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.

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 20th 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