

## Artist Resources – Mary Weatherford (American, b. 1963)



Weatherford, ca. 2020  
Photograph: Antony Hoffman

[Weatherford at Gagosian Gallery](#)

[Weatherford at David Kordansky Gallery](#)

[Weatherford at MoMA](#)

In 2014, Weatherford won the [Artist's Legacy Foundation's Artist Award](#), which is given annually to an exceptional painter or sculptor. That same year, Weatherford installed a permanent public installation entitled *Mary Weatherford: From the Mountain to the Sea* at [Claremont McKenna College](#).

Read an Artnet studio visit from the [L.A. Habitat series](#) from 2016.

[Like the Land Loves the Sea](#) was on display at David Kordansky Gallery, LA in 2017. Read a [press release](#) about the exhibition in Mousse Magazine.

Gagosian West installed [I've Seen Gray Whales Go By](#) in 2018, Weatherford's first solo exhibition with the prestigious gallery. Watch a [video interview](#) with the artist and John Elderfield and [read a review](#) of the exhibition by Anna Brown. [Gagosian Quarterly](#) and the [Brooklyn Rail](#) also published interviews with Weatherford about the exhibition.

In 2019, BOMB Magazine published a [studio visit interview](#) discussing Weatherford's large-scale, abstract works.

Watch a [virtual studio visit](#) with Weatherford and Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles Director Klaus Biesenbach, part of the museum's efforts to connect artists and audiences during 2020 COVID-19 lockdowns.

Weatherford's first solo exhibition with Gagosian Gallery in London, [Train Yards](#), was installed in 2020. Read a [review](#) by Reena Devi and a [Gagosian Quarterly](#) interview about the exhibition of new paintings.

*Canyon-Daisy-Eden* was a traveling retrospective covering 30 years of Weatherford's work organized by the [Tang Teaching Museum](#) at Skidmore College. Visit the Tang Teaching Museum's website for an exhibition checklist, audio slideshow from the opening talk by the artist, and a Spotify playlist entitled "Weatherford's Women." The exhibition later traveled to [SITE Santa Fe](#). Read associated articles in [Art in America](#) and [Daily Art Magazine](#).

The [Aspen Art Museum](#) displayed *Mary Weatherford: Neon Paintings* in 2020-2021. Read an article in [Apollo Magazine](#) about the exhibition and Jonathan Griffin's profile, "[The Artistic Evolution of Mary Weatherford](#)" in Frieze upon her nomination for the 2021 [Aspen Award for Art Honoree](#).

Take a [virtual tour](#) of the 2021-2022 exhibition *Mountains Mud Prisms Air* at David Kordansky Gallery and read a review in [Artillery Magazine](#).



Weatherford in her Cypress Park studio, 2015  
Photograph: Katherine McMahon



Mary Weatherford (American, b. 1963)  
**Light Falling Like a Broken Chain; Paradise**, 2021  
Flashe on linen

Private Collection; L2021:193.1

“I’m done with a painting when there is something so compelling that I don’t want to lose it.” Mary Weatherford is a Los Angeles-based artist known for works that combine abstract painting with neon tube lights fixed to the surface of the canvas. Although Weatherford has refined this technique since 2012, some of her new paintings eliminate neon and focus only on large-scale abstract compositions. **Light Falling Like a Broken Chain; Paradise** was painted after Weatherford’s recent trips to Hawaii. Even without neon, her use of white paint evokes a bright light peeking through the dynamic swirls of rainbow colors; the painting embraces the vibrant ecosystem of Hawaii’s oceans and forests with mural-sized abstraction. In 2021, this work was on display in the solo exhibition, *Mountains Mud Prisms Air*, at David Kordansky Gallery in Los Angeles, alongside other new paintings from the artist’s studio.

*On view November 23, 2022 – February 26, 2023*



Mary Weatherford (American, b. 1963)

**Blue Split**, 2021

Flashe and neon on linen

Private Collection; L2021:180.2

Los Angeles-based artist Mary Weatherford first began incorporating neon tubing into her paintings in 2012, when she was a visiting artist at California State University at Bakersfield. Though she draws from Abstract Expressionist and Minimalist movements in contemporary American art history, Weatherford breaks from tradition by putting industrial materials in dialogue with abstract painting.

**Blue Split** juxtaposes “traditional” and “new” materials; the pools of red, yellow, and blue paint are bisected by the bright glow of blue neon. The artist sees these techniques as complimentary, once saying: “I don’t want the painting to be a ground for the light. Two things, paint and light, are coming together to create a third thing.”

*On view March 30 – July 3, 2022*