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## Pacita Abad (Filipino-American, 1946-2004)

Read a [chronology](#) of Abad’s life compiled and published by the Walker Art Center in collaboration with the Pacita Abad Art Estate.

The Brooklyn Museum published Abad’s [Feminist Artist Statement](#) that is available to read online.

Watch a [video](#) about Abad’s installation in Washington D.C.’s Metro Center, which featured six trapunto paintings titled *Masks from Six Continents* and hung from 1991 until 1995.

Read or listen to an [interview](#) with the Pacita Abad Art Estate representative Jack Garrity that was conducted at The Museum of Non-Visible Art in 2014 with Brainard Carey.

[Pacita Abad: I Have One Million Things to Say](#) was on view at MCAD Manila in 2018. The exhibition featured her trapuntos as emblems of her processes and materials made possible by her experience as a Filipina woman traveling the world as an expat’s wife. Read the short [exhibition catalogue](#) produced for the show.



Abad, 1983  
Photograph: Pacita Abad Art Estate



Abad with *Bacongo I* (1983), 1986  
Photograph: Pacita Abad Art Estate

Spike Island installed [Pacita Abad: Life in the Margins](#) in 2020, the first exhibition in the UK by the Filipino American artist. Read a [review](#) in AWARE (Archives of Woman Artists Research & Exhibitions). Also watch a [video](#) about the exhibition on YouTube and an [interview](#) with Pio Abad on Vimeo.

[Pacita Abad: I Thought the Streets Were Paved With Gold](#) was on view at Jameel Arts Center in Dubai in 2021. The exhibition featured her trapunto paintings and was curated in collaboration with the Pacita Abad Art Estate and London-based artist Pio Abad.

In 2023, [Pacita Abad: Colors of My Dream](#) was on view at Tina Kim Gallery, the first major solo exhibition of the artist’s work created between 1985 and 2002.

*Pacita Abad* was a major retrospective organized by the [Walker Art Center](#) in 2023. The survey exhibition featured over 100 works spanning the artist’s 32-year career and traveled to [SFMOMA](#), [MoMA PS1](#), and the [Art Gallery of Ontario](#). Read reviews of the show at the Walker in the [New York Times](#) and [Frieze](#) and the SFMOMA iteration in [KQED](#). Get a glimpse inside the SFMOMA installation in [Artnet](#) and watch a video about the MoMA iteration on [PBS](#).

Read a 2024 [article](#) about Abad’s recent rise in Vogue by Raymond Ang: “Overlooked During Her Lifetime, Filipino American Artist Pacita Abad Has Suddenly Become a Global Star.”

[Pacita Abad: Love is Like a Heat Wave](#) was on view at Silverlens Galleries in 2024, celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her presentation at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, which was the last exhibition of her work before her death in 2004.



Pacita Abad (Filipino-American, 1946-2004)

**Jurassic Park**, 2001

Oil, plastic buttons, rick rack ribbons stitched on padded canvas

Private Collection, Los Angeles; L2024:21.1

Born in Batanes, Philippines, to a family of public officials, Pacita Abad began her career as a political scientist and lawyer. When her family was violently targeted in Manila, Abad decided to continue her education in the United States. In the 1970s, she became a painter and started creating complex, mixed-media canvases informed by her extensive world travels and socio-political activism. **Jurassic Park** is one of the artist's *trapunto* paintings, which are stuffed, quilted canvases adorned with buttons, ribbons, and other small objects from her travels. As the artist once said: "I always see the world through color, although my vision, perspective and paintings are constantly influenced by new ideas and changing environments."

*On view May 29 – September 1, 2024*