

ASHLEIGH SUMNER

Born in 1979 in Charlotte, North Carolina, Ashleigh Sumner received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Western Carolina University before moving west across the United States to Los Angeles.



Sumner's work is inspired by industrial areas, inner-city communities, and the street art movement. Sumner's mixed media process often involves iconic images along with photographs captured on her cell phone. These photos are printed and applied repeatedly to wooden surfaces, creating multiple stacked and torn layers of distressed imagery. Sumner's love of text is often implemented throughout the work by incorporating pages from poetry books, verse, lyrics and theatrical plays in a way that often makes a political or social statement involving class, gender, poverty and equality.

The use of spray paint and "graffiti ramblings" is continuous, often as song lyrics, poems, or historic quotes. House paint is applied, scraped and splattered throughout the work, then partially sanded away with an industrial hand sander. Several heavy layers of resin are added to each surface and flamed with a blow torch to create a smooth, modern finish to gritty artwork underneath.

In some of her latest work, Sumner has focused on the concept of handwriting as a lost art form. She silkscreens handwritten letters, song lyrics, and speeches of some of America's greatest icons into some of her paintings. The use of handwriting is a signature detail found throughout Sumner's recent pieces.



In 2014, Sumner was named by a juried panel the winner of the Red Bull Curates Competition for Los Angeles. As a result, Sumner's work was highlighted in a special exhibition with SCOPE, Miami at Art Basel.

In addition, Sumner proudly curated "Street Preachers: An Exhibition of Female Street Artists in Los Angeles" at the Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock in 2012. "Street Preachers" was awarded grants from both the Pasadena Art Alliance and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Ashleigh Sumner's work is represented, collected, and exhibited internationally.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 "Come as you Are," Julie Zener Gallery, Mill Valley, CA
- 2016 "Written All Over Your Face, Zener Schon Contemporary Art Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2015 "Horns & Halos," Zener Schon Contemporary Art Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2014 "Graffiti Ballads," 1820 Industrial Street Gallery Los Angeles, CA
- 2012 "Streetwise," Artamo Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2010 "TenaCITY," The Advocate and Gochis Gallery, Hollywood, CA
- "Urban Inspiration," DEZART Gallery, Palm Springs, CA
- "Urbanite," A.Muse Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 "City Scapes," Downtown Collective Arts Community, Fresno, CA
- Affordable Art Fair Hong Kong
- Affordable Art Fair Hampstead, London, United Kingdom
- Affordable Art Fair New York, NY
- London Art Fair, London, United Kingdom
- LA Art Show, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 Artspace Warehouse, Los Angeles, CA
- Art Market, San Francisco, CA
- Affordable Art Fair New York, NY
- Zener Schon Contemporary Art Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- LA Art Show, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 Red Bull Curates, Mack Sennett Studios, Los Angeles, CA
- SCOPE Miami, Miami, FL
- 2013 Victor Saavedra Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
- Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
- Affordable Art Fair Seattle, WA
- Artamo Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA
- Affordable Art Fair New York, NY
- 2012 Artspace Warehouse, Los Angeles, CA
- Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock Los Angeles, CA
- a.Muse Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- Galleria Victor Saavedra, Barcelona, Spain
- Affordable Art Fair Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 TV show: "How Do I Look", Style Network
- Artspace Warehouse, Los Angeles, CA
- 2009 Create Fixate Infinity Exhibit, Los Angeles, CA
- Exhibition with sculpture David Greico, Los Angeles, CA

Group Exhibitions, Art Fairs, & Television

- 2019 Palm Springs Art Fair, Palm Springs, CA
- London Art Fair, TAG Fine Arts, London, U.K.
- 2018 Affordable Art Fair Hong Kong
- "GRIT," Detour Gallery, Red Bank, NJ
- "GRIT," Canvas Gallery, Miami, FL
- "Clash," Detour Gallery, Red Bank, NJ
- "It Runs in the Family," Artspace Warehouse, Los Angeles, CA
- Affordable Art Fair, London Battersea, London
- Affordable Art Fair New York, NY
- Art Palm Springs, CA

Press, Grants, & Awards

- 2016 Art Al Limite (South America)
- 2015 Luxe Magazine (USA)
- 2014 EDGE Media New York, NY, "Ashleigh Sumner Rocks Artspace Warehouse"
- 2012 Studio City Life Style Magazine, "Ashleigh Sumner"
- "Street Preachers," Pasadena Art Alliance Grant
- "Street Preachers," Los Angeles Arts Commission Grant
- 2010 American Contemporary Art Magazine, "In Her Own Words"
- 2010 UppRor Magazine, London, "Sumner Time"
- 2010 Bound Magazine, "Catching Ashleigh"

Notable Collectors

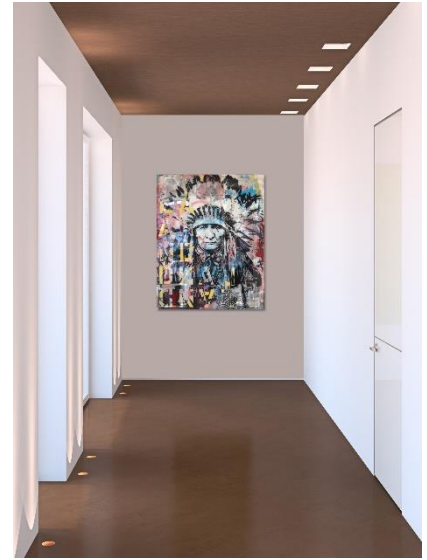
- Ariel Winter, Los Angeles, CA
- Richard "RIP" Hamilton, Former NBA Athlete, Miami, FL
- Hannah & Derek Jeter, FL
- Lynda Resnick, owner, Fiji Water & Pom Juice, Los Angeles, CA
- Tomas Jegeus, Vice President Fox Studios, Los Angeles, CA
- Eric Goodwin, NBA Agent, Seattle, WA
- Laura Kimpton, Artist, San Francisco, CA
- Gay Rosenthal, Producer, Los Angeles, CA
- Vivica A. Fox, Actress, Entrepreneur, Los Angeles, CA
- Lindsey Berg, Four-Time Olympian, Los Angeles, CA
- Carol Lui, U.S. Senator, California, Los Angeles, CA

Ongoing Public Installations

- Clairemont Hotel, Oakland, CA
- Microsoft Theater VIP Room, Los Angeles, CA



7377 Beverly Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90036
art@artplexgallery.com | t. 323.452.9628
www.artplexgallery.com
Mon - Sat 10am - 6pm | Sun 12 - 6pm



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