

Sean Scully

Born in Dublin in 1945, Sean Scully grew up in London and settled in America in the mid-1970s. One of the most admired abstract painters working today, his work draws on the traditions of European painting, invigorated with the distinct character of American abstraction. In a career spanning six decades – and counting – Scully has risen to international prominence, with work held in major public collections worldwide. Scully's varied practice encompasses printmaking, sculpture, watercolours and pastels, but he is best known for rich, monumental abstract paintings in which stripes or blocks of layered colour are a prevailing motif.

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"Sean Scully re-imagines the history of abstraction as an art rooted in experience, one that seeks to purify how we encounter the world—"something felt and something seen," as he has said. To this end, his work stages an intense dialogue between colour and form, but colour that is always rooted in a particular place, and form that manifests the self." (Joanna Kleinberg and Brett Littman, *Sean Scully: Change and Horizontals*, New York, 2013, p.29)

Sean Scully was elected a Royal Academician in 2013. He has been shortlisted for the Turner Prize twice, in 1989 and in 1993. Scully's work is held in numerous public collections, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art and Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, US; The National Gallery of Art, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C., US; Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, US; Tate, London, UK; Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen K20K21, Düsseldorf, DE; Albertina, Vienna, AT; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, ES; Instituto Valencia d'Arte Modern, Valencia, ES; Guangzhou Museum of Art, Guangzhou, and China Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, CN.