center, New York, NY

AWARDS & HONORS

2001

Robert Rauschenberg Changes Inc. Grant
American Academy of Arts and Letters, Artists and Writers Grant

1996

Adolph & Esther Gottlieb Foundation, Individual Artist Grant

BOOKS & CATALOGUES

2014

Tom Duncan: Portrait of Tom with a Migraine Headache. New York: Andrew Edlin Gallery.

1993

Art and the Law. St. Paul: West Publishing.

1991

Art and the Law. St. Paul: West Publishing.

1988

Influences from the Untaught: Contemporary Drawings. New York: The Drawing Center.

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Box Art Museum, Hohenheim, Switzerland

Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, NY