

BOB LAW

Born: Middlesex, England in 1934. **Died:** Cornwall, England in 2004

Solo Exhibitions:

- 1962** Grabowski Gallery, London
- 1967** Grabowski Gallery, London
- 1968** Grabowski Gallery, London
- 1963** Christchurch College, Oxford
- 1970** Konrad Fischer, Dusseldorf
Onnasch Galerie, Berlin
- 1971** Lisson Gallery, London
- 1974** Museum of Modern Art, Oxford
- 1975** Lisson Gallery, London
- 1977** Lisson Gallery, New York
Rolf Preisig, Basel
- 1978** Whitechapel Art Gallery (Retrospective)
- 1979** Gillespie-DeLaage, Paris
- 1980** Lisson Gallery, London
- 1982** Gunnersbury Park (Rainbow sculpture)
Lisson Gallery, London
- 1988** Karsten Schubert Gallery, London
- 1989** Clinton Tweedie, Lenox Street Gallery, Melbourne
Karsten Schubert Gallery, London
- 1990** Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York
- 1992** The Platform Gallery, Folkestone
- 1999** Newlyn Art Gallery, Cornwall
Kettle's Yard, Cambridge
- 2010** *A Retrospective*, Thomas Dane Gallery, London & Karsten Schubert, London
- 2012** *Colour*, Karsten Schubert, London

Selected Group Exhibitions:

- 1960** 'Two Young British Painters', ICA, London
Situation, RBA Galleries, London
- 1961** *New London Situation*, Marlborough New London, London
6 Painters, 2 Sculptors, Rawinsky Gallery, London
- 1962** *Situation*, Arts Council, London (touring)
- 1968** *Open Hundred*, Arts Council, Belfast
- 1969** *John Moores*, Walker Art Gallery Liverpool
- 1970** Nigel Greenwood Gallery, London
Paperworks, Museum of Modern Art, New York
- 1971** *Wall Show*, Lisson Gallery, London
Art Spectrum Show, Alexandra Palace, London
Modern Paintings from Oxford College Collections, Museum of Modern Art, Oxford
- 1972** *Seven Exhibitions*, Tate Gallery, London
Small Paintings and Drawings, Arts Council Touring Exhibition

- Drawing*, Museum of Modern Art, Oxford
- 1973** *7 Aus London*, Kunsthalle, Bern
- 1973** *Critic's Choice*, Arthur Tooth & Sons, London
- 1974** *Paintings Exhibition*, Scottish Arts Council Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1975** *Contemporary Art Society*, Mall Galleries, London
Baer, Charlton, Law, Mangold, Ryman, Lisson Gallery, London
- 1976** *Arte Inglese Oggi*, Palazzo Reale, Milan
- 1977** Fine Arts Building, New York
Lisson Gallery, London
Hayward Annual, Hayward Gallery, London
British Artists of the Sixties, Tate Gallery, London
British Painting 1952-77, Royal Academy, London
Avant-Garde Russe, Avant Garde Minimaliste, Galerie Gillespie-de Laage, Paris
- 1978** Lisson Gallery, London
20th Century Drawings, Chelsea School of Art, London
- 1977** Recent Arts Council Awards and Purchases, Serpentine Gallery, London
- 1979** *Art Actuel en Belgique et en Grande-Bretagne*, Palais des Beaux Arts, Brussels
Tate 79 Exhibition, Tate Gallery, London
Through the Summer, Lisson Gallery, London
The Native Land, Mostyn Art Gallery, Llandudno
Summer Show, Galerie Gillespie-de Laage, Paris
Malerei Schwarz, Malerei Weiss, Künstlerhaus, Hamburg
Artists Books, Galerie Ldia Megert, Bern
- 1980** *35 Ans de L Apiaw*, Museum Ville de Liege, Liege
British Art 1940-1980, Arts Council, Hayward Gallery, London
John Moores, 12 Exhibitions, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool
- 1981** *Continuing Through the Summer*, Lisson Gallery, London
Schwarz (Black Exhibition), Städtische Kunsthalle, Düsseldorf
British Sculpture since 1900, (Part II, 1950-1980) Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
- 1982** British Contemporary Art Exhibition, Japan Tokyo Metropolitan Museum
Tochigi, Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts
National Museum of Modern Art, Osaka
Fukuoka Art Museum
Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, Sapporo
- 1983** *Drawing in Air: An Exhibition of Sculptors Drawings 1882-1982*
Leeds City Art Gallery
Ceolfrith Arts Gallery, Sunderland
Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea
- 1984** *Rosc 84*, Guinness Hop Store, Dublin
The British Art Show II, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Sheffield, Southampton.
- 1985** *St Ives 1939-64*, Tate Gallery, London
The British Art Show II, Australia and New Zealand:
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
National Art Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
National Art Gallery, Wellington
- 1986** *Falls the Shadow*, Hayward Gallery, London
Changing Group Exhibition, Lisson Gallery, London
- 1987** *British Art in the 20th Century*, Royal Academy, London
Englische Kunst im 20 Jahrhundert, Staats Galerie

- Vessel*, Serpentine Gallery, London
British Art in the Twentieth Century, Royal Academy, London and Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart
Britannica: Trente Ans de Sculpture, Musee des Beaux-Arts, Le Harve, Musee Evreux &
The Architecture School of Normandie, Rouen, Museum Van Hedendaagse Kunst,
Antwerp (1989), Central Regional d' Art Contemporain, Toulouse (1989)
The Experience of Landscape, Arts Council Touring Exhibition: Derby,
Huddersfield, York, Wolverhampton, Exeter, Worcester, Barnsley, Stoke,
London, Walsall, Newtown, Ayr, Stirling, Wakefield
- 1988** *Le Couleur Seule, l'Experience du Monochrome*, Musee St Pierre Art Contemporain.
Lyon
- 1988** *Changing Group Exhibition*, Karsten Schubert Gallery, London
- 1988** *The Presence of Painting*, Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield
- 1989** *A Spiritual Dimension*, touring exhibition, Peterborough Art Gallery, Herbert,
Gallery, Coventry, Worcester City Museum, Winchester Gallery
Modern British Water Colour Show, Grob Gallery, London, Hanne Darboven, Gary
Hume, Bob Law, Julian Lethbridge,
Karsten Schubert Gallery, London
- 1990** Shipley Art Gallery, Ipswich
- 1991** *The LeWitt Collection*, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut
- 1996** *From Figure to Object, a Century of Sculptors' Drawings*, Frith Street Gallery and
Karsten Schubert Gallery
- 1999** *As Dark as Light*, Tate Gallery, St Ives
Small Sculptures and Early Drawings by Bob Law, Richard Salmon Gallery, London
Jerwood Painting Prize 1999, Exhibition of the Seven Shortlisted Artists. Jerwood Space
Gallery, London.
- 2000** *Live In Your Head: Concept and Experiment in Britain, 1965-75*, Whitechapel Art
Gallery, London
- 2001** *Live In Your Head: Concept and Experiment in Britain, 1965-75*, Museu do Chiado,
Lisbon
Whitechapel Centenary, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
Out of Line: Drawings from the Arts Council Collection (touring)
- 2001** *Panza Collection*, Guggenheim Museum, New York

Bibliography:

- FRAMPTON, Kenneth "Minimal Painting for Maximum Effect", *Art & News Review*, 27.08.60
ROBERTS, Alan. "I Call This Ten years Wasted", *Tatler*, 14.09.60
BRETT, Guy. "The Lisson Wall Game" *The Times*, 05.01.71
CORK, Richard. "The Time for Accolades to English Radicalism, *Evening Standard*, 05.05.71
KING, Tom. "What the Blankety-Blank is this?" *Daily Mirror*, 06.05.71
GOSLING, Nigel. "Law Unto Himself", *The Observer*, 23.05.71
EVERETT, Anthony. "Seven Exhibitions at the Tate", *Studio international* Vol. 183, 04.72
CORK, Richard. "The Critic Stripped Bare By His Artists, Even" *Catalogue to 'Critic's Choice'*,
Arthur Tooth & Sons, London 1973
HUBER, Carlo. "7 Aus London" *Catalogue Introduction*, Kunsthalle, Bern 1973
NEWMAN, Gerald. "Bob Law, Ten Black Paintings", *Studio International*, 10.74
DAVIS, Douglas. "The New Supercollectors", *Newsweek*, 11.08.74
JOHNSTONE, Christopher. "The Tate Gallery 1972-74" *Biennial Report & Catalogue of
Acquisitions*, 1975
WALKER, John. "Bob Law", *Studio International*, Jan-Feb 1976

NAIRNE, Sandy. "The Tate Gallery Biennial Catalogue of Acquisitions 1976-78"
 SPALDING, Francis, with DALEY, Janet. "Hayward Annual Part II: 2 Views", Arts Review
 Vol.29, No.16. 08.77
 NAYLOR, Colin, with
 ORRIDGE, Genesis P. "Contemporary Artists", St James Press, London, NY, 1977
 LUCIE-SMITH, Edward. "The Black and White Minimal show" Evening Standard, 29.09.77
 SOTHEBY, F.T. "Minimal Respect", Financial Times, 17.12.77
 TRINI, Tommaso. "The Panza di Buomo Collection", Casa Vogue No.79, 02.78, pp50-67
 ROBERTSON, Bryan. Harpers & Queen, 09.78
 VAIZEY, Marina. "Paintings that look the way Law feels", Sunday Times, 24.09.77
 RUSSELL-TAYLOR, John. The Times, London, 28.09.78
 LUCIE-SMITH, Edward. "Paint it Bleak", Evening Standard, 12.10.78
 McEWAN, John. "Ambiguities", The Spectator, 14.10.78
 BILLAM, Michael. "Bob Law at the Whitechapel" Artscribe No.15, 12.78 pp56-58
 NAIRNE, Sandy. Art Monthly No.20, 1978
 WALIA. "Contemporary British Artists" London, 1979
 GABLIK, Suzy. "The Uncorking of Abstract Art" Harpers and Queen, 10.79
 LYNTON, Norbert. "Contemporary British Artists" London, 1979
 GENDEL, Milton. "If one hasn't visited Count Panza's one doesn't really know what Collecting is
 all about", Art News (USA) Vol. 78, No.10, 12.79
 MARCELLIS, Bernard. "Un Certain Art Anglais", Domus 5969, 1979
 SKIRA, Albert. "Skira Annual", Editions d'Art, 1979
 PRENDEVILLE, Brendan. "What is Abstract Art?" A.C.G.B. Publications, 1979
 BENNET, Ian. "Modern Painting and Modern Criticism in England" Flash Art No.96-97
 ARTS COUNCIL COLLECTION. British Art 1940-1980, 1980 Cat.
 LUCIE-SMITH, Edward. "Art in the Seventies" Phaidon, 1980
 BROWN, David. "Aspects of British Art Today" catalogue intro, The Asahi Shimbun, Tokyo,
 1982
 KNIPE, Tony. "Drawing in Air", Ceolfrith Press, 1980
 BROWN, David. "St Ives 1939-64", Tate Gallery, 1985
 WHYBROW, Marion. with intro by
 BROWN, David. "St Ives 1883-1993. Portrait of an Art Colony" Antique Collectors Club,
 Woodbridge, Suffolk, 1994
 PHILLIPSON, Michael. "Paint, Language and Modernity", Routledge and Kegan Paul, (ISBN:
 0.7102-0480-9)1985.
 SPALDING, Francis. "British Art since 1900" Thames & Hudson, 1986
 BOND, Anthony. "The British Show", Art Gallery of New South Wales, cat. 1985
 COMPTON, Susan. "British Art in the Twentieth Century", Royal Academy of Arts, London,
 Prestel-Verlag, Munich, 1987
 HOOKER, Jeremy. "Painting and Poetry, The Landscape of Experience" A.C.G.B. 1987
 SEARLE, Adrian. Artforum, vol.26, No.9, May 1988
 GODFREY, Tony. Art in America, vol. 76, No.6, 1988
 TATE GALLERY. Tate Gallery Illustrated Catalogue of Acquisitions 1986-88
 BRENSON, Michael. "In Connecticut, a Conceptualists' Non-Conceptual Collection" The New
 York Times, 08.91.
 KEENE, Peter. Exhibition Catalogue, Galerie Luc Queyrel, Paris 1991
 WHEELER, Daniel. "Art Since Mid-Century (1945-Present)", Thames & Hudson 1991
 WILSON, Andrew. 'Bob Law at Marlene Eleine Gallery', Art Monthly, No.198, July-August.
 (illustrated: White 4.7.70) 1996
 HOBSON, S. 'Drawings, Sculpture, Paintings - Bob Law'. 'Inside Cornwall' magazine Feb-March
 1999 (illustrated)

GARLAKE, Margaret. "Bob Law, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge", Art Monthly, No.226, May 1999 (illustrated).
KNOWLES, Elizabeth. Curator, Newlyn Art Gallery. Invitation Flysheet for Bob Law Catalogue, January 1999
TAYLOR, John Russell. 'Bob Law' (illustrated), The Guardian, 1999
RUHRMUND, Frank. 'Strong, Simple Statements in minimalism at Newlyn', Cornishman, 21.1.1999
'Bob Law: Drawings, Sculpture and Paintings', Review of Exhibition at Kettle's Yard, Cambridge in The Architects' Journal. Contributor unknown.
FOX, Charles. 'To and Beyond: Bob Law at Kettle's Yard'. Varsity Magazine (illustrated). 23.4.1999.
McEWAN, John. 'The mutation of lollipop trees and triangle houses', Sunday Telegraph, (illustrated) -. -.99
WENTWORTH, Richard. 'Thinking Aloud' Afterthoughts. The Tate Art Magazine, No.19, Winter 1999. (Illustrated)
LUNN, Felicity. 'Artist in Focus: Bob Law'. Royal Academy Magazine No.63, Summer 1999
BUMPUS, Judith. Jerwood Painting Prize, 1999 Catalogue. Text on the Artist. (ill.)

Interviews:

Bob Law in conversation with Dick Norton and Carsten Lewis: BBC Overseas Service, Berlin, 11.70.
Bob Law in conversation with Richard Cork: cat. "Ten Black Paintings 1965-70". Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, 1974.
'Robbie': BBCTV interview with Fyfe Robertson at the Hayward Gallery, London, August 15 1977. Transcript published in Art monthly, no.11, 10.77.
'Gotham City Gossip': Bob Law in conversation with Roger Taylor, Melbourne Radio, 25.03.89

Films:

'Tree' and 'Under Pressure'. 16mm black and white film 100-foot run: shot on 16mm clockwork Bolex at Ealing Common in conjunction with Tony Morgan of Dusseldorf. Processed and edited by Tony Morgan. Shown: Art Spectrum 71, Alexander Palace, London, Aug 1971. Produkt Cinema, Dusseldorf, April 1971. 'Film Show', Situation Gallery, London, Sept 71.
Digital movie by Polywylde, Jan 2000.

Selected Public Collections:

Tate Gallery, London
Arts Council of Great Britain
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Museum of Modern Art, New York
Guggenheim Museum, New York
Southampton Art Gallery
Worcester College, Oxford
New College, Oxford
Contemporary Art Society, London
The British Council, London
City Museum and Art Gallery, Peterborough

Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
The Panza Collection, Milan
City Art Gallery, Johannesburg
The Sol LeWitt Collection, Connecticut
The Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
The British Museum, London

Bob Law (January 22 1934 - April 17 2004) was a founding father of British minimalist painting and sculpture. He was born in Middlesex, England in 1934, and moved to St Ives in 1957 where he painted and made pots. He had been particularly influenced by meetings with Peter Lanyon and Ben Nicholson in the late 1950s. In 1960 Bob Law moved away from Cornwall. He returned to live in the west of Cornwall in 1997 and died in April 2004. See also: Bob Law (22 January 1934 – 17 April 2004) was a founding father of British Minimalism concerning painting and sculpture. A prolific artist throughout his lifetime, Law struggled with ideas surrounding the legitimacy and significance of abstract art. Bob Law. British, 1934–2004. 397 followers. [Follow](#). Bob Law. British, 1934–2004. 397. [Articles Featuring Bob Law](#). Giacomo Guidi Brings Its Diverse Roster from Rome to Turin. Oct 29th, 2014.