

LLEWELLYN XAVIER

Llewellyn Xavier multi-media artist b. 1945.

Edward Lucie-Smith, in his introduction to Llewellyn Xavier's biography: **Llewellyn Xavier His Life and Work**, wrote: "*Llewellyn Xavier, St. Lucia's pre-eminent visual artist has followed a career path whose twists and turns many West Indian creators will recognise. Though a number of Llewellyn's paintings appear at the first to be abstract, they all contain a figurative element, sometimes deeply buried in accumulated layers of paint. The best interpretative approach is in fact through basic subject matter, rather than through apparent style. The smoothest transition from earlier to later work is represented by a sequence of paintings where the subject is an opulent vase of flowers. The earliest of these paintings resemble the flower-pieces Van Gogh produced in Paris between 1886 and 1888, before his move to Arles. That is, they are boldly colourful, but still have the remnants of 19th century artistic convention.*"

Dr. Lowery Stokes Sims, a specialist in modern and contemporary art, in her foreword to Xavier's biography, had this to say: "*Xavier's own response to what Edward Lucie-Smith describes as the threat to the fragile ecology of the island, is indeed the reaction of a son returning to his native land in the spirit of [Wifredo] Lam, [Aimé] Césaire and [Alejo] Carpentier, true pioneers in the cultural and political emancipation of the Caribbean. As the unique aspects of the St. Lucian environment, continue to guide and impact the evolution of his imagery, then, Xavier stands as a vital force in the on-going dialogue of globalism and locality, cultural tourism and cultural sovereignty in the art of the Caribbean.*"

Edward Dolman, CEO and Chairman of Phillips, in the press release to Blue Ocean Sanctuary, Xavier's one person exhibition at Phillips, New York January-February 2016, stated: "Llewellyn is one of the greatest artists ever to emerge from the Caribbean and we are honored to be collaborating with him on this very exciting selling exhibition"

Don Philpott, Author

“The artist of St. Lucia - Llewellyn Xavier is St. Lucia’s most famous and innovative artist.”

Debra Percival - The Courier, Europe

“Llewellyn Xavier communicates the sensuality and un-spoilt beauty of the island through his art, making him one of St. Lucia’s best ambassadors.”

Tony Perrottet - The Sunday Times, London

“I dropped by St. Lucia’s artist/environmentalist, Llewellyn Xavier—whose studio was in a magnificent mansion, surrounded by Bougainvillaea and laid out in crisp, minimal lines, a dazzling white palace of art above the gorgeous cactus-dotted coastline of Cap Estate.”

Jo Foley - Ideal Home and Lifestyle, U.K.

“...and when you get a taste of his work you will want to see more - which is when you make an appointment to view more of his collection and enter the heavenly heights of his magnificent home.”

Harper's Bazaar, Japan

メトロポリタンやスミソニアンにも作品(上)を展示しているセントルシア人アーティスト、ルウェリン・グザヴィエのアポイント制スタジオがここに。

Principal Exhibitions

2017 *Unix Gallery, New York, USA

*Fondation Clement, Martinique, France

*University of Texas at Austin

2016 Unix Gallery, Art Miami, Miami

Unix Gallery, New York (Future Anesthetics)

*Phillips, New York (Blue Ocean Sanctuary)

2009 *Caribbean Art Gallery, Saint Lucia, West Indies

2007 *Albemarle Gallery, London, England, (the launching of Llewellyn Xavier: His Life and Work)

2005 Whitechapel Gallery, London, England

1996 Harmony Hall, Jamaica, West Indies

1994 *Mutual Life Art Gallery, Jamaica, West Indies

The Contemporary Print Show, London, England

1993 *Barbados Museum, Barbados, West Indies

*Patrick Cramer Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland

*New York Design Center, New York, USA

1982 Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, Canada

1979 *Camera on Mass. Ave., Boston, USA, Conceptual, photographing Military Parade on Massachusetts Ave.

*Piedmont College, North Carolina, USA, parallel to a lecture by Alex Haley, (author of Roots)

1977 *Afro/American Historical Museum, Philadelphia, USA

*Anamon Art Gallery, Toronto, Canada

*Howard University, Washington D.C., USA

1976 *Mazelow Gallery, Toronto, Canada

*The National Archives, Ottawa, Canada

*Afro/American Historical Museum, Detroit, USA

*Howard University, Washington D.C., USA

1975 Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada

1974* Mazelow Gallery, Toronto, Canada

1973 The Oxford Gallery, Oxford, England, Curator: Edward Lucie-Smith, Art Critic, Art Historian, Author I.P.G. United Nations, New York, USA

*Gallery III, Montreal, Canada

Saratoga Gallery, New York, USA

1972 The Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA

The Studio Museum, New York, USA

*The Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, England

Third British International Print Biennale, Bradford, England

1971 The Commonwealth Institute, London, England

*D.M. Gallery, London, England, Curator: Sir Roddy Llewellyn, organised by Penguin Books and Jonathan Cape

*Oxford University, Oxford, England

*The Round House, London, England

*Sussex University, Sussex, England

*solo exhibition

Works in selected Permanent Collections

The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

The Museum of Modern Art, New York

The Studio Museum, New York

The American Museum of Natural History, New York

Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada

Howard University, Washington, D.C.

The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, England

The Victoria and Albert Museum, London

The Ulster Museum, Northern Ireland

The Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, England

The Wolverhampton Art Gallery, England

Sussex University, Sussex, England

Oxford University, Oxford, England

The National Gallery, Jamaica

The Barbados Museum, Barbados

The State Department, USA

UNESCO

Fondation Clément, France

Llewellyn Xavier was awarded the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, OBE, by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace in 2004. His work is held in the Permanent Collections of The Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., the Museum of Modern Art, New York, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, The Victoria and Albert Museum, London, The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, The Ulster Museum, Northern Ireland, The Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto amongst others.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

My paintings are the result of fifty years of observing the behaviour of paint, the juxtaposition of colours, in close proximity to one another, creating texture and attempting to understand the paradox of form. - Llewellyn Xavier

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viewing strictly by appointment only